



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON EMERGING AND NEWLY IDENTIFIED HEALTH RISKS**  
**6<sup>TH</sup> PLENARY MEETING**

*Held on 13 July 2005*  
*in Brussels*  
**MINUTES**

**1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

Prof. Bridges, chair of the Committee, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.

Apologies were received from Prof. Ahlbom, Prof. Mattson and Prof. Rydzynski.

**2. ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT AGENDA**

The [draft agenda](#) was approved.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST ON MATTERS ON THE AGENDA**

No declarations of interests were made.

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

The draft minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> SCENIHR plenary meeting were adopted and are available at:

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph\\_risk/committees/04\\_scenihr/docs/scenihr\\_mi\\_005.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_risk/committees/04_scenihr/docs/scenihr_mi_005.pdf)

**5. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS**

Participants were informed that Ms Pilar AGUAR would leave the Secretariat of the SCENIHR and Ms Maila PUOLAMAA would replace her until the post is permanently assigned. The chairman thanked her for her support and expressed best wishes for her new assignment.

## **6. CHAIR'S REPORT**

### **6.1. Inter-committee Coordination Group on 22 June 2005**

- The EFSA's Gentox working group met on 13<sup>th</sup> July to review and evaluate the comments received following the public consultation process for the draft. The final document would also be assessed by Sanco's Scientific Committees.
- The SCCP had started working on sensitisation (to cosmetics but also to consumer products such as homecare products) due to the number of individuals potentially affected. One of the members of SCENIHR volunteered to be included in the ad-hoc Working Group when the question was formally addressed to the SCs.
- The chairs of Scientific Committees of various Community risk assessment bodies will meet in December 2005 to facilitate greater mutual awareness and cooperation on matters of common interest.

## **7. ONGOING REQUESTS: REVIEW OF PROGRESS ON CURRENT QUESTIONS**

### *7.1.1. vCJD*

The current draft was examined in depth at a two-day meeting in June. Amendments were agreed for discussion at the working group meeting at the end of August, after which the final draft was expected to be ready for circulation to the members of the Scientific Committee. The aim was to present the opinion at the plenary in September.

### *7.1.2. Nanotechnology*

The Working Group met on 26<sup>th</sup> May and 23<sup>rd</sup> June. The headings were further developed with the cooperation of external experts and new versions of the chapters were reviewed. The importance of a timely opinion was stressed and members were strongly encouraged to have the opinion ready for adoption at the plenary meeting on 28/29 September 2005.

### *7.1.3. EMF*

The members were informed that the first meeting of working group I was scheduled for September. Experts were being identified and the mandate would soon be published on the Public Health website.

## **8. NEW REQUESTS**

### **8.1. Phthalates in medical devices**

Following the publication of new scientific evidence and in line with the Commission's reply to a parliamentary question, the SCENIHR would receive a request to update the previous opinion of the Scientific Committee on Medicinal Products and Medical Devices on Medical Devices Containing DEHP Plasticized PVC, available at [http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph\\_risk/committees/scmp/documents/out43\\_en.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_risk/committees/scmp/documents/out43_en.pdf)

## **8.2. Collaboration with EFSA**

Members were informed of EFSA's ongoing work regarding exposure assessment and were requested to inform the secretariat about their availability and interest if EFSA requested cooperation.

## **9. EMERGING ISSUES**

### **9.1. Review of topics suggested by the SCENIHR members and working procedures**

A preliminary draft of a working document was presented to the members for discussion.

Members were encouraged to make comments on it in order to improve the document, adapting it to a general template useful for most of the identified risks. The role of the members of the reserve list in identifying emerging risks was discussed as well as the utility of having a permanent public call on the Public Health website.

## **10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Members stressed the importance of filling the vacant position in the Scientific Committee. It was agreed that they would convey their suggestions to the secretariat after analysing the reserve list candidates' profiles.

Members were reminded to block two consecutive days in the agenda for the September plenary since the scope of the draft opinion to be adopted may need extensive discussions.

**Annex I:** List of Participants.

Annex I

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**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

**MEMBERS OF THE SCENIHR:**

Prof. J. BRIDGES (Chair), Dr. W.H. DE JONG (Vicechair), Prof. J. HASLOVÁ, Prof. P. HARTEMANN (Vicechair), Dr. T. JUNG, , Dr. J.M. PAGÈS, PD. Dr. D. STAHL, Dr. M. THOMSEN, Prof. D. WILLIAMS

**APOLOGISED:**

Prof. A. AHLBOM, Prof. M.O. MATTSON, Prof. K. RYDZYNSKI.

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION:**

***SCENIHR Secretariat (DG SANCO):***

Ms. P. AGUAR, Ms C. DEKINDT