

**DIRECTOR'S CONSULTATION GROUP**

**Agenda of the DCG meeting February 2025**

*Meeting times: 21st February 10:00 CET*

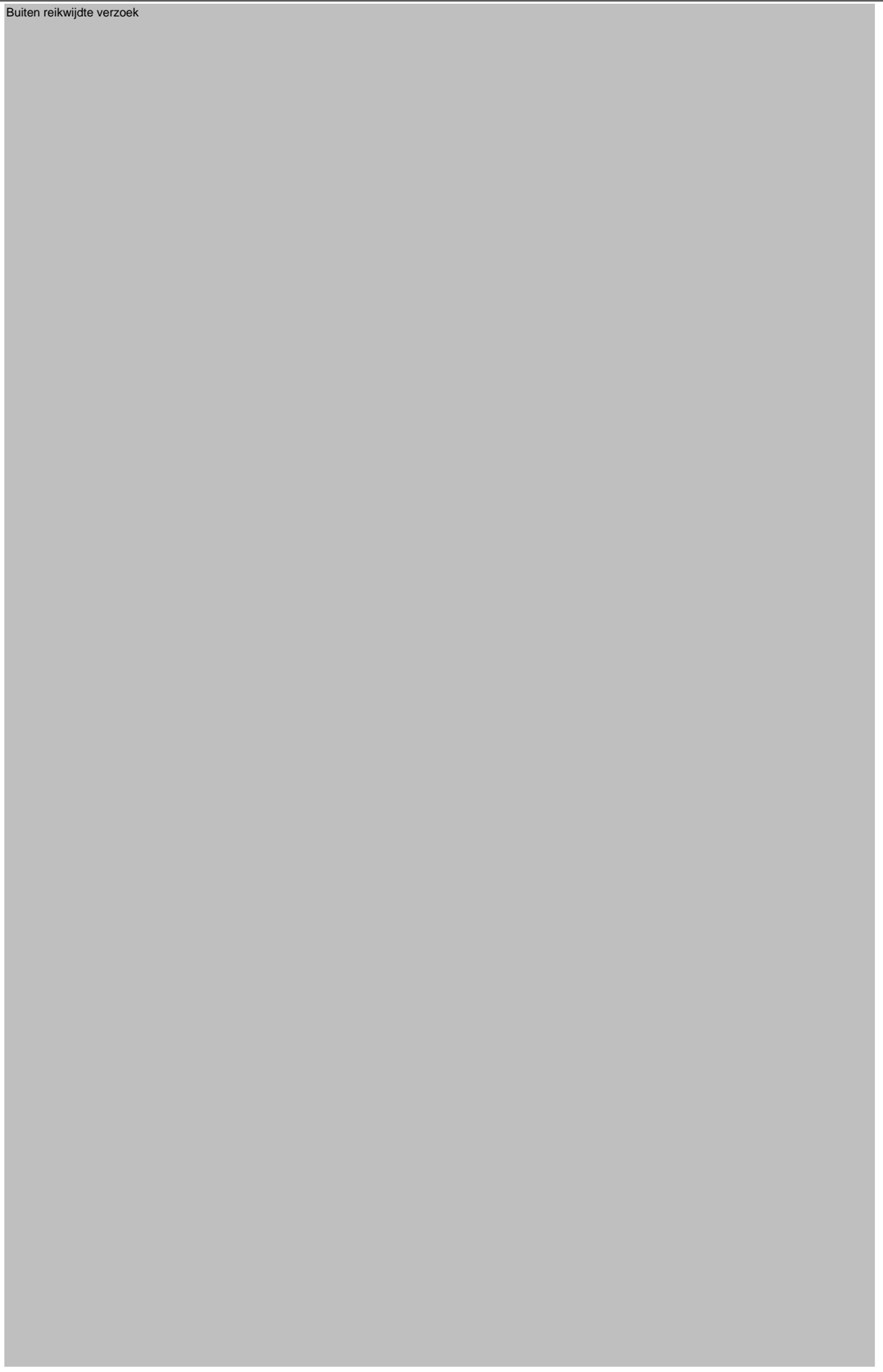
<b>1</b>	<p><b>Welcome and introduction of participants</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Introduction of participants</li><li>- Welcome by the Head of Service Plant Protection Products and Fertilisers</li></ul> <p>Buiten reikwijdte verzoek</p>
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Minutes and Actions from the last DCG and HLM (<i>attachment 2a and 2b</i>)</b></p> <p>Buiten reikwijdte verzoek</p>
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Feedback and input from the IZSC, SZSC, CZSC, NZSC</b></p> <p>Buiten reikwijdte verzoek</p>
<b>4a</b>	<p>Buiten reikwijdte verzoek</p>



	<p>Buiten reikwijdte verzoek</p>
<b>4b</b>	<p>Buiten reikwijdte verzoek</p>
<b>5</b>	<p>Buiten reikwijdte verzoek</p>



Buiten reikwijdte verzoek





	<p>Buiten reikwijdte verzoek</p> <p>-</p>
<p>6</p>	<p>Buiten reikwijdte verzoek</p>



	<p>Buiten reikwijdte verzoek</p>
<p>7</p>	<p><b>PFAS (attachment 7a (NL) and 7b (NL))</b> Concerns about TFA formation from active substances in PPPs necessitate a harmonised and scientifically robust EU regulatory approach to address potential TFA leaching to groundwater.</p> <p>Aim: Discuss the state of play in Member States and determine next steps for a coordinated and transparent strategy.</p> <p>Proposal by NL:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- discuss the key points as described in attachment 7a (NL)</li> </ul> <p>Lijst met TFA producerende stoffen + status by COM: zie de extra NL bijlage bij 7</p> <p>Ann. NL:</p> <p><b>Background</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Key points are outlined in document 07.a. Doc 7.b was also included during the HLM "PFAS Background Doc."</li> <li>- For the HLM the following was included: Article on the link between PPP use and TFA in water (07.b, Joerss et al.). Key message: in different parts of the world, incl. EU, PPP contribute significantly to TFA in water sources.</li> <li>- COM has provided, at request of NL in SCoPAFF, an overview of all PFAS substances and their renewal status: 32 substances in total, 25 under renewal.</li> <li>- Discussions indicate that starting Article 21 procedures for almost all these substances is the most appropriate approach within the PPPR framework <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o (except for 3 substances with existing EFSA conclusions; Flufenacet: wrsch nonrenewal ivm ED (maar TFA ook boven norm)</li> <li>o Flutolanil: hier TFA de oorzaak, maar niet vanwege grondwater maar vanwege niet kunnen uitsluiten residu in volggewassen, NL is rapporteur;</li> <li>o Penoxsulam: niet in beeld ivm geen toelatingen in NL).</li> </ul> </li> <li>- This would involve 29 Article 21 procedures where additional TFA studies are required. A group-based approach appears most efficient (raised in December SCoPAFF; updates pending). However, this remains a complex and time-consuming project.</li> </ul> <p><b>Discussion Points</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Does addressing TFA through the standard procedures align with the urgency of the situation?</li> <li>2. Possible alternatives: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>Option 1: Removing the derogation in the PFAS restriction proposal</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Key question: does this save time and effort given time required for dossier preparation, timelines of the restriction process, and the transitional periods outlined in the restriction proposal (18 months, 5 years, or 12 years)? In the meantime, PFAS active substances will still have to be assessed within the PPP framework.</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <i>Option 2: (more) precautionary approach</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o Requires solid justification (proportionality, consistency). Burden of proof with the authorities.</li> <li>o Multiple scenario's are possible (e.g. withdraw approval of all substances based on the available scientific knowledge, or a subset of the major contributors, or other variants)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ol>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Could be based on the knowledge of the molecular structures and worst-case modeling (i.e. "The German model")</li><li>3. Explore these options and identify any additional viable alternatives.</li><li>4. Who is going to pick up alternative options? (COM, EFSA?)</li></ul>
<b>8</b>	Buiten reikwijdte verzoek
<b>9</b>	Buiten reikwijdte verzoek



	<p>Buiten reikwijdte verzoek</p>
<p><b>10</b></p>	<p>Buiten reikwijdte verzoek</p>



	<p>Buiten reikwijdte verzoek</p>
<b>11</b>	<p>Buiten reikwijdte verzoek</p>
<b>12</b>	<p><b>Points for information</b></p> <p>Dates of next meetings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- 21-22 May, face-to-face meeting (Chair BE)</li><li>- 10 October 2025, 10.00h video conference</li><li>- 12 November 2025, HLM (Chair AT)</li></ul>