

COSMETICS

Eurogroup welcomes the EU ban on animal testing on cosmetics.

BACKGROUND

For determining the safety of cosmetic products they had in the past been tested on animals. However, the pain, distress and suffering caused to animals used in cosmetics tests cannot be justified. Thousands of previously tested cosmetics ingredients are already available to companies and consumers and these existing safe ingredients can be used and reformulated without the need for further testing. A complete ban on the use of new cosmetics ingredients tested on animals will not affect the safety of consumers.

CURRENT SITUATION

After several postponements, the EU cosmetics Directive 2003/15/EC introduced fixed deadlines for phasing out tests of cosmetic products on animals. The final ban on marketing and testing of cosmetics on animals came into force in March 2013. However, Animal testing ban is only for the purposes of the cosmetics regulation. Additional testing, for the safety of workers and for the environment fall under other EU legislation and testing on animals may still continue.

OUR OBJECTIVES

- The proper implementation and enforcement of the ban on the use of new cosmetic ingredients and products tested on animals and the marketing ban on cosmetics testing on animals.
- Other countries to follow the example set by the EU and adopt laws which ban the use of animal testing for cosmetics.
- Continued funding for the research and development of alternative non-animal methods.

RELATED LINKS

European Commission Communications on Cosmetics

- [Web page on Cosmetics](#)
- [Commission ECVAM paper \(May 2011\) Alternative \(non-animal\) methods for cosmetics testing: current status and future prospects](#)
- [Directive 2003/15/EC on the approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to cosmetic products](#)
- [New Regulation \(EC\) No 1223/2009 on cosmetic products](#)

European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) communication on Cosmetics

- [REACH testing requirements and the ban on animal testing for cosmetics](#)
- [Clarity on interface between REACH and the Cosmetics Regulation](#)
- [European Commission responds to campaign on testing cosmetic ingredients on animals](#)