



**19<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting of the  
Scientific Committee on Emerging and Newly Identified Health Risks  
SCENIHR**

**Meeting date: 24 September 2012**

**Minutes**

**1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Chair welcomed the participants and announced the apologies received (please see Annex I)

**2. INTRODUCTION TAPANI PIHA, HEAD OF UNIT SANCO D3**

Dr. Piha introduced his credentials and his vision for the future of the unit and the Scientific Committees.

**3. ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT AGENDA**

The agenda was adopted with the addition to point 11 of one new mandate submitted by the Commission services (on synthetic biology) and the move of point 11 up the agenda.

**4. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS ON MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**

AA declared his involvement with the Mobile Manufacturer's Forum research funding.

**5. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PLENARY MEETING**

The minutes were approved after a minor editorial change and after addition of the SCCS WG on nanomaterials in cosmetics.

**6. CHAIR'S/MEMBERS' REPORTS**

Low-dose toxicology in relation to endocrine disruptors is currently a very active subject at various fora. At the moment, there is general confusion about the scientific basis of the claims. There will be a WG EFSA on the issue of endocrine disruptors. This is an extremely difficult and important issue because of the huge public/political interests involved and because non-monotonic dose response has the potential to undermine the whole risk assessment process.

**7. OPINIONS FOR FINAL ADOPTION**

Nothing for this meeting

## **8. OPINION FOR APPROVAL FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION**

New Challenges for Risk Assessment (SCENIHR, SCHER, SCCS)

The Committee approved the text for public consultation after some editorial changes.

## **9. ONGOING WORK**

### **9.1. OWN WORK (THE RESPECTIVE CHAIRS TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE)**

- **EMF**

The Chair of the working group updated the Committee on the progress of the opinion, the selection of experts and future meetings.

- **PIP2**

The Chair of the WG updated the Committee on the progress of the opinion. The questionnaire will go out to aesthetic surgeons within a couple of weeks. The interactions have been mainly via audio-meetings.

- **Nanosilver**

A member of the WG updated the Committee on the progress of the opinion.

- **Nanomaterials in medical devices**

The Chair of the WG updated the Committee on the progress of the opinion. Expertise in chemical engineering of medical devices is still missing. The calls for information and for experts are still running and hopefully will deliver results.

- **Metal-on-metal hip implants**

The Chair of the WG updated the Committee on the progress of the opinion. There will be a workshop on the 1<sup>st</sup> of October which will be followed by a working-group meeting.

- **BPA in Medical Devices**

The Chair of the WG updated the Committee on the progress of the opinion which should be available for public consultation by the end of the year. The weight-of-evidence approach will be an essential tool for evaluation of the scientific literature.

- **DEHP in Medical Devices**

The Chair of the WG updated the Committee on the progress of the opinion.

### **9.2. JOINT OPINIONS / PARTICIPATION OF MEMBERS IN ACTIVITIES OF OTHER SCIENTIFIC BODIES**

WG on Nanomaterials in Cosmetics (SCCS in the lead) – The SCENIHR member of the WG updated the Committee on the progress of the opinion.

## **10. FEEDBACK BY COMMISSION SERVICES ON FOLLOW-UP TO OPINIONS**

Nothing for this meeting

## **11. NEW REQUESTS**

Dental amalgam – The Committee accepted the mandate (with a flexible date for completion of the work) and decided to form a WG which includes the following SCENIHR members: AH, WdJ, Mogens, Eduardo. The first meeting of the WG will be held on 23 Oct. 2012.

Synthetic biology – The Committee accepted the mandate and decided the WG to consist of three subgroups looking at the three aspects of the mandate. Rapporteurs for: the definition (KD), the methodology and safety (MT), and for research (MOM). Other members: definition (PhH, TJ), methodology (TV, JMP, JB), research (AP, TJ) and additional participants from SCHER for the environmental aspects. A call for experts is to be launched after approval of its text by the SCs chairs (microbiologist, engineering).

## **12. EMERGING ISSUES**

Looking at 3D movies/images for a prolonged period of time (several hours), e.g. in university labs, may be associated with reported health symptoms.

## **13. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

There was none.

## **Annex I**

<p><b>SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON EMERGING AND NEWLY IDENTIFIED HEALTH RISKS (SCENIHR)</b></p>
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<p><b>18<sup>TH</sup> PLENARY MEETING</b></p>
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*Held on 24 September 2012  
in Brussels*

### **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

#### **MEMBERS OF THE SCENIHR:**

Prof. Anssi AUVINEN  
Prof. Jim BRIDGES (Chair)  
Prof. Kenneth DAWSON – apologies  
Dr. Wim DE JONG (Vice chair)  
Prof. Philippe HARTEMANN (Vice chair)  
Prof. Arne HENSTEN  
Prof. Peter HOET – apologies  
Dr. Thomas JUNG  
Prof. Mats.-Olof. MATTSSON  
Dr. Hannu. NORPPA  
Dr. Jean.-Marie. PAGÈS  
Prof. Klaus SCHULZE-OSTHOFF – apologies  
Prof. Ana PROYKOVA  
Prof. Eduardo RODRÍGUEZ-FARRÉ  
Dr. Joachim SCHÜZ  
Dr. Mogens THOMSEN – apologies  
Dr. Theo VERMEIRE

#### **EUROPEAN COMMISSION:**

Dr. Tapani PIHA  
Dr. Takis DASKALEROS  
Dr. Vladimir GARKOV  
Dr. Philippe MARTIN