



Luxembourg, 14 October 2022

Scientific Committees on Health, Environmental and Emerging Risks (SCHEER)

3rd Plenary meeting (2022-2026)

Minutes

12-13 October 2022, Luxembourg (AUDIO)

1. Welcome and apologies, approval of the agenda and declaration of interests

The Secretariat welcomed the participants. Three apologies have been received for both days.

The agenda was adopted without changes.

The Secretariat invited participants to declare any interest regarding matters on the agenda. None of the participants declared any new interest conflicting with the matters on the agenda.

2. Points for discussion/decision:

2.1 Preliminary opinions

2.1.1 WG on TiO₂ in toys

Preliminary Opinion adopted and published in June 2022. Public consultation was open during June 2022. 123 comments were received. Many questions are related to the new report published in June 2022 by Health Canada. WG is currently addressing these comments.

2.1.2 WG on EMF I

Preliminary Opinion adopted and published in summer 2022. Public consultation was open during September. App 230 inputs received. WG is currently addressing these comments.

2.1.3 WG on Cobalt in toys

Preliminary Opinion adopted and published in summer 2022. Public consultation was open by the end of September. WG is currently addressing received comments.

2.2 Ongoing Opinions

2.2.1 Opinion on FORENV IV – for adoption

Final opinion technically adopted. It will be sent for proofreading and editing and then sent to mandating DG ENV. Opinion will not be published on the web page of the Committees as it is essential part of the FORENV final report. Public consultation is not planned.

2.2.2 Opinion on animal welfare

New mandate adopted at the SCHEER June plenary:

https://health.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2022-06/scheer_q_025.pdf

The Secretariat launched an open call for external experts during summer 2022. Ten (10) experts have been appointed to the WG.

The first meeting of the WG is planned end of October. Commission Library will be invited to perform the literature search.

2.2.3 Opinion on EMF II

Mandate is inviting the SCHEER to update the SCENIHR Opinion of 2015 in the light of the latest scientific evidence with regard to frequencies between 1Hz and 100 kHz. Deadline for preliminary Opinion is July 2023.

https://health.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-07/scheer_q_023_0.pdf

2.2.4 Opinions from the WG water/EQS

The WG started March 2021 and plans to finish all opinions by the end of the year. Number of substances: 22 new candidates for list of priority substances and 15 existing substances that have been revised.

Final Opinions adopted: BPA, diuron and hexachlorobenzene

Preliminary Opinions adopted: nickel and fluoranthene

2.2.5 WG on Cobalt in toys

Preliminary Opinion adopted and published in July 2022. Public consultation was open during summer 2022. Around 70 comments were received. WG is currently addressing these.

3. Information from the Commission and members of the SCHEER

- Reorganisation of DG SANTE has been finalised. The SCCS/SCHEER Secretariat moved to new Unit B3 - Health monitoring and cooperation, Health networks. Directorate B is now called Public Health, Cancer and Health security.
- Physical move of Directorate B to new building during October/early November.
- Future SCHEER mandates: one new mandate from DG ENV expected in 2023. SCHEER is planning to reactivate WG on Weight of Evidence in 2023 and invite SCCS members.

4. A.O.B.

Dates of the next plenary meetings:

9 March 2023

June 2023 - tbc