



10TH PLENARY MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS

22 January 2015

Minutes

1. Welcome and apologies

One member excused.

2. Adoption of the agenda

It was suggested to add an update on the ongoing opinion on synthetic biology under point 4. The agenda was adopted with this change.

3. Declaration of interests on matters on the agenda

The Chair requested participants to declare any conflict of interest regarding matters on the agenda. None of the participants declared any conflict of interest.

4. Chair's/ member's report

The SCHER representatives in the WG on sunbeds and the WG on synthetic biology reported on the ongoing work of these two WGs.

The first audio meeting of the WG on sunbeds took place on 09/01 to discuss the mandate. The next meeting of the WG will take place on 17 February.

As regards the WG on synthetic biology a public consultation on the opinion on Synthetic Biology II (Risk assessment methodologies and safety aspects) will end on 3 February. The opinion on Synthetic Biology III (future aspects, research priorities and gaps) is under development. The next meeting of the WG on synthetic biology will take place on 28 January.

5. Communication by Commission Departments

The Commission informed the SCHER on the following:

- ✓ List of new opinions/mandates from other Scientific Committees.
- ✓ The adoption of an opinion of the EU Economic and Social Committee (EESC) on hypersensitivity to EMF
- ✓ Progress on the guidelines on handling of declaration of interest of Scientific Committees' members and external experts

- ✓ Progress on the promotion of opinions in scientific journals: an editorial on the draft opinion on synthetic biology which was published in Science on 9 January and a pod cast on the same topic was released in the Guardian 'Science weekly'.

6. On-going work

For Adoption:

Opinion on Cr VI in toys

The Chair of the working group informed that the working group finalised its work on the opinion and the replies to the comments from public consultation. She summarised the main changes made in the opinion. However, the conclusions remained unchanged.

The Commission informed that a communication fact-sheet for citizens on the opinion has been prepared.

After discussion, the final opinion was adopted by the SCHER. It is planned to be published at the beginning of February.

Update on:

Preliminary Opinion on the potential risks to human health and the environment from the use of calcium cyanamide as fertiliser

The WG on calcium cyanamide met on 15 December 2014. Following new data from a chemical company, the SCHER concluded to ask DG GROW for new indication for its work.

DG GROW informed that they will contact the company asking to submit further data and setting up a cut of date after which no new documents will be take into account. Based on the documents and data provided, DG GROW will prepare a revised mandate for the SCHER.

The revised mandate will be discussed in the next SCHER plenary meeting.

Preliminary Opinion on cadmium in fertilisers

The rapporteur of the WG informed about the WG meeting on 23 January. It is planned to approve the preliminary opinion for public consultation in the next SCHER plenary meeting.

7. Future areas of potential risks identified by SCHER

The Chairman informed that in the last plenary meeting the SCHER agreed to start developing a list of risks having a potential to significantly impact human health and /or on the environment in the

future. He encouraged the members to send suggestions to the secretariat.

8. Rapid risk assessment of chemical and environmental threats to health

Due to the lack of time it was concluded to postpone the discussion on rapid risk assessment of chemical and environmental threats to the next plenary meeting.

9. Any other business

There was no AOB.

The next SCHER plenary meeting is planned for 24 April 2015.

Further meetings in 2015 are scheduled as follows:

- o 25-26 June
- o 24-25 September
- o 26-27 November

Annex I:

List of participants:

Members of SCHER:

Maria José Carroquino, Raquel Duarte-Davidson, Jadwiga Gzyl, Renate Krätke, Greet Schoeters, Colin Janssen, Claire Beausoleil, Jan Linders, Alena Bartonova, Teresa Fernandes, Pim de Voogt

Apologies: 1 apology received

SCHER Secretariat (DG SANTE)