



Proposed Forced Labour Regulation

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What is Forced Labour?

Definition according to ILO:

“All work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered himself voluntarily”.

Situation:

People in forced labour suffer a variety of forms of coercion, such as (threat of) violence, withholding of wages, or threats against family. About 25m people are in forced labour across the globe (ILO estimate).

State of the Union

European Commission President von der Leyen announced in her State of the Union speech of 15 September 2021:

“We will propose a ban on products in our market that have been made by forced labour.”

Decent Work Communication of 23 February 2022 specified core elements

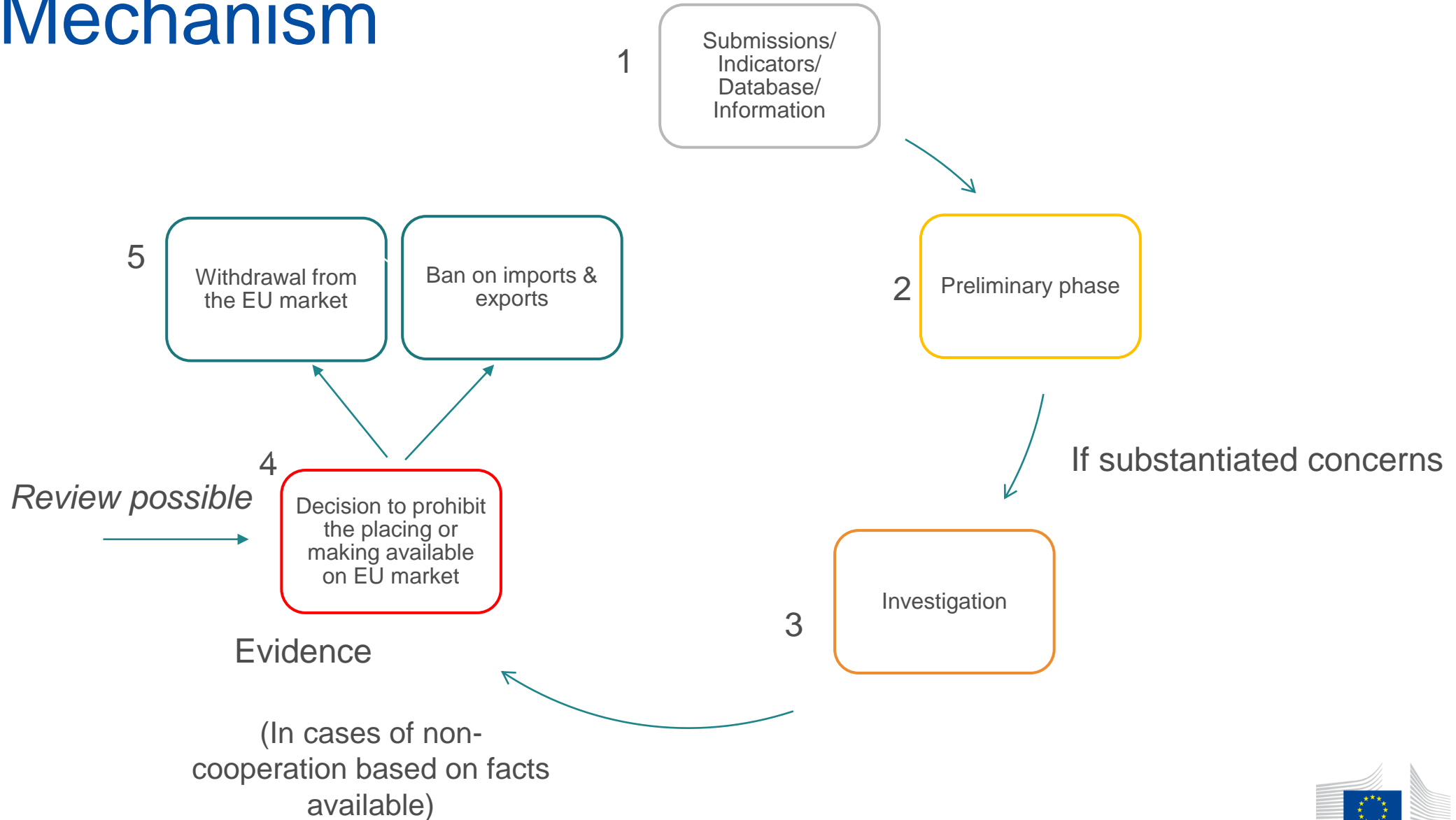
Commission proposal for a Regulation on prohibiting products made with forced labour on the Union market adopted on 14 September 2022.

Proposed instrument

Effective prohibition of placing on the EU market of products made by forced labour and of exporting them

- Marketing prohibition
- Covering both EU-manufactured products (for domestic consumption and exports) and imported products
- Robust, risk-based enforcement framework (national competent authorities with role for customs authorities)
- Built on international standards
- Complementing existing initiatives (e.g. due diligence)
- Due consideration of SMEs

Mechanism



Tools for implementation and support

- Database with risk indicators and factual information on forced labour (countries, products) – external consultant
- Network of competent authorities
- IT tool for swift and reliable exchange on cases between authorities
- Guidance for companies (and in particular SMEs)
- Guidance for competent authorities

Thank you!