



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Employment and Social Legislation, Social Dialogue

Health and Safety

The Advisory Committee on Safety and Health at Work

Opinion

**Opinion on an EU Occupational Exposure Limit value for
Arsenic acid and its salts as well as inorganic arsenic compounds in the scope
of Directive 2004/37/EC (CMD)**

Doc. 1334/17

Adopted on 19/10/2017

In the meeting of the Working Party of Chemicals on 21st – 22nd June 2017, the recently provided evaluation of the ECHA Risk Assessment Committee¹ on arsenic acid and its inorganic salts was discussed.

The three interests groups agreed on the need for an EU OEL for arsenic acid and its salts as well as Inorganic arsenic compounds under the scope of the CMD of 10µg/m³ (TWA 8 hrs measured as arsenic) inhalable fraction. However after a preliminary assessment for one specific sector, copper smelting, it is currently not technically achievable to comply with. In addition the Commission Impact Assessment may identify other sectors which are in a similar situation. For all these sectors a prolonged transitional period may be necessary.

The ACSH strongly recommends the Commission to adopt as soon as possible binding occupational exposure limit values for this substance under Directive 2004/37/EC.

Specific comments of GIG:

With reference to the description of this opinion, the GIG takes note that while a description arsenic and inorganic arsenic compounds may be a wider term, the GIG cautions against being definitive at this stage about the wording to be used in the final directive. While arsenic and inorganic arsenic compounds may be a better description of the intended scope it is left to the Commission to address the detail, taking into account any precedents for dealing with reactive substances in CAD and CMD and the opinion of the WPC.

Specific comments of EIG:

No comments

Specific comments of WIG:

No comments

¹ ECHA/RAC/A77-O-0000001412-86-148/F.