

International Cooperation on Cosmetics Regulation (ICCR) 18th Annual Meeting held in Taipei City from July 9-11, 2024

The International Cooperation on Cosmetics Regulation (ICCR) held its 18th Annual Meeting (ICCR-18) from July 9-11, 2024 in Taipei City. The ICCR is a voluntary international group of cosmetics regulatory authorities, comprising the Steering Committee (SC) from Brazil, Canada, Chinese Taipei, the European Union, Israel, Japan, the Republic of Korea, and the United States. This group of regulatory authorities meets annually, has quarterly teleconferences to discuss common issues on cosmetics safety and regulations, and engages in constructive dialogue with the SC's relevant cosmetics Industry Trade Associations. As stated in the Terms of Reference, the purpose of this multilateral framework is to maintain the highest level of global consumer protection, while minimizing barriers to international trade. In 2024, representatives from Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Thailand and the United Kingdom participated in the meeting as Observers.

The Director of the Medical Devices and Cosmetics Division, Taiwan Food and Drug Administration (TFDA), Dr. Chia-Hung Chien, welcomed the group and made opening remarks.

Opening statements on behalf of the cosmetics industry were made by Mr. Cheng-Tzu Chen, Chairman of the Taiwan Cosmetics Industry Association (TWCIA).

As part of this meeting, the regulators had a dialogue with the cosmetics Industry Trade Associations from each respective jurisdiction (including Observers) on July 10, 2024.

The following Joint Working Group (JWG) topics were discussed at the meeting:

- Integrated Strategies for Safety Assessments of Cosmetic Ingredients II
- Consumer Communications

An open stakeholder session was held on July 10. Representatives from the Marine Debris Recycling Coalition and the Taiwan Institute for Sustainable Energy gave presentations on plastic recycling, development of circular economies and sustainability. A presentation regarding various activities supporting the end of cosmetic animal testing and the development of animal-free safety assessments was also provided by the International Collaboration on Cosmetics Safety (ICCS).

The following are the outcomes of the ICCR-18 cycle:

- 1. Finalized "Requirements for Chairing an ICCR Cycle."
- 2. Updated "Process for ICCR Observer to transition to ICCR Steering Committee Member."
- 3. Updated "International Cooperation on Cosmetics Regulation (ICCR) Standard Operating Procedures."
- 4. Updated "Annex of International Standards in Cosmetics Report."
- 5. Updated "Inventory of Validated Alternatives to Animal Testing Applicable for Cosmetic Products and their Ingredients in all ICCR Regions."
- 6. Integrated Strategies for Safety Assessments of Cosmetic Ingredients JWG II
 - ICCR SC endorsed the report, "Integrated Strategies for Safety Assessments of Cosmetic Ingredients: Next Generation Risk Assessment Best Practice."
 - ICCR SC agreed that the JWG will re-assess the New Approach Methodologies (NAMs) discussed in the 2018 "Part 2" report.
- 7. Consumer Communications JWG
 - ICCR SC agreed with the approach proposed by the JWG to complete the deliverable regarding the topic: "Navigating Cosmetic Pseudoscience."
- 8. Considerations for Electronic (E)-Labelling in Cosmetics JWG
 - ICCR SC agreed to create a new JWG on the Considerations for E-Labelling in Cosmetics.

The next ICCR Annual Meeting will be hosted by Canada in 2025.