



5 September 2022

(22-6596)

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Committee on Technical Barriers to Trade

Original: English

NOTIFICATION

The following notification is being circulated in accordance with Article 10.6

1. Notifying Member: <u>EUROPEAN UNION</u> If applicable, name of local government involved (Article 3.2 and 7.2):
2. Agency responsible: European Commission Name and address (including telephone and fax numbers, email and website addresses, if available) of agency or authority designated to handle comments regarding the notification shall be indicated if different from above: European Commission, EU-TBT Enquiry Point, Fax: +(32) 2 299 80 43, E-mail: grow-eu-tbt@ec.europa.eu Website: http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/tbt/en/
3. Notified under Article 2.9.2 [X], 2.10.1 [], 5.6.2 [X], 5.7.1 [], 3.2 [], 7.2 [], other:
4. Products covered (HS or CCCN where applicable, otherwise national tariff heading. ICS numbers may be provided in addition, where applicable): Products containing intentionally-added microplastics (particles with dimensions below 5 mm that are formed or coated by synthetic solid organic polymers which are insoluble and non-biodegradable).
5. Title, number of pages and language(s) of the notified document: Draft Commission Regulation amending Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH) as regards synthetic polymer microparticles; (13 page(s), in English), (15 page(s), in English)
6. Description of content: This draft Regulation would introduce a new entry to Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006. It would prohibit the placing on the market of microplastics intentionally added to products in concentration above 0.01% by weight. (Bio)degradable, water-soluble, inorganic and natural polymers are excluded from the scope of the restriction. The draft Regulation provides for a number of derogations from the ban on the placing on the market of microplastics, inter alia for uses at industrial sites or where microplastics releases could be avoided. For derogated uses, the draft Regulation requires that microplastics releases are 1) minimised through appropriate instructions for use and disposal of products and 2) monitored and reported annually to the European Chemicals Agency.
7. Objective and rationale, including the nature of urgent problems where applicable: To limit releases of microplastics and prevent their accumulation into the environment

8. Relevant documents:

Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH Regulation):

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?qid=1423064258789&uri=CELEX:32006R1907>

[Annex XV dossier for restriction and opinions of ECHA Committees](#)

9. Proposed date of adoption: Fourth quarter of 2022.

Proposed date of entry into force: 20 days from publication in the Official Journal of the EU. The restriction on the placing on the market (sale ban) of products containing microbeads and products containing microplastics for which a transitional period is not specified would apply at entry into force. For other products containing microplastics, the application of the sale ban would be deferred between 4 and 12 years, depending on the product concerned.

10. Final date for comments: 60 days from notification**11. Texts available from: National enquiry point [] or address, telephone and fax numbers and email and website addresses, if available, of other body:**

European Commission,
EU-TBT Enquiry Point,
Fax: + (32) 2 299 80 43,

E-mail: grow-eu-tbt@ec.europa.eu

The text is available on the EU-TBT Website: <http://ec.europa.eu/growth/tools-databases/tbt/en/>

https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2022/TBT/EEC/22_5968_00_e.pdf

https://members.wto.org/crnattachments/2022/TBT/EEC/22_5968_01_e.pdf