

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-000068/26
to the Commission
Beatrice Timgren (ECR)
(12 January 2026)**

Subject: Consumer safety under the Omnibus VI package to simplify requirements for chemical products

In the Omnibus VI proposal ⁽¹⁾, the Commission introduces changes to the Cosmetic Products Regulation (CPR), in particular to Article 15 on the use of substances classified as carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction (CMR).

Currently, if a fragrance or cosmetic ingredient is classified as CMR 1 under the Classification, Labelling and Packaging Regulation, its use is automatically banned in cosmetics, even in cases where consumer safety can be demonstrated. Although Article 15 CPR provides for derogations, none have ever been granted. The Commission notes ⁽²⁾ that around 10 fragrance ingredients are under CMR evaluation. If confirmed, this could require reformulation of up to 85% of the 500 000 cosmetic products on the EU market within two to three years, creating a significant burden for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and risks to EU competitiveness. Other safely used ingredients, such as sodium fluoride or ethanol, could face similar outcomes, with potential public health and economic consequences.

Can the Commission clarify:

How it intends to ensure realistic adaptation timelines for companies, particularly SMEs, while avoiding disproportionate impacts on competitiveness?

Submitted: 12.1.2026

**Answer given by Executive Vice-President Séjourné on behalf of the European Commission
(5 March 2026)**

The Commission remains fully committed to ensuring a high level of protection of human health while maintaining a proportionate and workable regulatory framework for cosmetics.

These principles underpin the Commission's Omnibus VI proposal ⁽¹⁾, which enhances legal certainty, improves predictability of regulatory outcomes, and facilitates timely risk assessment and management for cosmetic products.

In particular, the proposal establishes a three-month window for industry to submit derogation dossiers following the entry into force of the Delegated Regulation classifying carcinogenic, mutagenic and reprotoxic (CMR) substances.

The Commission also proposes standardised periods of 12 months for placing products on the market and 24 months for the sell-through of existing stocks.

This provides lead time needed for reformulation and inventory management, mitigating economic impacts, especially for small and medium-sized enterprises.

Lastly, the proposal clarifies that a CMR constituent within natural complex substances (e.g., essential oils) does not automatically trigger a ban on the entire extract if its overall safety is confirmed. This is especially relevant for fragrances.

¹ Commission proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Regulations (EC) No 1272/2008, (EC) No 1223/2009 and (EU) 2019/1009 as regards simplification of certain requirements and procedures for chemical products, (COM(2025)0531).

² Commission staff working document accompanying the Omnibus VI proposal, (SWD(2025)0531).

⁽¹⁾ <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=celex:52025PC0531>.