Restricting chemicals - How is it done?

Member State/ECHA notifies its intention to submit a "proposal for restriction".

SEAC (Committee for Socio-economic Analysis) checks the conformity of the proposal.

RAC (Committee for Risk Assessment) checks the conformity of the proposal.

SEAC (Committee for Socio-economic Analysis) discusses and gives its "opinion".

RAC (Committee for Risk Assessment) discusses and gives its "opinion".

Public consultation. During six months, organisations and individuals can comment on the draft opinion.

SEAC submits both Committee opinions to the European Commission.

The European Commission starts to prepare a draft amendment to Annex XVII of REACH Regulation.

The European Commission notifies the World Trade Organisation and gives its proposal to the REACH Committee that consists of Member State representatives.

Implementation. Importers, manufacturers, distributors and downstream users need to comply.

If the European Parliament and Council do not oppose, the European Commission formally adopts the restriction.

The REACH Committee gives its opinion on the restriction.

Illustration of the restriction process.