



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
HEALTH & CONSUMER PROTECTION DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
Directorate C - Public Health and Risk Assessment
C7 - Risk assessment

**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON EMERGING AND NEWLY IDENTIFIED HEALTH RISKS
22ND PLENARY MEETING**

*Held on 6 February 2008
in Brussels*

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chairman, Prof. J. Bridges, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Prof. D. Williams.

2. ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT AGENDA

The draft agenda was adopted, with a few changes in the order of points under discussion.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

The SCENIHR Committee was informed that one of the external experts invited to the Biocides Working Group had declared an interest in view of his/her affiliations.

Taking into account the nature of the above mentioned declaration, the Committee decided that it did not constitute a conflict of interest and that the expert could participate in the discussions on this matter.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PLENARY MEETING

The draft minutes of the 21st plenary meeting were adopted with minor modifications. The minutes are available at:

http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_risk/committees/04_scenihhr/docs/scenihhr_mi_021.pdf

5. CHAIR'S/MEMBERS' REPORT

5.1. Work on the Assessment of the possible effect of the four antimicrobial treatment substances on the emergence of antimicrobial resistance.

The Vice-chair informed members about the work of the European Food Safety Agency (EFSA) Working Group regarding the Assessment of the possible effect of the four antimicrobial treatment substances on the emergence of antimicrobial resistance. In addition, there was an update on the joint group of SCENIHR and SCHER regarding this issue.

5.2. Review of Work Underway on Antimicrobial Resistance

The Vice-chair and a member informed about the meeting on the Review of Work Underway on Antimicrobial Resistance, held in Brussels on 17 January 2008.

More information about this meeting can be found at the following link:

http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_threats/com/mic_res/ev_20080117_en.htm

5.3. Use of the Threshold of Toxicological Concern (TTC) approach for the health risk assessment of chemicals

The Vice-chair informed about the developments on the Working mandate on TTC, which is done in collaboration of the other 2 Scientific Committees of the European Union (SCCP and SCHER).

5.4. Other

The Vice-chair informed about the work on the EFSA Working Group on the Risks arising from nanoscience and nanotechnologies on food and feed safety and the environment.

The Chairman and a member informed about the first meeting of the joint WG on risk assessment methodologies and approaches for mutagenic and carcinogenic substances (GENTOX).

6. ONGOING REQUESTS

6.1. Smokeless Tobacco Products (for adoption)

The Chairman of the WG presented the revised draft opinion, which the WG -after taking into account the results of the Public Consultation- proposed to SCENIHR for adoption. Pending issues from the WG discussions regarding this draft opinion were resolved at this meeting. The opinion was adopted and can be found at the following webpage:

http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_risk/committees/04_scenihr/docs/scenihr_o_013.pdf

6.2. DEHP (for adoption)

The Chairman of the WG presented the updated opinion, which was revised based on the comments received during the public consultation. After discussion, the opinion was adopted and can be found at the following webpage:

http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_risk/committees/04_scenihr/docs/scenihr_o_014.pdf

6.3. Dental Amalgam (public consultation)

The preliminary report on the safety of dental amalgam and alternative dental restoration materials for patients and users has been published for a public consultation in parallel to the consultation on the SCHER opinion (14 January 2008 – 22 February 2008). The relevant SCENIHR WG is currently evaluating the

comments received by the consultation. The results from the public consultation will be discussed at the next meeting.

6.4. Biocides – antibiotic resistance (for discussion)

The Chairman of the WG informed the Committee about the ongoing work. Due to lack of data in this field, a call for information has been launched (29 January 2008 – 14 March 2008).

6.5. Noise (for discussion)

The Chair of the WG informed the Committee about the ongoing work. The WG has launched a call for information and the information received was discussed in a WG-meeting.

6.6. EMF (for discussion)

Members discussed the distribution of tasks of SCENIHR members to this WG (Chair, Rapporteur). Procedures regarding the establishment of a WG were discussed between the Secretariat and the Chair of the WG.

7. NEW REQUESTS

Members discussed the draft request on the Risk Assessment of Products of Nanotechnologies. In addition, further procedures regarding the establishment of a WG on this issue were discussed.

8. EMERGING ISSUES

There were no emerging issues.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

Annex I

<p style="text-align: center;">SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON EMERGING AND NEWLY IDENTIFIED HEALTH RISKS 22ST PLENARY MEETING</p>

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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

MEMBERS OF THE SCENIHR:

Prof. A. AHLBOM, Prof. J. BRIDGES (Chair), Dr. W. DE JONG (Vice chair), Prof. P. HARTEMANN (Vice chair), Dr. T. JUNG, Prof. M.-O. MATTSSON, Dr. J.-M. PAGÈS, Prof. K. RYDZYŃSKI, Prof. D. STAHL, Dr. M. THOMSEN.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION:

SCENIHR Secretariat (DG SANCO):

Mr. L. BONTOUX, Ms. A. KANELLOPOULOU, Ms. N. FOUVEZ, Mr P. MARTIN,
Ms. M. PUOLAMAA

Other Commission staff:

Ms I. DEMADE (DG ENTR), Ms T. PEETSO (DG SANCO)