



CEFIC POSITION ON CHEMICAL RECYCLING

The Voice of the European Chemical Industry

The European Chemical
Industry Council



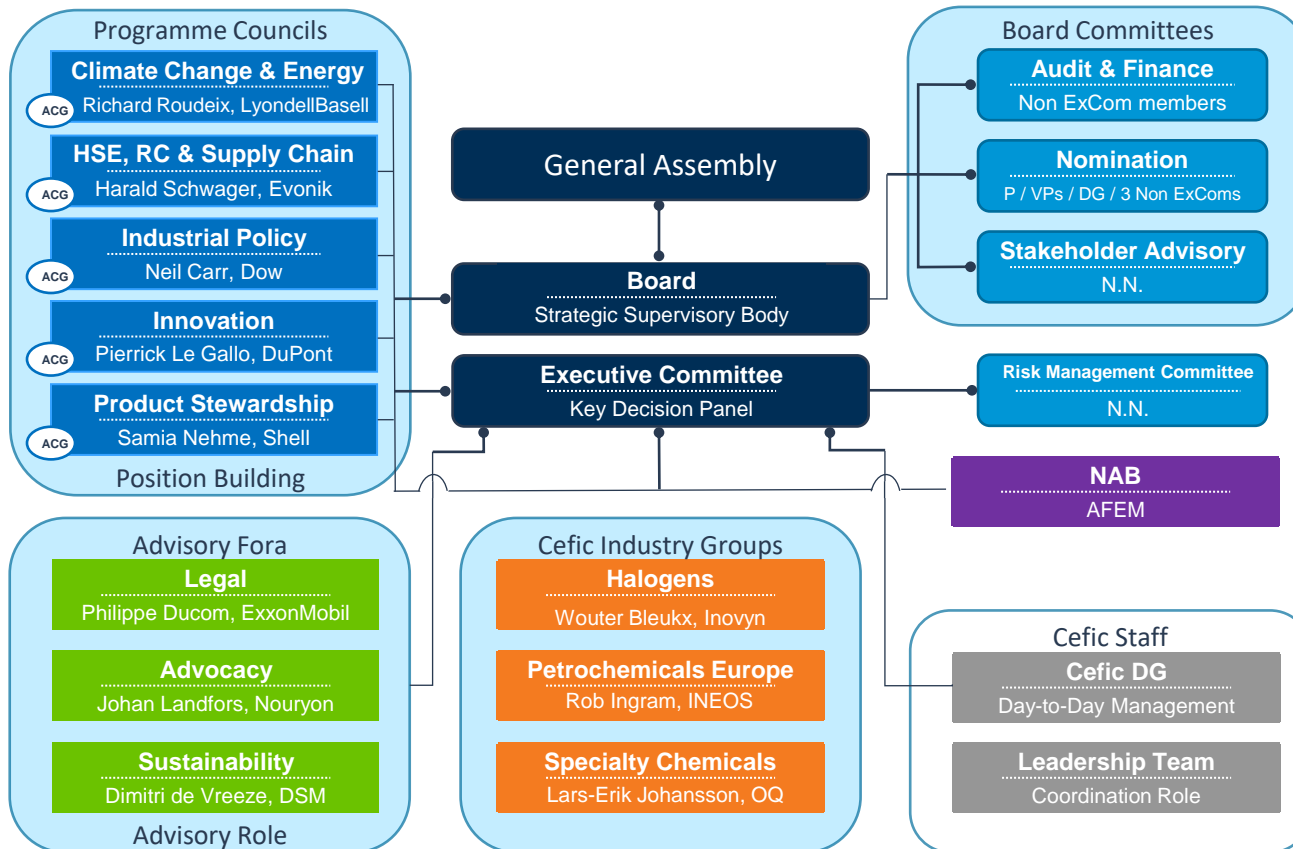
Cefic is the voice of the chemical industry in Europe



- Cefic is one of the largest trade organisations in Europe and in the world, representing large, medium and small chemical companies in Europe.
- The Association's main purpose is to:
 - serve the members and the European chemical industry by generating and aggregating scientific knowledge that fosters the purpose of the Association in critical areas
 - offer needs-oriented services and expertise to its members in, amongst others, regulatory, scientific and technical matters
 - engage, represent and advocate in a focused and effective manner and create the right support and policy frameworks for the chemical industry in Europe and beyond
 - add value as a collective compared to individual companies' activities

Cefic is the voice of the European chemical industry in the European Union and in the world. At the centre stage of political and regulatory developments, debates and negotiations, it is a unique organisation in its expertise, track record and influence.

Cefic – Governance Structure



Cefic position on chemical recycling (1)



- ca 30 Million ton of plastic waste collected each year in EU.
- Still 85 % ends up in landfill or is incinerated.
- This is not only source for GHG emissions but also waste of valuable resources.
- Chemical recycling are complementary solutions to existing mechanical recycling to recycle mixed/contaminated plastics that otherwise end up in landfill or incineration.
- Cefic role is to make sure these technologies are fully recognized as valuable recycling technologies by legislators in the different waste legislation packages.

NGO position on chemical recycling



- New high-carbon chemical technologies which break plastic down to basic building blocks and fuel- so called chemical ‘recycling’ or recovery- **are secondary to mechanical recycling due to their environmental impact**
- We need a strong push towards a truly circular design that prepares plastics for reuse and recycling according to the most environmentally sound options and **avoids carbon-intensive treatments such as pyrolysis and gasification.**

Cefic position on chemical recycling (2)



- Chemical recycling is needed to move from a waste-oriented to a resource-oriented economy. Create a single market for secondary raw materials.
- Chemical recycling has a positive environmental footprint. Chemical Recycling technologies have the potential to avoid greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions that can occur in both the feedstock production and from incineration of plastic waste. See also Cefic LCA Study :
 - <https://cefic.org/library-item/chemical-recycling-greenhouse-gas-emission-reduction-potential-of-an-emerging-waste-management-route-commissioned-by-study-review/>
- Chemical recycling is still in early stages of development, but all major petrochemical companies are working on these technologies. See list of examples on partnerships for Technology & Business Case development.
 - <https://cefic.org/a-solution-provider-for-sustainability/chemical-recycling-making-plastics-circular/chemical-recycling-examples-from-cefic-member-companies/>