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From:	General Secretariat of the Council
To:	Permanent Representatives Committee/Council
No. Cion doc.:	ST 15857/22 + ADD 1 - D 082090/4
Subject:	Commission Regulation (EU) No .../.. of XXX amending Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards lead and its compounds in PVC - Decision not to oppose adoption - Statement by Denmark

Statement by Denmark

Coreper 1 on 15 February 2023

Item 26: Commission Regulation (EU) No .../.. of XXX amending Annex XVII to Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 of the European Parliament and of the Council as regards lead and its compounds in PVC

Denmark agrees that the risks of lead in imported PVC articles are not sufficiently controlled, and that there is a need to introduce a restriction at EU level. However, Denmark is not in favor of the proposal by the Commission as regards lead and its compounds because the limit value is set too high.

There is no lower limit value for lead, which will provide full protection against damages on the kidneys and the development of the brain. Therefore setting a sufficiently low limit level for lead in PVC is critical. Denmark considers a limit value of 0.01% appropriate, which is 10 times lower than the limit value proposed by the Commission.

Denmark acknowledges that the proposal incorporates a trade-off between health protection and the opportunities to provide better conditions for recycling and a circular economy. Denmark supports a circular economy; however, Denmark cannot support the presence of lead in the recycled materials. Therefore, Denmark would like to see the same limit value for lead in virgin and recycled PVC.

On 8 December 2022, Denmark sent an official letter to the Commission pointing out that notwithstanding the tacit agreement in Committee on 7 December the intention of Denmark had been to vote against the proposal.
