# General Assembly
## *INTERNATIONAL SAFETY & HEALTH CONSTRUCTION CO-ORDINATORS ORGANISATION*

## OSH ongoing and future activities relevant to occupational exposure to hazardous chemicals

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# Outline


I. *Directive (EU) 2024/869 amending CMRD/CAD limit values for lead & diisocyanates*

II. *Directive (EU) 2023/2668 amending the Asbestos at Work Directive*

III. *6th revision of the CMRD*

IV. *7th batch of the possible future revision of the CMRD*

V. *Ongoing scientific activities*

# I. *Directive (EU) 2024/869 amending CMRD/CAD LVs for lead & diisocyanates: main changes*

- **Lead**
  - **Updating limit values** (*OEL: 0,03 µg/m$^3$ and BLV*)
  - **BLV transitional period**:
    - *Until 31 December 2028, the binding BLV is 30 µg Pb/100 ml blood*
    - *From 1 January 2029, the binding BLV is15 µg Pb/100 ml blood*
  - Recommendation for **blood lead level** in **women of childbearing age** not to exceed the reference values of the general population.

    If reference does not exist at MS level, **BLV 4,5 µg Pb/100 ml blood**.

European Commission

# I. *Directive (EU) 2024/869 amending CMRD/CAD LVs for lead & diisocyanates: workers' exposure in construction*


## Lead

Lead is a **reprotoxic chemical** that accumulates in soft tissues and bones.

In **construction**, lead is used frequently for roofs, cornices, tank linings, and electrical conduits and workers can be exposed to it during **demolition of lead containing products**.

Lead can be inhaled through dust, fumes or mist, and swallowed following hand contact.

European Commission

# I. *Directive (EU) 2024/869 amending CMRD/CAD LVs for lead & diisocyanates: main changes*

- **Diisocyanates**
  - Introducing for the first time **limit values** (*OEL: 6 µg/m$^3$ - STEL:12 µg/m$^3$*)
  - OEL and STEL **transitional periods**:
    - *Until 31 December 2028, the binding OEL is 10 µg NCO/m3*
    - *Until 31 December 2028, the binding STEL is 20 µg NCO/m3*
  - **Notation**: skin, dermal and respiratory sensitization

European Commission

# I. *Directive (EU) 2024/869 amending CMRD/CAD LVs for lead & diisocyanates: workers' exposure in construction*


## Diisocyanates

Diisocyanates are **skin and respiratory sensitisers** that can have harmful respiratory health effects.

They are used in the production of polyurethanes.

In **construction**, they are often used as thermal and acoustic **insulation in buildings**, in the form of foam.

European Commission

# I. *Directive (EU) 2024/869 amending CMRD/CAD LVs for lead & diisocyanates: follow up activities for EC*

- Article 2(2)(b)*‘8. No later than 30 June 2024, the Commission shall initiate an assessment of the effects of* ***exposure to a combination of substances*** *with a view to preparing Union guidelines thereon where appropriate.’*
- Article 2(2)(b) *9. No later than 9 April 2026, the Commission shall initiate the procedure to obtain a scientific assessment of* ***endocrine disruptors*** *that can affect the health and safety of workers, with a view to evaluating the appropriateness of including them within the scope of this Directive …’*
- Article 2(2)(b) *‘11. No later than 9 April 2026, the Commission shall,…, draw up Union guidelines for health surveillance, including* ***biological monitoring****…concerning lead and its inorganic compounds’*

European Commission

# II. *Directive (EU) 2023/2668 (update of the AWD): Background*

- Asbestos is a **highly dangerous carcinogenic** (cat. 1A-CLP Regulation)
- **Major cause of occupational cancer** (European occupational diseases statistics)
- All forms of asbestos **banned in 2005**, but its legacy persists (pre-2005 Build.s)
- Activities include building **renovation**, **construction** and **demolition work**


European Commission

# II. *Directive (EU) 2023/2668 (update of the AWD): Stricter OEL*


Updating binding OELs: **lowered from 0.1 to 0.01** asbestos fibres per $cm^3$ as an 8-hour TWA

After a maximum **transition period of six years** (with use of electron microscopy as opposed to phase-contrast microscopy), OEL will be:

- *either **0.002 fibres/cm³ excluding thin fibres***
- *or **0.01 fibres/cm³ including thin fibres***

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# II. *Directive (EU) 2023/2668 (update of the AWD): Guidelines*


**Recital (29)**

EC to develop and issue, in cooperation with the ACSH, **guidelines** to facilitate the implementation of the AWD, no later than 2 years from entry into force.

**Objectives**

**Update the 2012 EU guide**, incorporating scientific, technical, and legal updates

**Facilitate compliance** with existing legislation

Increase the uptake of **good practice** across the EU

**Address inequalities** in stakeholder guidance access among MS

Serve as a reference for **training and enforcement**

# II. *Directive (EU) 2023/2668 (update of the AWD): Guidelines*


## Main steps taken

***Ten workshops*** (with 848 participants) completed in OCT-DEC 2024

***Steering Group*** meeting on the first draft in JAN 2025

***Examples/case studies document*** submitted for comments by 12 FEB 2025

***First draft*** submitted for comments by 24 FEB 2025

# II. *Directive (EU) 2023/2668 (update of the AWD): Guidelines*

| Indicative timeline |
| --- |
| Revised 1st draft / End of March |
| Case study examples, study visits, photos / April 2025 |
| Final draft / End of May 2025 |
| Final version / End of July 2025 |
| Adoption by Commission / End 2025 |


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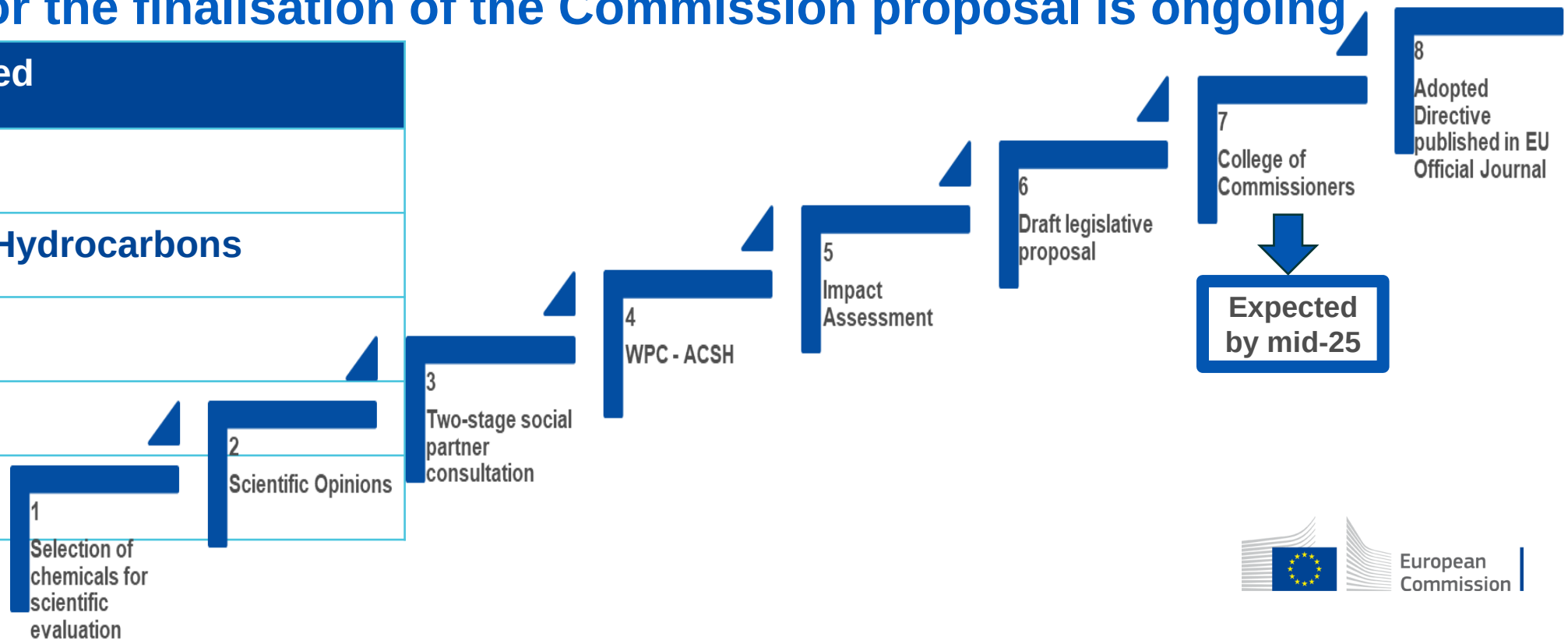
# III. 6th revision of the CMRD

## The procedure for the finalisation of the Commission proposal is ongoing

| Substances concerned |
| --- |
| Cobalt |
| Polyciclyc Aromatic Hydrocarbons |
| Welding fumes |
| 1,4-dioxane |
| Isoprene |

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# IV. Batch for a potential 7th revision of the CMRD

## Initiative still to be validated by the Commission (incl. scope & timeline)

| Substances concerned |
|---|
| 1,2-Dichloropropane |
| 1,2,3-Trichloropropane |
| 2-Chloro-1,3-butadiene (Chloroprene) |
| 2,3-Epoxypropyl methacrylate (glycidyl methacrylate) |
| Nitrosamines |
| Respirable Crystalline Silica |
| Chromium VI compounds |

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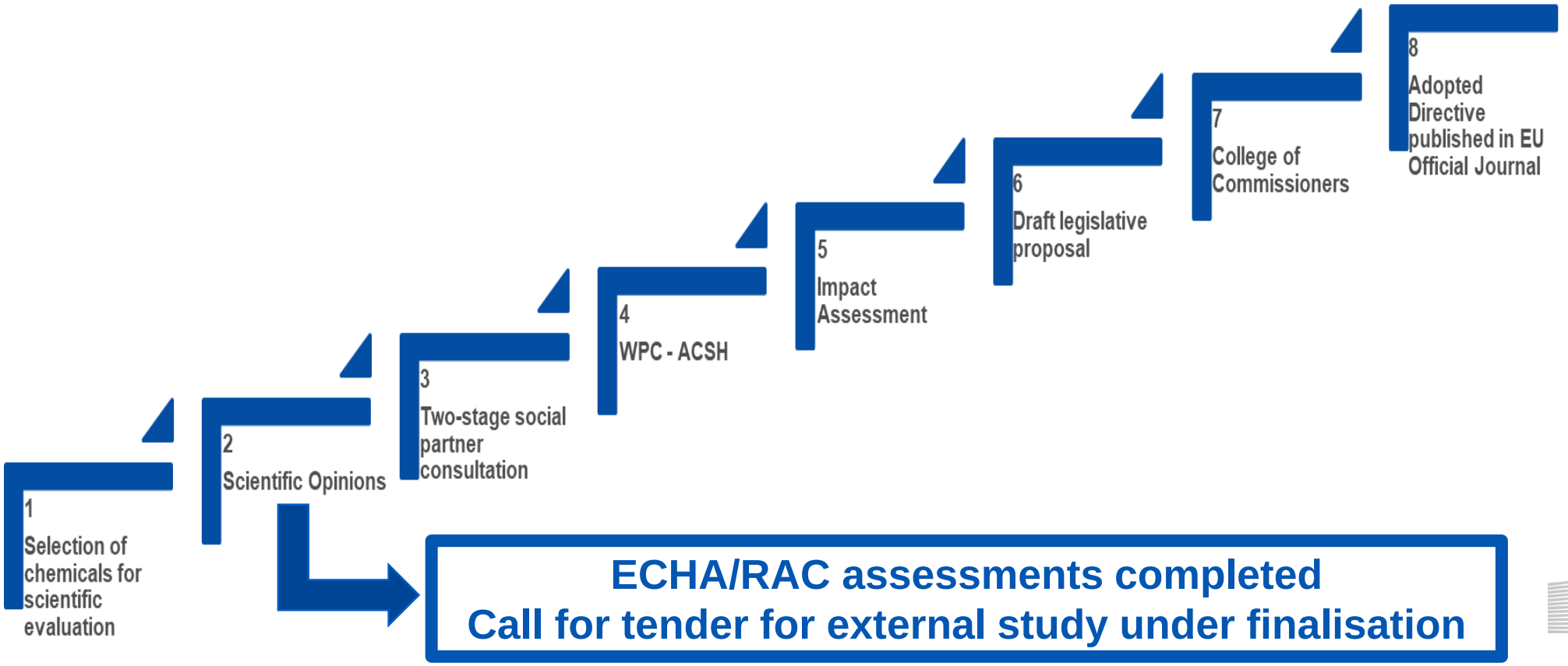
# IV. Batch for a potential 7th revision of the CMRD

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# V. Ongoing scientific activity

- **ECHA scientific assessments - Mandate 2023 to ECHA**
- **ECHA scientific assessments - Mandate 2024 to ECHA**

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# 2. Ongoing scientific activity

## *Mandate 2023 to ECHA*

| Substances concerned |
| --- |
| 1,3-Butadiene |
| Boron and its compounds |
| Bisphenol A (BPA) « and screening of other Bisphenols relevant to occupational health » |
| Silicon carbide fibres |
| 1,2-Dihydroxybenzene (pyrocathecol) |


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# 2. Ongoing scientific activity

## *Mandate 2024 to ECHA*

| Substances concerned |
| --- |
| N-(Hydroxymethyl)acrylamide / NMA |
| Ethylene dibromide (EDB) or 1,2-Dibromoethane |
| Anthraquinone |
| 1,3-Propanesultone |
| Oximes:<br>- Butanone oxime<br>- Acetone oxime |


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# 2. Ongoing scientific activity

## *Mandate 2025 to ECHA*

| Substances concerned |
| --- |
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# Thank you



Photos: source: Unsplash.com

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