

Press release, April 2016

## Helsinki Chemicals Forum Supporting the Chemical Safety of Developing Economies

**In May, the Helsinki Chemicals Forum invites a host of experts and authorities from Asia and Africa to Messukeskus Helsinki. Delegates are expected from Ethiopia, Kenya, Egypt, South Africa, Thailand, Vietnam and Iran. As in the previous years, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs is financially supporting the participation of the representatives from the developing countries.**

– The aim is to strengthen the developing countries' knowledge of the chemical sector. This is vital in order to ensure sustainable development and the development of environmental administration. The Helsinki Chemicals Forum offers useful contacts and helps to understand and follow EU regulations. This then contributes to the penetration of the products of the developing countries to the EU, states First secretary **Helena Silvonon** from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Helsinki Chemicals Forum has strengthened its position as an international expert forum for chemical safety. The operations of the European Chemicals Agency in Helsinki also support the appeal and position of the Helsinki Chemicals Forum and Helsinki. The event is aimed at professionals from the EU and other regions.

Many of this year's themes are current also in the chemical safety of African and Asian countries. The themes include regulating the flow of chemicals created by the circular economy, risks of multiple fluorinated chemicals, accident risks in chemical manufacturing, indoor air and chemical hazards in construction, and how to better utilise globally the vast amount of data available about different chemicals.

The Helsinki Chemicals Forum is organised for the eighth time and it consist of moderated panel discussions, other discussions, and key note presentations. A conference report is compiled based on the programme and distributed to decision makers. The detailed programme is updated online at <http://www.helsinkicf.eu/programme>

The Helsinki Chemicals Forum is organised by the Chemicals Forum Association in cooperation with the European Chemicals Agency ECHA, the European Commission, the European Chemicals Industry Council CEFIC, the city of Helsinki, the Chemical Industry Federation of Finland and the University of Helsinki. The event takes place 26-27 May 2016 at Messukeskus Helsinki.

<http://www.helsinkicf.eu> | Twitter: @ChemicalsForum

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**Pictures from the Helsinki Chemicals Forum and [the event's logo free for publishing](#)**