

# Council of Europe activities

on Food Contact Materials

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Medicines & HealthCare (**EDQM**)

# History

**1959:** Partial Agreement (18 Member States) in the Social and **Public Health Field.**

**2007:** Memorandum of Understanding between EU & CoE to intensify cooperation, with the aim of:

- implementing common strategies and programmes
- ensuring legal coherence
- searching for added value
- making better use of existing resources
- avoiding duplication
- fostering synergy

**2008:** The Council of Europe Committee of Ministers decided to dissolve the Partial Agreement and to transfer the activities related to cosmetics and food contact materials to the EDQM.

## Resolutions & Policy statements

Council of Europe's policy statements concerning materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs

### Coatings

- Policy statement concerning coatings intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 3 dated 12.02.2009)
- Policy statement concerning coatings intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 2 dated 29.01.2008)
- Policy statement concerning coatings intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 1 dated 10.06.2004)

### Cork stoppers

- Policy statement concerning cork stoppers and other cork materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 2 dated 05.09.2007)
- Policy statement concerning cork stoppers and other cork materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 1 dated 10.06.2004)

### Glass

- Policy statement concerning lead leaching from glass tableware into foodstuffs (Version 1 dated 22.09.2004)

### Inks

- Policy statement concerning packaging inks applied to the non-food contact surface of food packaging (Version 2 dated 10.10.2007)
- Policy statement concerning packaging inks applied to the non-food contact surface of food packaging (Version 1 dated 21.12.2006)

### Paper and board

- Policy statement concerning paper and board materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 4 dated 12.02.2009)
- Policy statement concerning paper and board materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 3 dated 11.12.2007)
- Policy statement concerning paper and board materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 2 dated 13.04.2005)
- Policy statement concerning paper and board materials and articles intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 1 dated 19.12.2002)

### Resins for ion exchange and adsorption

- Policy statement concerning ion exchange and adsorbant resins in the processing of foodstuffs (Version 3 dated 28.01.2009)
- Policy statement concerning ion exchange and adsorbant resins in the processing of foodstuffs (Version 2 dated 05.09.2007)
- Policy statement concerning ion exchange and adsorbant resins in the processing of foodstuffs (Version 1 dated 10.06.2004)

### Rubber

- Policy statement concerning rubber product products intended to come into contact with foodstuffs (Version 1 dated 10.06.2004)

### Silicones

- Policy statement concerning silicones used for food contact applications (Version 1 dated 10.06.2004)

### Tissue paper

- Policy statement concerning tissue paper kitchen towels and napkins (Version 1 dated 22.09.2004)

# Member States & Observers

## European Pharmacopoeia Convention



(\*) Map from 2017 – Uzbekistan became 30<sup>th</sup> Observer in March 2018

# The European Pharmacopoeia...

- 1964: Convention on the elaboration of a European Pharmacopoeia to promote free movement of medicines in Europe
- 1975: mandatory status for all EC/EEA member states via EC pharmaceutical legislation
- 1994: creation of the European Network of Official Medicines Control Laboratories (OMCL) (contract between EU and the Secretariat of *Ph. Eur.*)
- 1994: certification procedure for substances for pharmaceutical use (referred to in the EU pharmaceutical legislation)



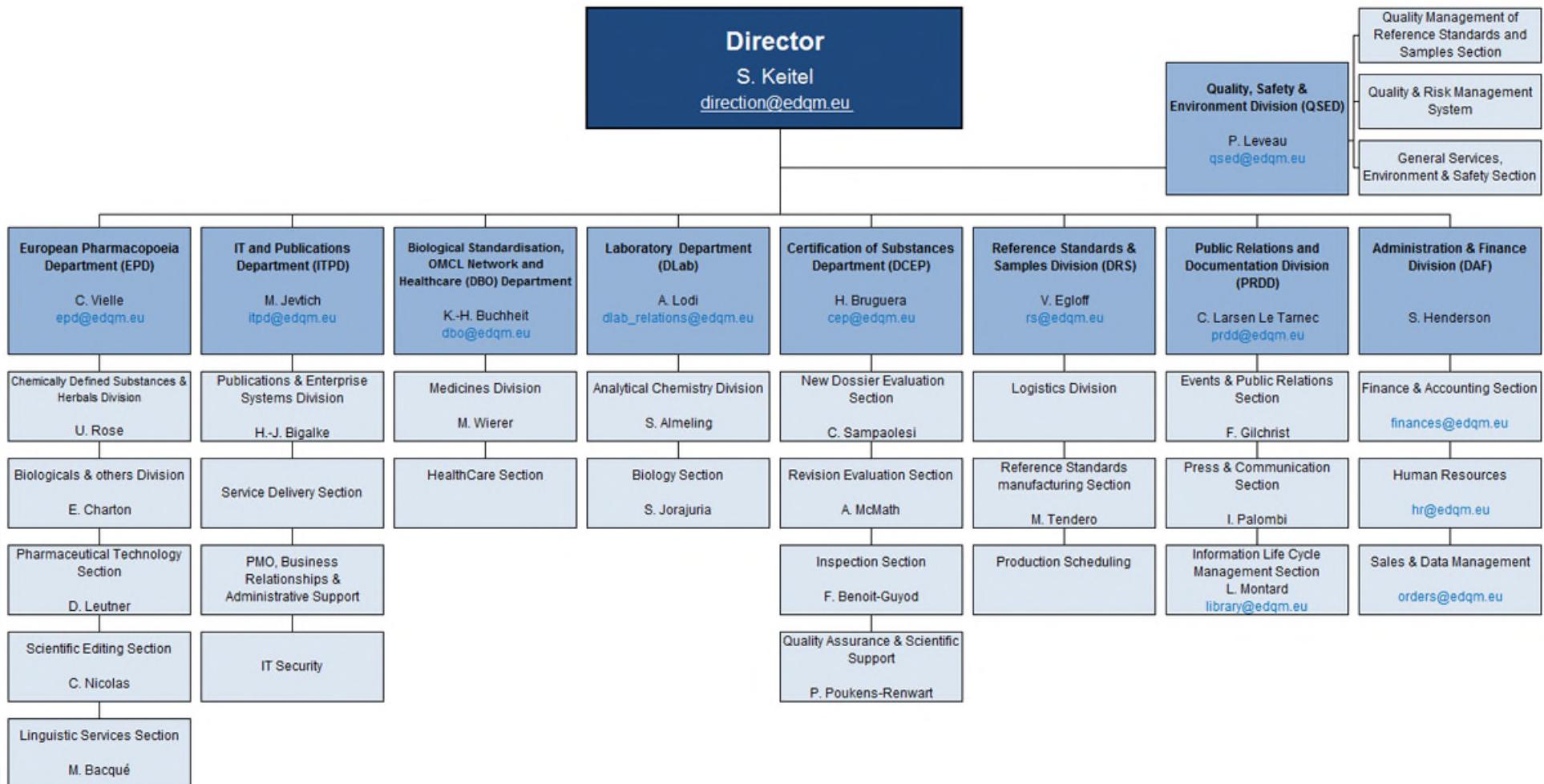
# ... and the EDQM

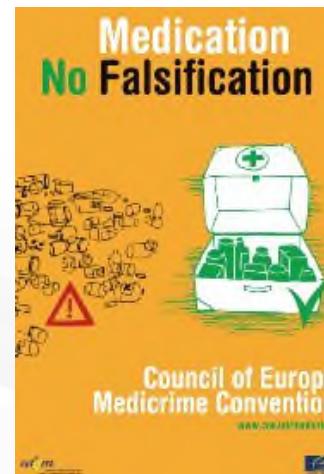


- 1996: change of name to EDQM
- 2007: transfer of healthcare activities – blood transfusion & organ transplantation
- 2008: transfer of pharmaceuticals/pharmaceutical care activities
- **2009: transfer of cosmetics & food contact material activities**
- 2010: OCCL Network setup (today 44 laboratories from 26 European + third countries)



# Organizational Chart: EDQM





# BIOLOGICAL STANDARDISATION, OMCL NETWORK & HEALTHCARE (DBO)

# HealthCare Activities: Technical Guides Resolutions & Recommendations

- **Steering Committees and experts** develop guides to ensure quality and good practices & protect consumers, e.g.
  - Preparation, use and quality assurance of blood components
  - **Metals & alloys used in food contact materials**
  - Safe cosmetics for young children
  - Hydrogen peroxide in cosmetic products
  - Safer tattooing: overview of current knowledge and challenges of toxicological assessment
- **Council of Europe Recommendations and Resolutions:**

Adopted by the Committee of Ministers:

“ ... Recommends to the governments of member States Parties to the Convention that they adopt legislative and other measures ...”



# Food contact materials and articles

## New Steering Committee (2018)

Committee for food contact materials and articles (Partial Agreement) (CD-P-MCA) \*

**Members:** delegates from the 38 countries of the Pharmacopoeia Convention (26 countries have appointed representatives in 2018)

**Participants:** representatives from member states or observers, European Union, EFSA

**Observers:** representatives from non-member states

\*ToR adopted by the Committee of Ministers

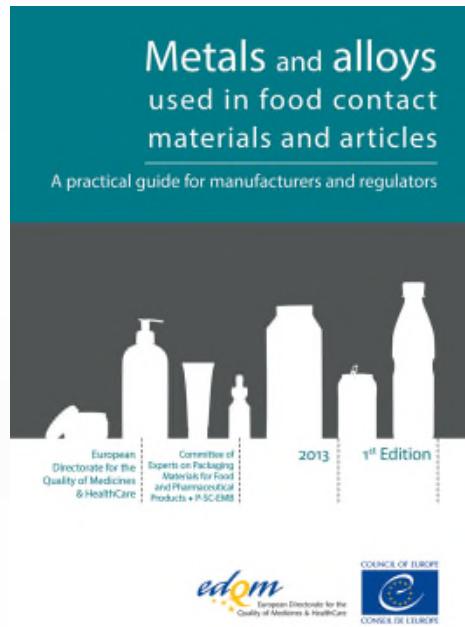
# Working Methods

- Committee supported by the Secretariat<sup>1</sup>
- Assigned rapporteurs (members or participants of the Committee)
- Plenary sessions: 2 times a year, in Strasbourg
- *Ad hoc* working groups: flexible in time and place; ± 1-2 times a year

<sup>1</sup> Susanne Bahrke, Eugenia Dessipri (seconded from GCSL, Greece)

# Metals and alloys used in food contact materials and articles

Resolution adopted by all 37 member states in 2013



1<sup>st</sup> Edition

Assists national policy-makers to adopt legislative and other measures aimed at reducing health risks arising from consumer exposure to certain metal ions released into food from the contact with metals and alloys.

- covers general provisions and recommendations
- provides technical information on specific release limits (SRLs) for metals and
- provides analytical guidance for release testing of food contact materials and articles made from metals and alloys.

- The electronic version of the Guide can be [downloaded for FREE online](#)

# Activities for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition

- Revision of SRLs where new data are available
- Editorial changes to improve presentation
- Reference to JRC guidelines for all migration conditions (time/T) – closer collaboration with JRC for the revised kitchenware guidelines
- Revision of the envelope volume calculations
- Update references where needed

# Resolution for FCM

- **Scope:** all FCM under Regulation (EC) 1935/2004 **for which there are no specific measures** at the EU level
- **General principles:** best practices to ensure quality and safety
  - DoC/supporting documentation
  - Principles for the intentional use of substances
- Technical guides per material group to cover specific issues (scope, lists, testing issues)

# Technical Guides

- Paper and Board
- Coatings
- Ion exchange resins
- Cork
- Enamels (pending on the scope of EU legislation for ceramics)
- Printing inks (analytical issues)

# Links / Contact

<https://www.edqm.eu/en>

<https://www.edqm.eu/en/presentation-edqm>

<https://www.edqm.eu/en/consumer-health-activities-latest-developments>

<https://www.edqm.eu/en/faq-helpdesk-patient-consumer>

Email: Consumer.Health@edqm.eu

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