

(English version)

**Question for written answer E-002574/26
to the Commission
Aurelijus Veryga (ECR)
(23 June 2026)**

Subject: Evaluation and revision of the Biocidal Products Regulation to improve EU health preparedness and innovation

The Commission recognises that biocidal products play an important role in EU citizens' daily lives, for example, helping to protect against vector-borne diseases (e.g. malaria, dengue fever or chikungunya), food-borne diseases (e.g. salmonellosis, listeriosis) and hospital-acquired infections (e.g. methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* — MRSA).

However, more than 10 years since its entry into application, significant shortcomings in the Biocidal Products Regulation ⁽¹⁾ (BPR), including lengthy approval and authorisation timelines, complex procedures and high compliance costs, create investment uncertainty and negatively impact businesses' performance, particularly for small and medium-sized enterprises. These challenges hinder innovation and highlight the need for a revision of the BPR to ensure it becomes fit for purpose and supports the EU's preparedness for future health crises.

1. Can the Commission provide a clear timeline for the completion of the BPR evaluation, including the expected adoption of its conclusions and any subsequent steps towards a much-needed legislative revision?
2. How will the Commission address delays and improve harmonisation and predictability in authorisation processes to strengthen the EU's crisis preparedness, and does the Commission intend to address these challenges through a revision of the BPR, following its evaluation?
3. What measures does the Commission envisage to strengthen the European biocidal sector, and create a favourable environment for innovation?

Submitted: 23.6.2026

**Answer given by Mr Várhelyi on behalf of the European Commission
(25 September 2026)**

The evaluation of the regulation (EU) No 528/2012 on biocidal products (BPR) ⁽¹⁾ is ongoing and will assess the functioning of the BPR, including its effectiveness in improving the functioning of the EU single market and ensuring a high level of protection for human health, animal health, and the environment.

Ahead of the completion of the evaluation, and based on the implementation report ⁽²⁾ submitted to the European Parliament and the Council in 2021 and further discussion with stakeholders, the Commission has already made some proposals for simplification as part of the Food and Feed Safety Simplification Package ⁽³⁾, with a view to address the substantial delays in the completion of the work programme for the approval of existing active substances and the authorisation of all biocidal products placed on the EU market according to harmonised rules.

Other proposals may be put forward by the Commission, if considered appropriate and depending on the findings of the evaluation. Such proposals would be supported by an impact assessment that would follow the evaluation.

The creation of an environment favourable for innovation does not depend solely on the legislation. The Commission has recently taken new action in order to foster innovation for the biocides sector under the Horizon Europe framework ⁽⁴⁾.

The Commission recognises the importance of ensuring the timely availability of safe and effective vector control tools as part of EU preparedness against vector-borne diseases.

¹ Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2012 concerning the making available on the market and use of biocidal products (OJ L 167, 27.6.2012, p. 1, ELI: <http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2012/528/oj>).

⁽¹⁾ Regulation (EU) No 528/2012 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 May 2012 concerning the making available on the market and use of biocidal products. <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX:32012R0528>.

⁽²⁾ COM(2021)287 final — <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=CELEX%3A52021DC0287&qid=1789566549634>.

⁽³⁾ https://food.ec.europa.eu/horizontal-topics/simplification-legislation_en.

⁽⁴⁾ Participation Portal_replacing hazardous active substance in biocidal products: <https://ec.europa.eu/info/funding-tenders/opportunities/portal/screen/opportunities/topic-details/HORIZON-CL6-2027-01-ZEROPOLLUTION-01?isExactMatch=true&status=31094501,31094502,31094503&frameworkProgramme=43108390&callIdentifier=HORIZON-CL6-2027-01&order=DESC&pageNumber=1&pageSize=50&sortBy=startDate>.

Through EU4Health, the Commission is supporting Member States in strengthening vector surveillance and control capacities and assessing innovative vector control approaches.
