



5TH PLENARY MEETING OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS

(SCHER)

Venue: Hitec Building - Room 00/091

Address: Eugène Ruppert Street 11, L-2453 Luxembourg

28 February 2014, starting at 09.00

Minutes

1. Welcome and apologies

Donata Meroni (deputy head of Unit) welcomed the participants.

The Chair took over the meeting and announced one apology (see Annex I). One of the members was connected via audio.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as presented.

3. Declaration of interests on matters on the agenda

The Chair asked the committee members to announce any information concerning conflicts of interest in the minutes of the plenary. No declarations of conflict of interest on any of the agenda items were made by participants.

4. Chair's / member's report

Jan Linders reported on his participation in DG ENV workshop on systematic approach to risk in environmental policies, 21 January 2014. The secretariat (G. Gallo) also participated. This workshop aimed to identify the main component of a systematic approach to risk assessment for environmental policies.

5. Communication by Commission Departments

D. Meroni informed SCHER members that the annual declaration of interest (DOI) forms for 2014 were requested by email on 5 February 2014 and reminded the members that DOI has to be renewed every year.

Members were also informed of the outcome of an internal survey on the functioning of the Scientific Committees.

6. On-going work

Opinions under preparation

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

The Chair of the Working Group gave an update on the state of play of the draft opinion. It was agreed that an advance version of the opinion would be ready before the next plenary. It was also agreed that a Working Group meeting by audio would take place on 26 March 2014.

- **Opinion reviewing the tolerable daily intake for chromium VI in toys**

The Chair of the Working Group gave an update on the state of art of the draft opinion. It was agreed that a draft version of the preliminary opinion would be available for discussion in the plenary in June 2014.

The WG meeting on 28/02 was postponed on 24/04/2014 due to lack of time.

- **Opinion on the environmental risks and indirect health effects of mercury from dental amalgam (finalisation)**

The responses to comments received in the public consultation were thoroughly discussed together with the proposed changes in the preliminary opinion. It was agreed that the preliminary opinion would be amended to take into account the results of the discussion in the plenary and to adopt the final opinion by written procedure.

7. Joint Opinions/ Participation of members in activities of other scientific bodies

Synthetic Biology - update on on-going work

A member of the SCHER participating in the working group on synthetic biology informed other SCHER members on the state of play of this draft opinion. It was agreed that the draft opinion would be circulated to all members of the SCHER for comments.

8. New Mandates

No new mandates were received since the last plenary

9. Discussion on “Response to serious cross border threats to health”

Members were informed about the preparatory phase for the planned exercise on response to serious cross border threats to health. A proposal for a possible flow chart on how to react to such requests was presented and discussed. Members were informed that a workshop on this issue would be organised on 26 May in Brussels. It was agreed that two SCHER members would attend this workshop.

10. Any other business

Next plenary meeting: 22/05/2014 starting at 9:00

Chromium in toys 24/04/2014

Calcium cyanamide – teleconference on 26/03/2014

Annex 1:

List of participants:

Members of SCHER

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

Apologies:

Claire Beausoleil, Colin Janssen,

SCHER Secretariat (DG SANCO)

Donata Meroni, Mihaela Haratau-Bantas