

IAS 38 *Intangible Assets* (July 2009)

Compliance costs for REACH

The IFRIC received a request to add an item to its agenda to provide guidance on the treatment of costs incurred to comply with the requirements of the European Regulation concerning the Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH). The Regulation came into force in part on 1 June 2007 and companies have begun to account for the first costs incurred to comply. At its meetings in March and May 2009 the IFRIC considered detailed background information, an analysis of the issue, current practice and an assessment of the issue against its agenda criteria. The IFRIC noted that IAS 38 includes definitions and recognition criteria for intangible assets that provide guidance to enable entities to account for the costs of complying with the REACH regulation.

The IFRIC concluded that any guidance it could develop beyond that already given would be more in the nature of implementation guidance than an interpretation. For this reason, the IFRIC decided not to add the issue to its agenda.