

Press Release – 7th CLEEN Conference, Vienna, June 12th-14th, 2006

The experiences of the CLEEN (Chemicals Legislation European Enforcement Network) network gained in the last 10 years should be used in the enforcement of future EU chemical legislation, REACH. This is one of the main outcomes at the 7th CLEEN conference that took place in Vienna, June 12th-14th, 2006.

The REACH Regulation on chemicals is to come into force during 2007. It faces a FORUM dealing with questions of enforcement, e. g. planning EU-wide projects and elaborating tools for the inspectors monitoring chemical industry.

The goal of the CLEEN is to co-ordinate and improve the enforcement of EU chemical legislation. Chemical inspectors of the EU Member States set priorities for and carry out joint enforcement projects, aiming at facilitating the information exchange and the preparation of recommendations to the EU Commission.

The experience gained is of use for the work of the FORUM. Consequently the conference participants stressed the necessity of a close link between CLEEN and the FORUM. This will be taken forward by ongoing discussions with the Member States and by close co-operation between the CLEEN network and the EU Commission.

Following a German proposal, a new inspection project on biocidal products starting in September 2006, was prepared. The participants decided upon project goals and activities as well as working methods and tools needed by the inspectors. The project will end in November 2007. The project results will be published in a final report, which will include recommendations to the EU Commission, authorities and industry.

The project on a rapid information exchange on chemicals, EUVICHEM, has been finished and adopted.

The Vienna conference was attended by representatives of inspectorates and policy departments, responsible for environment and health in 21 EU Member States, together with similar representatives from Norway, Romania, Switzerland and the EU Commission.

More information:

Web site:

www.cleen-eu.net

Secretariat:

Helmut.witzani@umweltbundesamt.at

Zucht.Gerhard@baua.bund.de