

Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2012 concerning the making available on the market and use of biocidal products (Text with EEA relevance)

CHAPTER IV

**GENERAL PRINCIPLES CONCERNING THE
AUTHORISATION OF BIOCIDAL PRODUCTS**

Article 23

Comparative assessment of biocidal products

1 The receiving competent authority or, in the case of an evaluation of an application for a Union authorisation, the evaluating competent authority, shall perform a comparative assessment as part of the evaluation of an application for authorisation or for renewal of authorisation of a biocidal product containing an active substance that is a candidate for substitution in accordance with Article 10(1).

2 The results of the comparative assessment shall be forwarded, without delay, to the competent authorities of other Member States and the Agency and, in the case of evaluation of an application for a Union authorisation, also to the Commission.

[^{F13} The receiving competent authority or, in the case of a decision on an application for a Union authorisation, the Commission, shall prohibit or restrict the making available on the market or the use of a biocidal product containing an active substance that is a candidate for substitution where a comparative assessment, performed in accordance with the technical guidance notes referred to in Article 24, demonstrates that both of the following criteria are met:]

- a for the uses specified in the application, another authorised biocidal product or a non-chemical control or prevention method already exists which presents a significantly lower overall risk for human health, animal health and the environment, is sufficiently effective and presents no other significant economic or practical disadvantages;
- b the chemical diversity of the active substances is adequate to minimise the occurrence of resistance in the target harmful organism.

4 By way of derogation from paragraph 1, a biocidal product containing an active substance that is a candidate for substitution may be authorised for a period of up to four years without comparative assessment in exceptional cases where it is necessary to acquire experience first through using that product in practice.

5 Where the comparative assessment involves a question which, by reason of its scale or consequences, would be better addressed at Union level, in particular where it is relevant to two or more competent authorities, the receiving competent authority may refer the question to the Commission for a decision. The Commission shall adopt that decision by means of implementing acts in accordance with the examination procedure referred to in Article 82(3).

The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 83 specifying the criteria for determining when comparative assessments involve questions better addressed at Union level and the procedures for such comparative assessments.

Changes to legislation: There are outstanding changes not yet made to Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations. (See end of Document for details) [View outstanding changes](#)

6 Notwithstanding Article 17(4), and without prejudice to paragraph 4 of this Article, an authorisation for a biocidal product containing an active substance that is a candidate for substitution shall be granted for a period not exceeding five years and renewed for a period not exceeding five years.

7 Where it is decided not to authorise or to restrict the use of a biocidal product pursuant to paragraph 3, that cancellation or amendment of the authorisation shall take effect four years after that decision. However, where the approval of the active substance which is a candidate for substitution expires on an earlier date, the cancellation of the authorisation shall take effect on that earlier date.

Textual Amendments

- F1** Substituted by [Regulation \(EU\) No 334/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 11 March 2014 amending Regulation \(EU\) No 528/2012 concerning the making available on the market and use of biocidal products, with regard to certain conditions for access to the market \(Text with EEA relevance\)](#).

Changes to legislation:

There are outstanding changes not yet made to Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council. Any changes that have already been made to the legislation appear in the content and are referenced with annotations.

[View outstanding changes](#)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to :

- Regulation applied (with modifications) by S.I. 2023/959 reg. 4(a)Sch. 1
- Art. 23(1) words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 83(2)
- Art. 23(2) omitted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 83(3)
- Art. 23(3) words omitted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 83(4)(b)
- Art. 23(3) words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 83(4)(a)
- Art. 23(5) omitted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 83(5)

Changes and effects yet to be applied to the whole legislation item and associated provisions

- Annex 3 para. 4 substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 141(3)
- Annex 3 para. 2 words omitted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 141(2)(c)
- Annex 3 para. 2 words omitted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 141(2)(d)
- Annex 3 para. 8 words omitted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 141(5)
- Annex 3 para. 2 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 141(2)(a)
- Annex 3 para. 2 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 141(2)(b)
- Annex 3 para. 6 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 141(4)
- Annex 2 para. 4 substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 140(3)
- Annex 2 para. 2 words omitted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 140(2)(b)
- Annex 2 para. 8 words omitted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 140(5)
- Annex 2 para. 2 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 140(2)(a)
- Annex 2 para. 6 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 140(4)
- Annex 4 para. 1.3 words omitted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 142(b)
- Annex 4 para. 1.5 words omitted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 142(c)
- Annex 4 para. 3.1 words omitted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 142(d)
- Annex 4 para. 1.2 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 142(a)
- Annex 6 para. 10 word substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(6)
- Annex 6 para. 13 words omitted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(9)(a)
- Annex 6 para. 15 words omitted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(10)
- Annex 6 para. 1 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(2)(a)
- Annex 6 para. 1 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(2)(b)
- Annex 6 para. 6 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(3)
- Annex 6 para. 8 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(4)
- Annex 6 para. 9 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(5)(a)
- Annex 6 para. 9 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(5)(b)
- Annex 6 para. 11 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(7)
- Annex 6 para. 12 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(8)
- Annex 6 para. 13 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(9)(b)
- Annex 6 para. 20 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(11)
- Annex 6 para. 26 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(11)
- Annex 6 para. 36 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(11)
- Annex 6 para. 48 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(11)
- Annex 6 para. 50 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(11)
- Annex 6 para. 51 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(11)
- Annex 6 para. 52 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(11)
- Annex 6 para. 53 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(11)
- Annex 6 para. 55 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(11)
- Annex 6 para. 56 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(11)
- Annex 6 para. 57 words substituted by S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143(11)

- Annex 6 para. 58 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143\(11\)](#)
- Annex 6 para. 59 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143\(11\)](#)
- Annex 6 para. 60 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143\(11\)](#)
- Annex 6 para. 62 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143\(11\)](#)
- Annex 6 para. 64 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143\(11\)](#)
- Annex 6 para. 66 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143\(11\)](#)
- Annex 6 para. 67 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143\(11\)](#)
- Annex 6 para. 68 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143\(11\)](#)
- Annex 6 para. 69 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143\(11\)](#)
- Annex 6 para. 71 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143\(11\)](#)
- Annex 6 para. 72 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143\(11\)](#)
- Annex 6 para. 73 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143\(11\)](#)
- Annex 6 para. 74 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143\(11\)](#)
- Annex 6 para. 75 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143\(11\)](#)
- Annex 6 para. 77 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143\(11\)](#)
- Annex 6 para. 78 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143\(11\)](#)
- Annex 6 para. 52 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143\(12\)](#)
- Annex 6 para. 75 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143\(13\)](#)
- Annex 6 para. 77 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 143\(14\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 2 para. 143(14) substituted immediately before IP completion day by [S.I. 2020/1567, reg. 1\(2\), Sch. 2 para. 39\(b\)](#))
- Annex 6 para. 77 words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 143\(14\)](#) (as substituted) by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 39\(b\)](#)
- Annex 6 para. 52 words substituted in earlier amending [S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 143\(12\)](#) by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 39\(a\)](#)
- Art. 1(2)(c) omitted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 62\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- Art. 2(b) words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 63\(2\)\(b\)](#) (as substituted) by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 22](#)
- Art. 2(c) words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 63\(2\)\(c\)](#) (as substituted) by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 22](#)
- Art. 2(k) substituted by [S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 63\(2\)\(d\)](#) (as substituted) by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 22](#)
- Art. 3(1)(d) words inserted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 64\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- Art. 3(1)(e) words inserted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 64\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- Art. 3(1)(f) words omitted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 64\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- Art. 3(1)(k) words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 64\(2\)\(d\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 2 para. 64(2)(d) substituted immediately before IP completion day by [S.I. 2020/1567, reg. 1\(2\), Sch. 2 para. 23\(a\)](#))
- Art. 3(1)(k) words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 64\(2\)\(d\)](#) (as substituted) by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 23\(a\)](#)
- Art. 3(1)(m) words omitted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 64\(2\)\(e\)\(i\)](#)
- Art. 3(1)(m) words omitted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 64\(2\)\(e\)\(ii\)](#)
- Art. 3(1)(n) substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 64\(2\)\(f\)](#)
- Art. 3(1)(n) words substituted in earlier amending provision [S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 64\(2\)\(f\)](#) by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 23\(b\)](#)
- Art. 3(1)(o) words omitted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 64\(2\)\(g\)](#)
- Art. 3(1)(p) words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 64\(2\)\(h\)\(i\)](#)
- Art. 3(1)(p) words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 64\(2\)\(h\)\(ii\)](#)
- Art. 3(1)(p) words substituted in earlier amending provision [S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 64\(2\)\(h\)\(ii\)](#) by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 23\(c\)](#)
- Art. 3(1)(t) words inserted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 64\(2\)\(i\)](#)
- Art. 3(1)(x) omitted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 64\(2\)\(j\)](#)
- Art. 3(1)(af)-(ah) inserted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 64\(2\)\(k\)](#)
- Art. 3(1)(ai) substituted in earlier amending provision [S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 64\(2\)\(k\)](#) by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 23\(d\)\(i\)](#)

- Art. 3(1)(aj) substituted for point (ah) the second time it occurs in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 64(2)(k) by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 23\(d\)\(ii\)](#)
- Art. 3(3)-(7) substituted for Art. 3(3)(4) by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 64\(3\)](#)
- Art. 5(1)(d) words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 65\(a\)](#)
- Art. 6(5)(6) inserted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 66\(4\)](#)
- Art. 8(2A) inserted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 68\(5\)](#)
- Art. 8A inserted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 69](#)
- Art. 8A word substituted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 69 by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 24](#)
- Art. 9(1)(a) words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 70\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- Art. 9(1)(b) words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 70\(2\)\(d\)](#)
- Art. 9(1A) inserted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 70\(3\)](#)
- Art. 12(4) inserted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 73\(d\)](#)
- Art. 14(4)(a) words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 75\(5\)\(d\)](#)
- Art. 14(4)(b) word substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 75\(5\)\(e\)](#)
- Art. 14(4A) inserted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 75\(6\)](#)
- Art. 14(4A) word substituted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 75(6) by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 26](#)
- Art. 14(5A) inserted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 75\(8\)](#)
- Art. 17A inserted by [S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 78A \(as inserted\) by S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 27](#)
- Art. 19(1)(a) words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 80\(a\)](#)
- Art. 19(4)(a) omitted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 80\(b\)](#)
- Art. 24A inserted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 85](#)
- Art. 25(1)(a) words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 86\(a\)](#)
- Art. 25(1)(a) words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 86\(b\)](#)
- Art. 26(2A)-(2C) inserted by [S.I. 2022/1291 reg. 2\(2\)\(a\)](#)
- Art. 26(3A)(3B) inserted by [S.I. 2022/1291 reg. 2\(2\)\(c\)](#)
- Art. 28(3)-(7) substituted for Art. 28(3)-(5) by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 89\(c\)](#)
- Art. 29(1A)(1B) inserted by [S.I. 2022/1291 reg. 2\(3\)](#)
- Art. 29(2)(a) omitted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 90\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- Art. 29(2)(b) omitted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 90\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- Art. 30(1A)-(1C) inserted by [S.I. 2022/1291 reg. 2\(4\)\(b\)](#)
- Art. 30(2A) inserted by [S.I. 2022/1291 reg. 2\(4\)\(d\)](#)
- Art. 30(4) inserted by [S.I. 2022/1291 reg. 2\(4\)\(f\)](#)
- Art. 55(4)(d) and semicolon omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 102 by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 28\(a\)](#)
- Art. 55(7) Art. 55(9) renumbered as Art. 55(7) in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 102 by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 28\(c\)](#)
- Art. 55(7)(8) omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 102 by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 28\(b\)](#)
- Art. 55(7) words substituted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 102 by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 28\(d\)](#)
- Art. 58(9) inserted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 105\(6\)](#)
- Art. 60(4)(5) inserted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 107\(3\)](#)
- Art. 60(4)(5) words substituted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 107(3) by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 29](#)
- Art. 69(2)(c) words omitted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 115\(3\)\(a\)](#)
- Art. 69(2)(o) words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 115\(3\)\(b\)](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 2 para. 115(3)(b) substituted immediately before IP completion day by [S.I. 2020/1567, reg. 1\(2\), Sch. 2 para. 32](#))
- Art. 69(2)(o) words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 115\(3\)\(b\)](#) (as substituted) by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 32](#)
- Art. 83A83B inserted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 125](#)
- Art. 83B(1) words substituted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 125 by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 35\(a\)](#)

- Art. 83B(4)-(7) omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 129 by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 35\(b\)](#)
- Art. 88(2) words substituted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 129 by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 36\(a\)](#)
- Art. 88(3)(d) omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 129 by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 36\(b\)](#)
- Art. 88(6) Art. 88(8) renumbered as Art. 88(6) in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 129 by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 36\(d\)](#)
- Art. 88(6) words substituted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 129 by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 36\(e\)](#)
- Art. 88(7)(8) omitted in earlier amending provision S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 129 by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 36\(c\)](#)
- Art. 89(7) words inserted by [S.I. 2022/1291 reg. 2\(5\)\(a\)](#)
- Art. 89(7A)-(7C) inserted by [S.I. 2022/1291 reg. 2\(5\)\(b\)](#)
- Art. 89(8) words substituted by [S.I. 2022/1291 reg. 2\(5\)\(c\)](#)
- Art. 89(9) words inserted by [S.I. 2022/1291 reg. 2\(5\)\(d\)](#)
- Art. 89(9A) inserted by [S.I. 2022/1291 reg. 2\(5\)\(e\)](#)
- Art. 89(12) inserted by [S.I. 2022/1291 reg. 2\(5\)\(f\)](#)
- Art. 92(1A)-(1C) inserted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 133](#)
- Art. 93(a) word substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 134\(3\)\(a\)](#)
- Art. 93(a) words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 134\(3\)\(b\)](#)
- Art. 93(b) word substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 134\(4\)](#)
- Art. 94(1)(a) words substituted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 135\(2\)\(b\)](#)
- Art. 94(1)(a) words substituted in earlier amending S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 2 para. 135(2)(b) by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 2 para. 37](#)
- Art. 95(8) inserted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 136\(6\)](#)
- Art. 95A-95L inserted by [S.I. 2019/720 Sch. 2 para. 137](#) (This amendment not applied to legislation.gov.uk. Sch. 2 para. 137 omitted immediately before IP completion day by virtue of S.I. 2020/1567, reg. 1(2), Sch. 2 para. 38)
- Art. 95A-95N inserted by S.I. 2019/720, Sch. 4 para. 2 (as inserted) by [S.I. 2020/1567 Sch. 4](#)
- Art. 95B(4A) inserted by [S.I. 2022/1291 reg. 2\(6\)](#)
- Art. 95C(4A) inserted by [S.I. 2022/1291 reg. 2\(7\)](#)
- Art. 95H(4A) inserted by [S.I. 2022/1291 reg. 2\(9\)](#)
- Art. 95FA and cross-heading inserted by [S.I. 2022/1291 reg. 2\(8\)](#)