



Luxembourg, 15 March 2023

**Scientific Committees on Health, Environmental and Emerging Risks (SCHEER)  
4<sup>th</sup> Plenary meeting (2022-2026)**

9 March 2023, Luxembourg (AUDIO)

**MINUTES**

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

The Chair welcomed the participants. One apology was received for full day and one for half day.

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 interest conflicting with the matters on the agenda.

**2. Points for discussion/decision**

**2.1. Mandates for adoption**

- SANTE D3 presented the request for the update of [Guidelines](#) on the **benefit-risk assessment of the presence of phthalates in certain medical devices covering phthalates, which are carcinogenic, mutagenic, toxic to reproduction (CMR) or have endocrine-disrupting (ED) properties**. Mandate was adopted pending agreed changes and it will be published.
- DG ENV A3 presented request on **FORENV project cycle V** on water resilience. Mandate was adopted and will be published.
- SCHEER agreed on a self-mandate to update the **SCHEER Weight of Evidence** memorandum.

**2.2. Opinions for adoption**

- Corrigendum requested by mandating DG GROW F2 on the SCHEER **Opinion on cobalt in toys**. The corrected version was adopted and published.
- The Chair of the relevant working group presented the status of the preliminary opinion on the **protection of animals used for scientific purposes**. The SCHEER plans to adopt preliminary version in April.
- The Chair of the relevant working group presented the status of the preliminary **Opinion in TiO<sub>2</sub> in toys**. Discussion with EFSA related to their opinion on TiO<sub>2</sub> as food and feed additive are ongoing. EFSA comments to be discussed at the next WG meeting.
- Environmental Quality Standards-EQS. Two last final **opinions on 5-6 rings PolyAromatic Hydrocarbons (PAHs) and on Tributyltin compounds**

(TBT) were adopted and published. Final SCHEER responses to comments were adopted and sent to respective recipients.

### **2.3. Opinions for discussion/ongoing work**

#### EQS Water WG

- Preamble to all opinions on EQS derivations. A SCHEER Position Paper was presented for comment to be addressed by the last meeting of the WG before adoption by written procedure and publication.
- SCHEER contribution to DG ENV consultation on [Integrated water management – revised lists of surface and groundwater pollutants \(europa.eu\)](https://ec.europa.eu/euro-iss/consultation/2023-01-17-integrated-water-management-revised-lists-surface-groundwater-pollutants) The draft contribution was discussed and adopted. Chair of the WG will upload it in the consultation webpage and the Secretariat will send a parallel copy to DG ENV.

#### EMF WGs

Chair of the relevant working groups presented the status of the two opinions. Final Opinion on EMF I and replies to comments are expected to be finalised and adopted in April. Opinion on EMF II is under development.

### **2.4. Other points to discuss**

- Weight of Evidence Table to be published with the next final opinions.
- EFSA project “*Mapping of data requirements and assessment methodologies linked to the regulatory frameworks and remits of the relevant EU Agencies (ECHA, EFSA and EMA) and EC Scientific Committees (SCCS and SCHEER)*”. SCHEER nominated its representative.

### **2.5. Information from Members/Commission/Secretariat**

- External meetings – mission reports were made available to the members
- CVs will be updated on the website after plenary meeting
- Commission informed on the new rules for reimbursement of experts
- Articles and information shared:  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.yrtph.2023.105356>  
[Wahiba et al 2023 nano](#)  
[Chemical testing: new safety test methods approved \(europa.eu\)](#)

### **3. A.O.B.**

#### **Dates of the next plenary meeting:**

8-9 June (physical)

October to be decided