



**PUBLIC HEARING OF THE SCENIHR NEW OPINION ON EMF AND  
POTENTIAL HEALTH EFFECTS  
&  
WORKSHOP ON  
ELECTROMAGNETIC FIELDS AND HEALTH EFFECTS: FROM SCIENCE TO  
POLICY AND PUBLIC AWARENESS  
Conciliating scientific findings and uncertainties in policy making  
27-28 March 2014, Cotsen Hall, Athens, Greece**

**Objectives**

This event is co-organized by the European Commission and the Greek Atomic Energy Commission (GAEC) under the auspices of the EU Council Greek Presidency.

The European Commission supports this event in the context of the periodic review of the scientific evidence on the potential health effects of electromagnetic fields (EMF) as mandated by EU Council Recommendation 1999/519/EC.

The workshop has three main objectives:

1. To discuss new studies and scientific evidence in relation to EMF and potential health effects and to identify knowledge gaps needed for a sound policy making. In this context, the new SCENIHR draft opinion on EMF and potential health effects will be presented, which, by the time of the workshop will be under public consultation.
2. To discuss on the implementation of the EU Council Recommendation 1999/519/EC on the limitation of exposure of the general public to electromagnetic fields. This session will be used to clarify the role of the different actors involved in the implementation of the Council Recommendation (EC and MS). This session will be an opportunity to discuss how Member States implement the Council Recommendation.
3. To maintain a constructive dialogue among the various parties involved (EC, WHO, public authorities, industry, operators, environmental and consumer associations and academia) and to reach a common approach for the future, in order to respond to public concerns about electromagnetic fields and to enhance information dissemination. This risk communication session is a follow-up to the combined meeting of the Electromagnetic Fields Stakeholder Dialogue Group and invited Member States experts and delegates, which took place in Brussels on 20 February 2013.

# PROGRAMME

## Thursday 27 March 2014

### **Public Hearing of the SCENIHR new opinion on EMF and potential health effects**

*Chair: Theodoros Samaras, SCENIHR*

*Co-Chair: Stefan Schreck, DG SANCO*

- 13.30-14:00** Registration
- 14.00-17:30** Welcome and Opening (Greek Atomic Energy Commission, DG SANCO)  
Presentation of the mandate (DG SANCO)  
Presentation of the Preliminary Opinion  
*Theodoros Samaras, Chair of the EMF working group and Mats-Olof Mattsson, Rapporteur EMF Working Group*  
Questions and Answers Session  
Closing (Chair)
- 17:30-18:30** Welcome reception

## Friday 28 March 2014

### **Workshop on electromagnetic fields and health effects: from science to policy and public awareness – Conciliating scientific findings and uncertainties in policy making**

- 08.00-09:00** Registration
- 09:00-09:30** **Opening session**  
Welcome address:
  - *Christos Vasilakos, General Secretary for Research and Technology*
  - *Menelaos Daskalakis, General Secretary of Telecommunications and Posts, Ministry of Infrastructure, Transport and Networks*
  - *Stefan Schreck, Head of Unit, Health Information. Directorate General for Health & Consumers (DG SANCO), European Commission*
  - *Christos Housiadas, Chairman, Greek Atomic Energy Commission*
- 09:30-11:30** **Session 1: The current scientific evidence and knowledge gaps on EMF and health effects**  
*Chair: Theodoros Samaras, SCENIHR*
- 09:30-09:50 SCENIHR's new opinion: Synopsis and research recommendations, *Mats-Olof Mattsson, Rapporteur EMF Working Group*
- 09:50-10:10 EU-funded research on EMF and health, *Tuomo Karjalainen, DG RTD*
- 10:10-10:25 Facts and gaps in EMF risk assessment, *Norbert Leitgeb, Graz University of Technology and SCENIHR Member*

- 10:25-10:40 Are electromagnetic fields associated with cancer? What evidence exists, what are the knowledge gaps, *Joachim Schüz, IARC*
- 10:40-10:55 Combined exposure to EMF and other agents: How much do we know? *Maria-Rosaria Scarfi, CNR IREA*
- 10:55-11:30 Discussion - Conclusions by the Chair
- 11:30-12:00 Coffee break
- 12:00-13:00** **Session 2: Management of EMF at EU and national level**  
*Chair: Stefan Schreck, DG SANCO*
- 12:00-12:15 New rules on the protection of workers from electromagnetic fields: the new Directive on the minimum health and safety requirements regarding the exposure of workers to the risks arising from physical agents (electromagnetic fields), *Zinta Podniece, DG EMPL*
- 12:15-12:45 Implementation of the Council Recommendation at national level
- *Marina Lukovnikova, Federal Public Service for Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment, Belgium*
  - *Birgit Keller, Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety, Germany*
- 12:45-13:00 Discussion - Conclusions by the Chair
- 13:00-14:00 Lunch
- 14:00-16:45** **Session 3: Risk perception and risk communication: Interfaces among risk communication and policy making; effective public information activities**  
*Chair: Evaggelos Georgiou – Eftymios Karabetsos, Greek Atomic Energy Commission*
- 14:00-14:15 Risk perception and risk communication, *Emilie van Deventer, WHO*
- 14:15-14:30 The role of social media in risk communication, *Peter Wiedemann, Science Forum EMF*
- 14:30-15:15 Presentation of national examples on best practices on risk communication
- *Paolo Rossi, Italian Ministry of Health*
  - *Jean-Benoît Agnani, Agence Nationale des Frequences (ANFR), France*
  - *Jimmy Estenberg, Swedish Radiation Safety Authority*
- 15:15-16:15 Presentation of risk communication activities in Europe
- *Sissel Halmøy, Chair International EMF Alliance*
  - *Eileen O'Connor, Radiation Research Trust*
  - *Jack Rowley, GSM Association (GSMA)*
  - *Thomas Barmueller, Mobile Manufacturers Forum (MMF)*
- 16:15-16:50 Discussion and Conclusions by the Chair
- 16:50-17:00** **Closing remarks, DG SANCO, Greek Atomic Energy Commission/Greek Presidency**