



1st Working group meeting on Toxicity of Chemical Mixtures (TCM)

Meeting date: 12 August 2010 starting at 10:00

B232 room 02/17A – Brussels

Minutes

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chairman welcomed the participants and indicated the apologies. The participants introduced themselves in a *tour de table*.

2. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

The agenda was adopted with the addition of the discussion of the mandate.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

There were no interests declared.

4. SELECTION OF THE CHAIR AND THE RAPPORTEURS OF THE SUBGROUPS

The suggested names were approved.

Selection of the representative from EMA.

EFSA will be represented by two full members of the WG.

ECHA's published documentation (guidelines) and the registrations already in place along the CLP regulation will need to be considered.

Health Canada proposed an expert as their liaison person for this WG who may contribute with his North American perspective on the issue at hand.

5. DISCUSSION OF THE OPINION

5.1. The Mandate on Chemical Mixtures;

After a short discussion, some editorial changes were introduced in the text of the mandate.

5.2. The State of the Art Report on Chemical Mixtures;

The report was accepted as a starting point for discussion. The following issues are to be addressed:

- a) The conclusions of the report need a serious revision;
- b) Mechanisms of action are to be considered as a tool for analysis of the effects of the mixtures;
- c) *In vitro* data has to be carefully considered vis-à-vis *in vivo* extrapolations;
- d) The effect of mixtures on the environment is to be looked at ecosystem, populations' level as opposed to at individual level;
- e) The effect of mixtures on the environment should be considered more in depth.

5.3. The new articles available;

The secretariat is to:

- (i) obtain the full texts of all new articles (the list circulated in advance) and put them on the circa website according to their domain (environmental and human health);
- (ii) send letters to CEFIC, International Life Sciences Institute, and ECOTOC inviting them to contribute to the call of information (deadline 8 September);
- (iii) place on circa any references that are being sent by the members of the WG (e.g. the EFSA publications, Price et al. 2009, NRC's silver book, etc.)

5.4. General views on the issue;

The tentative answers to the Terms of Reference are as follows:

Question 1 – yes;

Question 2 – no;

Question 3 – answer to be developed;

Question 4 – answer to be developed;

Question 5 – answer to be developed;

Question 6 – yes, except for the environmental effects at populations' level.

5.5. The general structure of the opinion.

The initially proposed outline was endorsed by the WG and is to be further extended with bullet points.

The first two items and the last one (#6) will be common for both the environmental and human health parts. Items 3, 4 and 5 are to be written separately by the two subgroups. The specific answers to the questions in the mandate are to be answered in the conclusions.

The text will need to include examples from the opinions of the three Scientific Committees involved in the WG.

The environmental part will need to be different from the human health part in terms of the approaches used (e.g. the mode-of-action approach is applicable to the human health part).

6. DISTRIBUTION OF TASKS

- (i) The outline to be further developed with bullet points by 20 August;
- (ii) The general principles to be written;
- (iii) The mode-of-action approach to be developed;
- (iv) The endpoint and the chemical-structure-similarity approaches to be developed;
- (v) The State-of-the-Art report to be examined carefully by everyone and points for agreement/disagreement noted;
- (vi) Each member of the WG to provide examples from the opinions of the three Scientific Committees;

7. NEXT MEETING – 10 SEPTEMBER 2010

The meeting in October to be moved from the 12th to the 20th or the 21st.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.