

Commission Regulation (EU) No 1003/2014 of 18 September 2014 amending Annex V to Regulation (EC) No 1223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on cosmetic products (Text with EEA relevance)

COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) No 1003/2014

of 18 September 2014

amending Annex V to Regulation (EC) No 1223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council on cosmetic products

(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Regulation (EC) No 1223/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 30 November 2009 on cosmetic products⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 31(1) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) The mixture of Methylchloroisothiazolinone (and) Methylisothiazolinone with magnesium chloride and magnesium nitrate is currently allowed as a preservative in all cosmetic products at a maximum concentration of 0,0015 % of a mixture in the ratio 3:1 of Methylchloroisothiazolinone (and) Methylisothiazolinone respectively.
- (2) The Scientific Committee on Consumer Safety (SCCS) adopted an opinion on the safety of the mixture Methylchloroisothiazolinone (and) Methylisothiazolinone on 8 December 2009⁽²⁾.
- (3) The SCCS concluded that the mixture of Methylchloroisothiazolinone (and) Methylisothiazolinone in a ratio of 3:1 does not pose a risk to the health of the consumer when used as a preservative up to a maximum authorised concentration of 0,0015 % in rinse-off cosmetic products, apart from its skin sensitising potential. The SCCS indicated that induction and elicitation would be less likely in a rinse-off product than when the same concentration is present in a leave-on product.
- (4) The issue of stabilizers for that mixture was addressed by the Scientific Committee on Cosmetic Products and Non-Food Products intended for Consumers (SCCNPF), subsequently replaced by the Scientific Committee on Consumer Products (SCCP), pursuant to Commission Decision 2004/210/EC⁽³⁾, subsequently replaced by the SCCS, pursuant to Commission Decision 2008/721/EC⁽⁴⁾, in an opinion of 24-25 June 2003⁽⁵⁾. The Committee stated that, taking into account that the active ingredients and their ratio remain unchanged in current commercialised cosmetic products and that the concentration of the stabiliser system in the finished cosmetic products is negligible, the replacement of magnesium chloride and magnesium nitrate by copper sulphate or any other authorised cosmetic ingredient as a stabiliser system in the mixture of Methylchloroisothiazolinone (and) Methylisothiazolinone does not alter the

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toxicological profile of that mixture. When requested by the Commission to clarify the interpretation of the word ‘authorised’, the Committee replied, in an opinion of 7 December 2004⁽⁶⁾, that the expression ‘authorised cosmetic ingredient’ should be interpreted as ‘any ingredient which, in the light of the Cosmetics Directive⁽⁷⁾, is allowed or not prohibited and may be used in cosmetic products, provided that any substance belonging to the classes of ingredients listed in the Annexes III-VII⁽⁸⁾ of the Directive may be used only if it is included in the respective annex’. In addition, the conclusion of the SCCS opinion of 8 December 2009 contains an assessment of the safety of the mixture itself and makes no reference to the stabilisers taken into consideration.

- (5) In light of the SCCS opinion mentioned above, the Commission considers that, in order to avoid a potential risk to human health, the use of the mixture of Methylchloroisothiazolinone (and) Methylisothiazolinone should be restricted as recommended by the SCCS, while the reference to the stabilisers magnesium chloride and magnesium nitrate should be deleted from its chemical name.
- (6) It should be clarified that the use of the mixture of Methylchloroisothiazolinone (and) Methylisothiazolinone is incompatible with the use of Methylisothiazolinone alone in the same product, as it would alter the ratio 3:1 allowed for the mixture⁽⁹⁾.
- (7) Regulation (EC) No 1223/2009 should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (8) The application of the above-mentioned restrictions should be deferred to allow the industry to make the necessary adjustments to product formulations. In particular, undertakings should be granted nine months to place on the market compliant products, and eighteen months to withdraw from the market non-compliant products after the entry into force of this Regulation.
- (9) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Standing Committee on Cosmetic Products,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

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- (1) [OJ L 342, 22.12.2009, p. 59.](#)
- (2) SCCS/1238/09.
- (3) Commission Decision 2004/210/EC of 3 March 2004 setting up Scientific Committees in the field of consumer safety, public health and the environment ([OJ L 66, 4.3.2004, p. 45](#)).
- (4) Commission Decision 2008/721/EC of 5 September 2008 setting up an advisory structure of Scientific Committees and experts in the field of consumer safety, public health and the environment and repealing Decision 2004/210/EC ([OJ L 241, 10.9.2008, p. 21](#)).
- (5) SCCNFP/0670/03, final.
- (6) SCCP/0849/04.
- (7) Council Directive 76/768/EEC of 27 July 1976 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to cosmetic products ([OJ L 262, 27.9.1976, p. 169](#)).
- (8) The Commission assumes that the SCCP wanted to refer to the substances functioning as colorants, preservatives or UV-filter, which need to be explicitly authorized by being listed in Annexes IV, VI and VII to Directive 76/768/EEC. Those three Annexes should therefore be mentioned, and not “Annexes III-VII”.
- (9) This is in line with the SCCS's opinion on Methylisothiazolinone of 12 December 2013 (SCCS/1521/13) which clearly states that Methylisothiazolinone should not be used as an addition to a cosmetic product already containing the mixture Methylchlorisothiazolinone (and Methylisothiazolinone).

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