



**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON EMERGING AND NEWLY IDENTIFIED HEALTH RISKS
7TH PLENARY MEETING**

*Held on 28-29 September 2005
in Brussels*

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The chairman, Prof. Bridges welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Dr J. Hajslova, Dr. Ahlbom (present only on 28 September) and from Dr. T. Jung (arrival during the afternoon of 28 September).

2. ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT AGENDA

It was decided that under item 6 the situation in the EMF would be discussed first and consequently the opinion on nanotechnology and variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD). With these changes the [draft agenda](#) was adopted

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

The Chair of the SCENIHR working group on electromagnetic fields (EMF), Dr. Anders Ahlbom, informed the Committee that one of the invited external experts, Dr. Georg Neubauer, declared interest in view of his affiliation.

The Chair of the SCENIHR working group on variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease (vCJD), Dr. Wim de Jong, reminded the Committee that one of the invited external experts, Dr. Andrew Bailey, declared interest in view of his affiliation.

The Committee then concluded that neither declaration created a conflict of interest.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PLENARY MEETING

The draft minutes of the 6th plenary meeting were adopted and are available at:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_risk/committees/04_scenihr/docs/scenihr_mi_006.pdf

5. CHAIR'S REPORT

5.1. Inter-Committee Coordination Group 14th September 2005

The chair spoke briefly about ICG decision to accept a new template for the large scientific opinions and about the discussions related to the SANCO Science paper and influence on the work in the Scientific Committees. One of the most important ones is the intention to launch a public consultation of the opinion that will have

considerable impact on society. The consultation offers various stakeholders a possibility to comment on the opinion and provides additional visibility to the work of the Committee.

6. ONGOING REQUESTS

6.1. Electromagnetic fields

Prof. Ahlbom, the chair of the working group for electromagnetic fields (EMF), presented the approach selected for the update of the previous EMF opinion and further assessment of the potential health and environmental risks of EMF. Although the working group has only had its first meeting, it was considered important that the forthcoming opinion on EMF also be subject to public consultation.

6.2. Nanotechnology

Prof. Williams, the Chair and rapporteur of the working group, presented the draft opinion on how to assess the potential risks of nanotechnology products. The Committee discussed the draft opinion thoroughly and adopted it with agreed modifications.

The Committee decided to launch a public consultation on the opinion in order to collect comments and possibly additional information from various stakeholders. The Secretariat will, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee and the Chair of working group, take care of the practical arrangements.

6.3. Variant Creutzfeldt-Jakob disease (vCJD)

Dr. Wim de Jong, the Chair and the rapporteur of the working group presented the draft opinion on the safety of human-derived products in regard to vCJD. The Committee discussed thoroughly the draft opinion and adopted it with agreed modifications.

The Committee decided to launch a public consultation on the opinion in order to collect comments and possibly additional information from various stakeholders. The Secretariat will, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee and the Chair of working group, take care of the practical arrangements.

7. NEW REQUESTS

The Secretariat informed the meeting about the parliamentary question on DEHP and the Commission commitment to request the SCENIHR opinion about the potential health risks.

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None.

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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

MEMBERS OF THE SCENIHR:

Prof. J. BRIDGES (Chair), Dr. A. AHLBOM (partly), Dr. P. HARTEMANN (Vice chair), Dr. W.H. DE JONG (Vice Chair), Dr. T. JUNG (partly), Prof. M-O. MATTSSON, Dr. J.M. PAGES, PD. Dr. D. STAHL, Prof. K. RYDZYNSKI, Dr. M. THOMSEN, Prof. D. WILLIAMS

Apologised: Prof. J. HAJŠLOVA

SANCO C7:

M. PUOLAMAA, P. MARTIN, P. WAGSTAFFE

OTHER DGs:

Ms. P. AGUAR (RTD), Mr D. BOUIS (ENTR), Mr. A. BOENKE (ENTR), Ms. E. HELLSTEN (ENV)