

**Information by Commission Services
concerning the SCENIHR Opinion on Scientific Aspects of Existing
and Proposed Definitions relating to Products of Nanoscience and
Nanotechnologies.**

The services of the Commission are closely involved in the various international activities concerning the development of definitions relating to products of nanoscience and nanotechnologies, which take place in the relevant fora, in particular ISO and OECD.

Through the mandate to the SCENIHR for an opinion on scientific aspects of the existing and proposed definitions relating to products of nanoscience and nanotechnology, Commission services intended to obtain guidance on scientific aspects of definitions in order to contribute within the appropriate fora to establish scientifically sound terminology for nanoscience and nanotechnology.

The mandate to SCENIHR covered the establishment of a conceptual scientific framework to assess definitions, a scientific review of existing and proposed definitions and the establishment of a minimum set of essential criteria to be referred to when developing definitions.

The opinion adopted by SCENIHR does not provide the requested scientific review of existing and proposed definitions, but it does include some definitions of relevance for nanoscience and nanotechnologies. These definitions do not serve a regulatory purpose.

The Commission services will carefully consider these definitions of SCENIHR while continuing to contribute to the work in progress in the relevant fora to establish internationally recognised definitions.

(End)