



16th plenary meeting of the
Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental Risks (SCHER)
22 March 2012 at 10.00, Brussels
(4, rue Breydel, B232 meeting room 01/89)

Minutes

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Prof. Greim, Chair of the Committee, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. Apologies received from BP, ET, and PdV.

Dr. Willem Penning, Head of Unit D3, explained the process of selection of the new members and the expected timeline for its completion.

2. ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT AGENDA

The draft agenda was adopted as proposed

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS ON MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

No new declarations were made

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PLENARY MEETING

The minutes of the 15th SCHER plenary meeting were approved

5. ONGOING REQUESTS FOR OPINIONS BY COMMISSION SERVICES ON:

5.1. Mercury in energy-saving light bulbs – risks for children

For adoption of the final opinion

ACTION: The opinion was not adopted. Some questions and comments provided by the Commission services and SCHER members need to be addressed before it is presented for adoption by written procedure.

5.2. TCEP in toys

For adoption of the final opinion

ACTION: The opinion was adopted.

5.3. Barium in toys

For adoption of the opinion for targeted public consultation

ACTION: The opinion was adopted with the insertion of the word "for toys" in the title of the opinion. Then the opinion will be open for a targeted consultation to Member States representatives/experts.

5.4. Environmental Quality Standards and Water Framework Directive - Zinc

For adoption of the final opinion

ACTION: The opinion was adopted provided some re-wording in the text is performed. Suggestions are to be sent to AG by JT, CJ, and JL.

5.5. Improvements in Risk Assessment

The rapporteur D. Bard report on the outcome of the public consultation and elaborated on the expected timeline for completion of the opinion.

6. PARTICIPATION OF THE SCHER IN ACTIVITIES/WORKING GROUPS OF OTHER SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES

6.1. Nitrosamines and Secondary Amines in Cosmetics (SCCS in the lead)

The progress of the WG was reported.

6.2. NDELA and Nitrosamines in Cosmetics and Balloons (SCCS in the lead)

The progress of the WG was reported.

6.3. New challenges for risk assessment (SCENIHR in the lead)

The progress of the WG was reported. SCHER members suggested holding a targeted public consultation on the opinion involving experts from a variety of fields.

6.4. The joint opinion on TTC

The SCHER representative in the WG highlighted the main issues of version of the opinion which has been agreed upon by the WG and which was already distributed to SCHER. Some committee members voiced their comments which were not affecting the substance/conclusions of the presented text.

ACTION: The SCHER endorsed the current text of the opinion. Additional comments (of editorial nature) are to be provided after WD produces an updated version of the text which will include changes suggested by SCENIHR.

7. NEW AND EMERGING ISSUES

There were none reported

8. NEXT PLENARY MEETING

30 May and 25 September

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was none.

ANNEX I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

MEMBERS OF SCHER:

Prof. Ursula ACKERMANN-LIEBRICH

Dr. Rolf ALTENBURGER

Prof Herman AUTRUP (*Vice Chair*)

Prof. Denis BARD

Prof. Stella CANNA-MICHAELIDOU

Prof. Peter DE VOOGT - apologies

Prof. Wolfgang DEKANT

Prof. Arielle GARD (*Vice Chair*)

Prof. Helmut GREIM (*Chair*)

Dr. Ari HIRVONEN

Prof. Colin JANSSEN

Dr. Renate KRAETKE

Prof. Jan LINDERS

Prof. Borut PETERLIN - apologies

Dr. Jose TARAZONA

Dr. Emanuela TESTAI - apologies

Prof. Marco VIGHI

EUROPEAN COMMISSION:

Helen CLAYTON (ENV)

Panagiotis DASKALEROS (SANCO)

Cathy DEKIND (SANCO)

Vladimir GARKOV (SANCO)

Karin KILIAN (SANCO)

Willem PENNING (SANCO)

Andras TOTH (ENER)