

Italy expresses a negative vote mainly on the basis of two main considerations:

- during the meetings of the various WGs involved in the review, it was clear that at the moment some producers consider that a panel marked as fulfilling the requirements of a class (i.e. E1) can normally contain also a core-board with a higher emission, as they claim that the only fact to pay attention to is the behavior of the panel as a whole. This is unacceptable and dangerous because if the panel is subjected to any further operation, such as drilling, the core-board will be exposed and the panel can exceed the expected limits, very often imposed by national regulations;
- the above consideration is fundamental in particular in the case of the newly created E1-plus class (considering the reasons that lead to its creation); however the way it is at the moment it provides the possibility of marking as E1-plus also wood-based panels containing a core-board with a higher formaldehyde emission. This is stated in the footnote of table B3 of Annex B, which says "If the emission class of the core board is different from the emission class of the coated, overlaid or veneered board it Shall be Declared and marked accordingly." This is unacceptable, as it would be misleading and would generate confusion in the market with the creation of new "sub-classes" such as "E1plus", "E1plus/E1", "E1plus/E2".

The Italian industries involved in the application of this rule are therefore NOT favourable to its approval under UAP.