



11th Plenary Meeting of the Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental Risks

(SCHER)

24 April 2015

Minutes

1. Welcome and apologies

The management of SANTE C2 welcomed the participants. All SCHER members participated in the meeting. The Chairman of the SCENIHR also participated in the meeting.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

3. Declaration of interest on matters on the agenda

The Chair requested participants to declare any conflict of interest regarding matters on the agenda. None of the participants declared any conflict of interest.

4. Chair's/ member's report

The vice-Chairs of the SCHER reported on the ICCG meeting that took place on 24 March and on the workshop on rapid risk assessment of chemicals in Utrecht.

The SCHER representatives in the WG on sunbeds and the WG on synthetic biology reported on the ongoing work of these two WGs.

5. Communication by Commission Departments

The Commission informed about ongoing work on a new decision setting up Scientific Committees and the next call for membership (the current term will expire in April 2016).

The Commission updated the SCHER members about the work done by the EFSA concerning uncertainty in risk assessment. The SCHER nominated a representative to participate in the workshop on uncertainties planned by EFSA.

The Commission updated the SCHER on its ongoing activities as regards increasing the visibility of the Scientific Committees and promote the distribution of the opinions. A list of recently published and ongoing articles in scientific journals was circulated among the members.

A full list of new/ongoing mandates of all scientific committees was sent to the SCHER.

The Commission informed about the ECHA workshop on risk assessment in soils planned in October and invited the SCHER to express the interest to participate in the workshop.

6. On-going work

New mandates

The SCHER adopted a new mandate submitted by GROW regarding the amounts of toy material ingested by children with small changes. The mandate will be published on the website.

Moreover, the SCHER adopted the revised mandate on calcium cyanamide in fertilisers submitted by GROW. The WG on calcium cyanamide which met on 23 April suggested several changes to the mandate. The mandate was adopted with the proposed changes. The mandate will be published on the website.

For Adoption

Preliminary opinion on cadmium in EU arable soils

The rapporteur for the opinion presented the preliminary opinion on cadmium in EU arable soils. The SCHER discussed the opinion and several changes were made. It was concluded to adopt the opinion by written procedure to include modifications suggested.

Final opinion on SynBio II

The SCHER representative in the WG on synthetic biology presented the final opinion on SynBio II. The SCHER concluded to adopt the opinion by written procedure in order to give more time for expressing comments by the members.

7. Future areas of potential risks identified by the SCHER

The Chair invited the members to submit the ideas for areas of potential risks in writing to the secretariat.

8. Rapid risk assessment of chemical and environmental threats to health

The participants of the WG on rapid risk assessment, all members of the SCHER, was set up. The working group will follow the lessons learned from the exercise Quicksilver and prepare for the exercise Quicksilver plus which will take place at the end of September.

9. Any other business

Next SCHER meetings will take place as follows:

25 June – WG on toys

26 June – WG on rapid risk assessment and WG on calcium cyanamide

The next plenary SCHER plenary meeting will take place on **25 September 2015**

Annex I:

List of participants:

Members of SCHER:

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

Apologies: no apologies received

SCHER Secretariat (DG SANTE)