



REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
AGRICULTURE AND FOOD BOARD

Northern Zone view update 2021

CropLife Europe Regulatory Conference

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Northern Zone MS and worksharing



Calendar

- **Teleconferences:**
 - 5-8 Steering Committee and Coordinators teleconferences per year.
 - Expert group teleconferences – if needed
- **Face-to-face meetings:**
 - Steering Committee – every year, 2020 online „face to face“ meeting
 - Steering Committee and Expert group – every second year
 - 2021 September (planned) - Steering Committee and Expert group meeting in Estonia



Guidance document on work-sharing in the Northern Zone (version 9.0, 2020)

- Updated every year with clear highlights of new information
- Last updates in NZ GD ver 9.0 include:
 - Notifications
 - Expiry dates of active substances within 12 month and following Art. 43
 - Fate & behaviour: soil calculations; surface water
 - Ecotox: interim approach for the risk assessment of bees pending revision of the EFSA guidance document; non-target plants
 - Reporting table, national requirements, contacts

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New version 10.0, 2021

- Currently under revision
- Amendments concerning the new version of guidance document on zonal evaluation and mutual recognition, withdrawal and amendment of authorisations (recently noted in SCPAFF)
- Other changes yet to be confirmed

Coordination of applications

- Applicant submits a preference of zRMS
- Committee decides based on:
 - RMS of the active substance
 - Relevance of the product in each country
 - Availability of resources

Applicant is informed in due time about the appointed zRMS

All communication is directed to the appointed zRMS

- Post AIR planning: AIR IV a.s. PPPs allocated (SE).
AIR V process not initiated yet

Article 43

- Different approaches in MS: assessment should be based on guidance documents at the time of dossier submission/time of application
- Assessment based on latest active substance endpoints
- Full dossier should be submitted, all exceptional cases need to be agreed with zRMS

Important to submit complete dossiers

- All FOCUS scenarios relevant to NZ MS must be submitted
- Only data relevant for the concerned countries/NZ should be presented
- Common issues: co-formulant information missing, insufficient dermal absorption studies, plant studies, bee studies, soil organism studies, mixture toxicity, efficacy: lack of split in NZ and other supporting data.

Harmonisation during Article 43

- Changes and amendments must fall within the Risk Envelope
- Must be covered by the efficacy and MRL data evaluated
- Non-significant formulation changes are accepted

We do not accept new uses that have not been previously authorised

Main challenges – EU level

- Slow decision making on approval and re-approval of actives
- ED assessment & „stop the clock“ mechanism
- Inconsistent assessment & inconsistent decisions
- Lack of agreement on scientific/EFSA level, e.g.
- Delays in adopting guidance documents (bee's)
- Transition to using IUCLID



Main challenges – Zonal and National level

Product authorisations:

- Issues that should be resolved at EU level are transferred to zonal/national level (Confirmatory data & Cat. 4 data)
 - Classification changes - relevance of metabolites
- Quality of dossiers
- Work-planning (especially due to delays in a.s. decisions at EU-level)
- Timelines, backlogs, capacity issues

Main challenges – Zonal and National level

Other issues:

- Public/political lack of trust - alternative facts/fake news
- Lack of products/restrictions
- COVID-19 – working arrangements, submission of documents



Why are we delayed?

- Workload for renewals and new applications
- Capacity in MS
- Quality of the dossier
- Communication between applicant and authority during evaluation



I don't have time for new new year's resolutions, I'm still working on the backlog from 1998-2000.

Northern Zone



NZ meeting in Riga, November 2019



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Thank you!

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