EUROPEAN
COMMISSION

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COMMISSION REGULATION (EU) …/…

of XXX

amending Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances in firefighting foams

(Text with EEA relevance)

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amending Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances in firefighting foams

(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 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 December 2006 concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), establishing a European Chemicals Agency, amending Directive 1999/45/EC and repealing Council Regulation (EEC) No 793/93 and Commission Regulation (EC) No 1488/94 as well as Council Directive 76/769/EEC and Commission Directives 91/155/EEC, 93/67/EEC, 93/105/EC and 2000/21/EC[1], and in particular Article 68(1) thereof,

Whereas:

(1) Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances ('PFAS') are a family of thousands of synthetic chemicals that are used widely in the Union, including in firefighting foams. PFAS are defined by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development ('OECD') as any substances that contain at least one fully fluorinated methyl (CF_3) or methylene (CF_2) carbon atom (without any H/Cl/Br/I atom attached to it)[2].

(2) The 'very persistent' criterion is set out in point 1.2.1 of Annex XIII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006. PFAS by far exceed the criterion to be considered very persistent and they show a variety of additional hazardous properties. Most are mobile in water and therefore lead to contamination of groundwater, surface water and biota. This is a particular concern when drinking water sources are affected. Some PFAS are suspected carcinogens, cause harm to the developing child and trigger effects at low concentration in organs such as the liver or the immune systems. There are some indications that PFAS are potential endocrine disruptors. However, there are insufficient data to adequately quantitatively assess the effects of most PFAS on human health and the environment.

(3) In 2019, the Council of the European Union called on the Commission to develop an action plan to eliminate all non-essential uses of PFAS[3]. In 2020, the European Parliament urged the Commission to set firm deadlines to ensure speedy phasing out of all non-essential uses of PFAS[4]. In the Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability[5], the

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1 OJ L 396, 30.12.2006, p 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2006/1907/oj.

2 OECD Report of 9 July 2021, Reconciling Terminology of the Universe of Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances: Recommendations and Practical Guidance (ENV/CBC/MONO(2021)25)

3 Council conclusions – Towards a Sustainable Chemicals Policy Strategy of the Union, 26 June 2019 10713/19.

4 European Parliament resolution of 10 July 2020 on the Chemicals Strategy for

Commission mentioned that PFAS require special attention and therefore proposed a comprehensive set of actions to address the use of and contamination with PFAS.

(4) The potential impacts of PFAS pollution on the environment and possibly human health have raised concerns in various parts of the world. Australia, Canada, Japan, Korea, China, Russia and the United States have adopted risk reduction approaches on PFAS[6]. Denmark has already adopted dedicated measures to prohibit the import, sale and use of PFAS-containing firefighting foam concentrate in drill sites. National restrictions potentially hamper the good functioning of the internal market and therefore the harmonisation of restriction rules on PFAS-containing firefighting foam is necessary at Union level.

(5) Considering the concern raised with regard to the substitution of firefighting foams containing perfluorooctanoic acid ('PFOA') with other fluorine-based ones, as well as the increasing availability of alternatives, and to ensure a high level of protection of human health and the environment in the Union, on 17 July 2020, pursuant to Article 69(1) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 the Commission asked the European Chemicals Agency ('the Agency') to prepare a dossier which conforms to the requirements of Annex XV to that Regulation, with a view to a possible restriction of PFAS in firefighting foams[7].

(6) On 23 March 2022, the Agency submitted the Annex XV dossier, which was amended and finalised on 13 January 2023 ('the dossier')[8]. The dossier showed that about 30 000 tonnes of firefighting foams are produced in the Union per year by around 25 companies. Despite previous restrictions on certain PFAS in firefighting foams, 18 000 tonnes (60 %) of the current formulated tonnage of firefighting foams contain PFAS. The dossier estimated a total annual emission of around 470 tonnes of PFAS from formulation, training and use in fire incidents.

(7) PFAS-containing firefighting foams are used for extinguishing fires that involve flammable liquids ('class B fires') in a variety of sectors (e.g., oil/(petro-)chemical sector, municipal fire brigades, marine applications, airport, defence and portable fire extinguishers). By far, the largest sector of use is the oil/(petro-)chemicals industry consuming 59 % of the annual tonnage of firefighting foams containing PFAS in the Union. PFAS-containing firefighting foams are used both for training and in a variety of 'live' fire incidents, ranging from small fires to large tank fires. If not regulated, the continued use of PFAS in firefighting foams will lead to increasing environmental contamination, continued environmental emissions and further human exposure.

(8) The Agency concluded that the risks to human health and the environment from the use of PFAS in firefighting foams in the Union are not adequately controlled and that a restriction under Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 is the most appropriate means to address the identified risks. A Union-wide action to address the risks associated with PFAS in firefighting foams is needed to ensure a harmonised high level of protection of human health and the environment across the Union and to ensure the free movement of goods within the Union.

Sustainability (2020/2531(RSP)).

5 Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability, Towards a Toxic-Free Environment (COM(2020) 667 final).

6 https://www.oecd.org/chemicalsafety/portal-perfluorinated-chemicals/riskreduction/

7 https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/17233/request_echa_pfas_fff_en.pdf/aa089887-bc27-e642-747e-b935809075cc?t=1601895611682

8 https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/4524f49c-ae14-b01b-71d2-ac3fa916c4e9 and https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/8011247f-14bb-c77e-189e-4df733dd16b2

(9) The dossier also concluded that the precise identities of the specific PFAS currently used in firefighting foams are largely unknown due to manufacturer confidentiality. Industry stakeholders report that the PFAS mostly belong to the C6 chain length category which are undecafluorohexanoic acid related substances. However, substances with shorter chain length structures have also been used in firefighting foams and novel, unregulated PFAS could theoretically be developed for use in firefighting foams in the future. Consequently, the dossier concluded that a restriction covering the whole PFAS class, irrespective of the market status of specific PFAS, rather than specific PFAS or sub-groups of PFAS is appropriate to address the risks from PFAS in firefighting foams, including those arising from so-called 'regrettable substitution' in the future.

(10) In the dossier, the Agency considered five different restriction options and concluded by proposing a ban on the placing on the market and use, including formulation, of PFAS in firefighting foams, providing sector-specific transitional periods. According to the Agency, the placing on the market of portable fire extinguishers containing PFAS should be restricted after a transitional period of 6 months, while the use of PFAS-containing firefighting foams for training and testing and use by municipal fire services should be restricted after a transitional period of 18 months. A longer transitional period of 3 years was considered necessary for the use of PFAS-containing firefighting foams in civilian ships and of 5 years for the use of PFAS-containing firefighting foams in civil aviation, defence, and portable fire extinguishers. The Agency considered a transitional period of up to 10 years to be justified for the use of PFAS-containing firefighting foams at establishments covered by Directive 2012/18/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council[9], including notably large atmospheric storage tank fires and industries dealing with numerous different flammable liquids at the same site.

(11) In the dossier, the Agency also proposed to set the concentration limit for PFAS in firefighting foams to 1 mg/L[10]. According to the Agency, this limit would prevent any intentional use of PFAS in the foam concentrates and would avoid the majority of emissions. Moreover, the Agency considered that this concentration limit should apply also to equipment that has been used with PFAS-containing firefighting foams, since such limit could be achieved by a relatively simple cleaning process.

(12) Finally, the Agency proposed an obligation for users of firefighting foam (except in portable fire extinguishers) to prepare 'PFAS-containing firefighting foam management plans' and apply best-practice risk management measures to allow them to continue using PFAS-containing foams during any applicable transitional period.

(13) On 16 March 2023, the Agency's Committee for Risk Assessment ('RAC') adopted its opinion[11] concluding that the restriction proposed by the Agency on PFAS in firefighting foams, as modified by RAC, is the most appropriate Union-wide measure to address the identified risk in terms of the effectiveness in reducing the risk, practicality and monitorability.

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9 Directive 2012/18/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 4 July 2012 on the control of major-accident hazards involving dangerous substances, amending and subsequently repealing Council Directive 96/82/EC (OJ L 197, 24.7.2012, p. 1, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/dir/2012/18/oj).

10 Corresponding to 1 000 ppb or 0.0001% (w/v).

11 https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/897b2ca5-e15b-e6c5-a2ef-c7af4f1110a1

(14) RAC supported the use of the OECD definition for PFAS for the purpose of grouping the substances. RAC acknowledged that it may be possible to identify PFAS or sub-groups that are not suitable for use in firefighting foams due to their inherent properties but considered that exclusion of identified PFAS or sub-groups which are not likely to be used is not warranted. If certain PFAS are not suitable, they are not impacted by this restriction and the effort required to identify such groups and substances would not be justified. Furthermore, excluding sub-groups gives rise to the possible inadvertent exclusion of PFAS which may be found to be suitable in future but with similar hazardous properties. RAC considered that the high persistence of PFAS in combination with other hazards presents grounds for significant concern. RAC considered the emissions of PFAS to the environment from the use of firefighting foams containing PFAS as estimated by the Agency to be reliable estimates and agreed that releases should be used as a proxy for risk and should be minimised.

(15) RAC agreed that a Union-wide restriction under Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 on PFAS as a group is the most appropriate measure to reduce the risks of PFAS in firefighting foams. RAC also agreed that the restriction should address the risks from the placing on the market and the use of the PFAS, including formulation, in all firefighting foams applications as they contribute to environmental emissions. Those releases present a risk to humans and the environment, and the risk increases with continued use due to PFAS' persistence and the consequent increase in their environmental stocks over time. Despite regulatory efforts over more than a decade, RAC is of the opinion that current risk management measures and operational conditions do not sufficiently address the risk.

(16) RAC supported the proposal to require operators to establish site-specific management plans. RAC also agreed with the conditions on the adequate disposal, treatment and labelling of collected PFAS-containing waste. In addition, RAC indicated the need to ensure that waste from the cleaning of the firefighting equipment is handled for adequate treatment, and that biological wastewater treatment is not considered an adequate treatment. RAC noted that biological wastewater treatment is the most common disposal method for collected runoff water containing firefighting foams, but that the treatment has limited efficiency in removing PFAS and, in addition, the disposal of waste sludge can also be a significant PFAS source. In the event that PFAS-containing waste is incinerated or co-incinerated, RAC indicated that the temperature should be above 1 100 degrees Celsius. However, RAC also noted that additional disposal techniques may be developed in the future and therefore did not propose to further define adequate treatment beyond the conditions proposed in the dossier.

(17) On 7 June 2023, the Agency's Committee for Socio-Economic Analysis ('SEAC') adopted its opinion[12]. SEAC concluded that the restriction proposed by the Agency on PFAS in firefighting foams is the most appropriate Union-wide measure to address the identified risks, taking into account the socio-economic benefits and costs of PFAS, provided that a review on the availability of alternatives for establishments covered by Directive 2012/18/EU is carried out before the end of the transitional period proposed for the placing on the market and use at such establishments. Moreover, SEAC recommended the inclusion of an obligation to review the substitution progress for the

[12] https://echa.europa.eu/documents/10162/897b2ca5-e15b-e6c5-a2ef-c7af4f1110a1

use of PFAS-containing firefighting foams at offshore oil and gas installations before the end of the transitional period for that use.

(18) SEAC concluded that, despite some uncertainties, the socio-economic costs of the proposed restriction, estimated to be about EUR 7 billion over a period of thirty years, reflect the correct order of magnitude. SEAC agreed with the Agency that the benefits of the proposed restriction are the avoided environmental emissions, which were estimated by the Agency to be about 13 200 tonnes over thirty years if the risk management measures proposed by the Agency are implemented. SEAC noted that the central value of the cost-effectiveness ratio of about EUR 500 per kilo of avoided emissions is within the order of magnitude of recent restrictions for persistent chemicals. SEAC also noted that the inclusion of risk management measures for training and fire incidents had a limited impact on the cost-effectiveness ratio of the proposed restriction and therefore, considered those measures to be justified. SEAC also considered that the restriction could result in other positive impacts, such as avoided environmental remediation costs and incentivising earlier innovation in PFAS alternatives leading to an increased competitiveness of the European chemicals industry, as well as some uncertain or possibly negative impacts, such as on greenhouse gas emissions and not adequately extinguished fire events if alternatives do not perform as well as PFAS-containing foams.

(19) SEAC concluded that technically and economically feasible alternative firefighting foams, which are not fluorine-based, are available and can be implemented in most but not all sectors or uses by the end of the transitional periods proposed by the Agency. In particular, SEAC considered that the availability of suitable alternatives has not yet been fully demonstrated for the use in establishments covered by Directive 2012/18/EU and for offshore oil and gas installations. To ensure the full development, testing and adoption of suitable alternatives, SEAC recommended longer transitional periods than those proposed by the Agency for placing on the market of portable fire extinguishers dispensing alcohol resistant foam, for use in the marine sector and for use at offshore oil and gas installations. For the use of portable fire extinguishers, SEAC recommended a transitional period until 31 December 2030 rather than a five-year transitional period as proposed by the Agency.

(20) SEAC noted the additional condition recommended by RAC requiring a minimum incineration temperature of 1 100 degrees Celsius. However, SEAC could not conclude on the costs associated with this recommendation, introducing an additional element of uncertainty in the assessment.

(21) The Agency's Forum for Exchange of Information on Enforcement, referred to in Article 76(1), point (f), of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 ('Forum'), was consulted during the restriction process and its opinion has been taken into account.

(22) On 31 August 2023, the Agency submitted the opinions of RAC and SEAC to the Commission.

(23) Taking into account the dossier and the opinions of RAC and SEAC, the Commission considers that an unacceptable risk to human health and the environment arises from the placing on the market and use of PFAS in firefighting foams, which needs to be addressed on a Union-wide basis.

(24) Therefore, the Commission considers that a restriction for the placing on the market and use of PFAS in fire-fighting foams, as established by this Regulation, is the most

appropriate Union-wide measure to address the identified risk, taking into account its socio-economic impact and availability of alternatives.

(25) The Commission considers that the wide scope of the restriction covering all PFAS as defined by the OECD is appropriate, in view of the concerns set out in the dossier and confirmed by RAC and SEAC. The persistency of all PFAS, including their degradation products, is the core concern leading to increasing environmental concentrations. Many PFAS are highly mobile in the environment and studies have established a range of other hazards for PFAS, often depending on their specific structure. The Commission notes that the precise identities of those PFAS currently used in firefighting foams are largely unknown due to manufacturers' commercial confidentiality and that a wide restriction scope is needed to avoid regrettable substitution between different individual PFAS, which all meet the 'very persistent' criterion set out in point 1.2.1 of Annex XIII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 and therefore lead to contamination of groundwater, surface water and biota.

(26) The Commission considers that it is uncertain whether some PFAS sub-groups can be used in firefighting foams and, therefore, pose a risk to human health and the environment. However, taking into account the Union's commitment to phase-out PFAS where possible, as mentioned above, the Commission considers that the wide chemical scope of the restriction is justified to ensure the identification of the substances that fall within the scope of this restriction, avoiding the inadvertent exclusion of PFAS which may be found to be suitable for the use in firefighting foams in the future and ensuring the practicality of the restriction.

(27) The Commission agrees with the concentration limit as proposed by RAC and SEAC, which is a concentration of PFAS equal to or lower than 1 mg/L for the sum of all PFAS. For legal clarity, the Commission considers that it should be specified that such limit applies both to the firefighting foams and to the firefighting foam concentrates. Although there is limited availability of analytical methods for each individual PFAS, total fluorine methods may be used for the purpose of demonstrating compliance with the restriction in line with the advice of the Forum. The Commission considers that the restriction is enforceable and this is strengthened, in particular, by the combination of the availability of total fluorine methods and the labelling requirement.

(28) The Commission notes that the implementation of the restriction on specific groups of PFAS in firefighting foams under Regulation (EU) 2019/1021 of the European Parliament and of the Council[13] demonstrated that even after thorough cleaning, PFAS residues may remain in the equipment and may be found in newly installed fluorine-free firefighting foams. In view of this, the Commission acknowledges that setting a concentration limit of PFAS of 1 mg/L as recommended by the Agency may lead to the replacement of any firefighting foam equipment which had previously been used with PFAS-containing firefighting foams. Therefore, the Commission considers it appropriate to set a limit equal to or lower than 50 mg/L for the total of all PFAS in firefighting foams and concentrates originating from and present in such equipment which contained PFAS-containing firefighting foams and that has undergone cleaning. This concentration limit should only apply to fluorine-free firefighting foams and concentrates newly installed in equipment after its cleaning, excluding portable fire extinguishers, which are expected to be progressively replaced in their entirety.

[13] Regulation (EU) 2019/1021 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 20 June 2019 on persistent organic pollutants (OJ L 169, 25.6.2019, p. 45, ELI: http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2019/1021/oj).

(29) Certain PFAS sub-groups or certain of their uses should be excluded from the scope of the restriction since they are already subject to restrictions or prohibitions in the Union. PFOA, its salts and PFOA-related compounds, perfluorooctane sulfonic acid ('PFOS'), its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride[14] and perfluorohexane sulfonic acid ('PFHxS'), its salts and PFHxS-related compounds which are subject to prohibitions in Annex I to Regulation (EU) 2019/1021 should be excluded from the restriction. Perfluorocarboxylic acids with a chain length of 9 to 14 carbon atoms ('C9-C14 PFCAs')[15] are covered by the existing restriction under entry 68 of Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 and should be excluded from the restriction. Certain uses of undecafluorohexanoic acid ('PFHxA'), its salts and PFHxA-related substances should also be excluded from the scope of the restriction, insofar as they are restricted by the existing restriction under entry 79 of Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006.

(30) The formulation of firefighting foams and firefighting foam concentrates is covered by the definition of 'use' as set out in Article 3(24) of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006. Therefore, the Commission considers that it is not necessary to specify a restriction on the formulation of PFAS firefighting foams and firefighting concentrates in addition to the restriction for the use of PFAS in such firefighting foams and concentrations, as was proposed by RAC and SEAC.

(31) As regards both the placing on the market and the use of PFAS in firefighting foams and firefighting foam concentrates, the Commission considers a general transitional period of 5 years appropriate. This is the deferral period supported by RAC and SEAC for the use of PFAS in firefighting foams and firefighting foam concentrates in the general group of all applications and sectors which are not covered by a more specific time-limited derogation which covers a number of heterogenous sites and different substitution processes. Such a deferral period is also supported by SEAC for the use of PFAS in firefighting foams and firefighting foam concentrates used for civilian aviation (including civilian airports), and also recommended for ships, including tankers, ferries, tugboats and other commercial vessels, as well as for defence. Therefore, since the placing on the market to supply those uses also needs to be allowed, it is appropriate to apply the same transitional period for both the placing on the market and the use of PFAS in firefighting foams and firefighting foam concentrates.

(32) As regards placing on the market of alcohol resistant firefighting foams in portable fire extinguishers, the Commission agrees with the transitional period of 18 months recommended by SEAC. For the placing on the market of other portable fire extinguishers, the Commission considers a transitional period of 12 months, instead of 6 months as advised by RAC and SEAC, appropriate to ensure there is sufficient time and capacity for stakeholders to obtain the required certification in all Member States.

(33) Moreover, the Commission considers it appropriate to allow the placing on the market of PFAS in firefighting foams and firefighting foam concentrates beyond the 5-year transitional period for the sole purpose of supplying the uses still benefitting from a derogation once that time has elapsed.

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14 Perfluorooctane sulfonic acid ('PFOS'), its salts and perfluorooctane sulfonyl fluoride ('PFOSF').

15 Linear and branched perfluorocarboxylic acids of the formula C_nF_{2n+1}-C(=O)OH where n = 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 12, or 13 (C9-C14 PFCAs), including their salts, and any combinations thereof.

(34) The Commission agrees with the transitional period of 18 months from entry into force for the use of PFAS in firefighting foams and firefighting foam concentrates used for training and testing and by public fire services. The Commission also agrees that public fire services should still be allowed to use PFAS-containing foams for a period of 10 years in case they need to intervene and extinguish industrial fires at establishments covered by Directive 2012/18/EU. However, such foams and the equipment should be used for that purpose only.

(35) Furthermore, the Commission agrees with the transitional period until 31 December 2030 for the use of PFAS in firefighting foams for portable fire extinguishers, as proposed by SEAC, as this would allow sufficient time to ensure that the manufacturing capacity for PFAS-free portable fire-extinguishers can meet the increasing demand to replace existing PFAS-containing ones.

(36) The Commission agrees with the transitional period of 10 years for the use of PFAS in firefighting foams and firefighting foam concentrates, as proposed by SEAC, for establishments covered by Directive 2012/18/EU and for installations belonging to the offshore oil and gas industry, allowing sufficient time for the successful implementation of alternatives that meet the required standards to ensure fire safety at those sites. Launch facilities for the space industry falling under the establishments covered by Directive 2012/18/EU will consequently have a transitional period of 10 years.

(37) The Commission should review the derogation for the uses of PFAS in firefighting foams and firefighting foam concentrates for establishments covered by Directive 2012/18/EU, installations belonging to the offshore oil and gas industry, military ships and civil ships already in service, before the end of the 10-year transitional period for those uses, to monitor the substitution progress for those uses.

(38) Moreover, as regards the use of PFAS in firefighting foams and firefighting foam concentrates, SEAC supported a 5-year transitional period for ships, including military ships. Nevertheless, the Commission considers that there is a need to take into account the specific defence requirements of military ships compared to civilian ships, which affect the technical feasibility of implementing alternatives, specificities of the navy firefighting doctrine, and to ensure interoperability with third countries in joint military exercises, and therefore requiring more time. In addition, the Commission consider that for civil ships already in service a transitional period of 5 years is too short given the required modifications to the foam system which can only be carried out during drydock. Therefore, the Commission considers it appropriate to set a transitional period of 10 years from the entry into force of this Regulation for the use of PFAS in firefighting foams and firefighting foam concentrates used for military ships and civil ships already in service.

(39) For the purpose of minimising the impact of emissions into the environment originating from uses of PFAS allowed under the restriction, the Commission considers it appropriate to require users of PFAS in firefighting foams and firefighting foam concentrates, except in portable fire extinguishers, to put in place adequate measures to reduce any release of PFAS into the environment to a level as low as is technically and practically possible. The Commission considers that 12 months is an appropriate timeline for the implementation of such measures by the users. Those measures should also include the collection for adequate treatment of used PFAS-containing firefighting foams as well as PFAS-containing wastewater, from the cleaning of the equipment, where technically and practically possible. According to

RAC, for the purpose of achieving adequate treatment, biological wastewater treatment should be excluded and, in the event of incineration, PFAS-containing waste should be incinerated at a temperature of at least 1 100 °C. Moreover, the Commission agrees with RAC's recommendation that firefighting foams and firefighting foam concentrates should only be used against fires involving flammable liquids (class B fires).

(40) Furthermore, to ensure that appropriate measures are adopted and documented, as well as to facilitate enforcement, the Commission considers it appropriate that users of firefighting foams and firefighting foam concentrates prepare a management plan, which should include information on, among other things, use conditions and volumes, collection and adequate treatment, minimisation of the emissions, cleaning, and emergency plans and keep such management plan available for inspection by enforcement authorities.

(41) For the purpose of ensuring that firefighting foams and firefighting concentrates containing PFAS are handled appropriately and to facilitate enforcement, the Commission agrees with the recommendation by the Agency, RAC and SEAC to label firefighting foams and firefighting foam concentrates placed on the market containing PFAS in concentrations above 1 mg/L. Such labelling requirement should also apply to utilised firefighting foams, and to stocks of not-utilised firefighting foams and firefighting foam concentrates, as well as to any PFAS-containing wastewater. The Commission considers a deadline of 12 months is appropriate allow enough time for users to comply with such labelling obligation.

(42) Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 should therefore be amended accordingly.

(43) The measures provided for in this Regulation are in accordance with the opinion of the Committee established under Article 133 of Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006,

HAS ADOPTED THIS REGULATION:

Article 1

Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 is amended in accordance with the Annex to this Regulation.

Article 2

This Regulation shall enter into force on the twentieth day following that of its publication in the *Official Journal of the European Union*.

This Regulation shall be binding in its entirety and directly applicable in all Member States.

Done at Brussels,

For the Commission
The President
Ursula von der Leyen