



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Ecosystems III: Construction & machinery  
Construction

***SUB-GROUP #5***  
***“ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY OF CONSTRUCTION PRODUCTS ”***  
***OF THE***  
***INFORMAL COMMISSION EXPERT GROUP ON THE CPR TECHNICAL ACQUIS PROCESS***  
**TERMS OF REFERENCE**

### **1. BACKGROUND**

DG GROW has set up a group of experts “Commission Expert Group on the CPR Technical Acquis process” (“the group”)<sup>1</sup> within the remit of the Construction Products Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 (CPR)<sup>2</sup>.

The main group acts as “Steering Group”<sup>3</sup>, while several sub-groups have been (or are planned to be) created according to the product areas defined in the CPR or to thematic issues within the scope of its application.

The Steering Group has acknowledged the need to deal with aspects related to the environmental sustainability of construction products at horizontal level in a thematic sub-group, in accordance with Article 8 of the ToR of the “Informal commission expert group on Construction products regulation (CPR) Technical Acquis Process”. The sub-group is created to provide advice and assistance to the Commission in this particular subject.

For any aspect not explicitly mentioned in these terms of reference, the sub-group shall operate in compliance with the terms of reference and rules of procedure of the Informal Commission Expert group on the CPR Technical Acquis Process and the Commission’s horizontal rules on expert groups (“the horizontal rules”)<sup>4</sup>.

### **2. SUBJECT MATTER**

The sub-group of experts “Environmental Sustainability of Construction Products”, is set up (“the sub-group”). The subgroup is created mainly to identify and address horizontal issues on environmental sustainability for future harmonised technical specifications in the product

---

<sup>1</sup> Registered under code E03776 in the Register of Commission Expert Groups and Other Similar Entities

<sup>2</sup> Regulation (EU) No 305/2011 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 9 March 2011 laying down harmonised conditions for the marketing of construction products and repealing Council Directive 89/106/EEC, OJ L 88, 4.4.2011, p. 5–43.

<sup>3</sup> Ref. Ares(2021)4656757 of 19/07/2021.

<sup>4</sup> C(2016) 3301.

areas (as per Annex IV to the CPR). The sub-group shall operate in compliance with the horizontal rules<sup>5</sup> and shall report to the main group.

### **3. TASKS**

The sub-group's tasks shall be:

- a) to identify the relevant horizontal issues under the sub-group competence;
- b) to suggest a horizontal approach for environmental sustainability to be applied within the high level structure of harmonized Technical Specifications. This shall include at least identification of essential characteristics, expression of assessment results, general assessment rules applicable for all product areas, system for assessment and verification of constancy of performance and requirements and regulatory needs under the subgroup competence;
- c) to provide recommendations for the product-specific subgroups on where and how to address items identified in (b);
- d) to evaluate draft requests for Technical Specifications to ensure that the selection of characteristics and of the assessment methods are complete;
- e) to evaluate draft harmonised Technical Specifications to ensure that the final documents are covering the items of (b);
- f) to provide recommendations to the Steering Group on how to structurally eliminate potential shortcomings of draft harmonised Technical Specifications;
- g) any other task that the Steering Group decides to assign.

### **4. MEMBERSHIP**

1. The sub-group shall be composed of members and observers.
2. Members shall be Member States' authorities (member type D).
3. Observers shall be other public entities (observer type E) and organisations representing in particular national standardisation bodies, the industry and other stakeholders (observer type C). Observers and their representatives may be permitted by the Chair to take part in the discussions of the sub-groups and provide expertise. However, they shall not have voting rights and shall not participate in the formulation of recommendations or advice of the sub-group.
4. Members and observers shall nominate their representatives and shall be responsible for ensuring that they provide a high level of expertise.
5. DG GROW may refuse the nomination by an organisation of a representative if it considers this nomination inappropriate in the light of the requirements specified in the direct invitation. In such case, the organisation concerned shall be asked to appoint another representative.

---

<sup>5</sup> Commission Decision C(2016)3301.

## 5. SELECTION PROCESS

1. Observers shall be invited by direct invitation by the Chair. Registration in the Transparency Register<sup>6</sup> is required in order for organisations to be appointed as observers.
2. Members and observers shall be appointed for the duration of the mandate of the sub-group. They shall remain in office until replaced/until the end of their term of office. Their term of office may be renewed.

Done in Brussels, on [date].

---

<sup>6</sup> [Transparency Register - Homepage \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/transparency/etr/home)