



ICG/Minutes 27.04.2005

SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES
5TH MEETING OF THE INTER-COMMITTEES COORDINATION GROUP (ICG)

27 April 2005

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

P Wagstaffe, chair of the Inter-Committees Coordination group, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.

Apologies: Prof H Greim.

2. APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT AGENDA

The [draft agenda](#) was approved.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Prof. Jansson, a member of the EFSA Scientific Committee, declared a conflict of interest in relation to item 1.a.ii (GENTOX draft). He did not participate in the discussion on this item.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 4TH MEETING OF THE ICG

The draft minutes of the 4th meeting were adopted and are available at

http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_risk/committees/coordination/docs/coord_mi_004.pdf

5. INFORMATION EXCHANGE

a. INFORMATION FROM/TO CHAIRS AND VICE CHAIRS

i. SCCP

The SCCP identified the need for a "working definition" of the statement in Art 2 of Council Directive 76/768/EEC, stating that cosmetics "must not cause damage to human when applied under normal conditions or reasonably foreseeable conditions of use" to try to clarify what constitutes (exclusively in the context of their work and not for official purposes) acceptable harm (transitory irritation, allergies...).

General topics that might be taken into consideration in this context are: prevalence of the effects, exposed population, severity of the observed effects and social perception of acceptable risk.

The SCCP often lacked adequate exposure data in spite of requests to industry. SC chairs and vice-chairs agreed to send through the secretariat available information (databases, handbooks, websites...) to help the SCCP gather the best available data. The worst case scenario approach would be taken in the absence of adequate data in the dossier provided by industry. A workshop could be considered (industry, Joint Research Centre (JRC), industry toxicologists, consumers' representation) in co-operation with SANCO B3 and the JRC on this issue.

ii. SCHER

The Working Group on the GENTOX draft document met on 21st April. A preliminary draft paper (considering the comments submitted by the members of the three Committees) had been produced and had been circulated to the members of the Working Group for further revision. It would then be finalised and, after approval by the Chairs of the three Committees, sent to EFSA.

Dr Tarazona informed participants about a risk perception and communication survey conducted in Spain. Data would be made available to the SCs when they are published.

iii. SCENIHR

Developments in the two current Working Groups (on nanotechnology risk assessment and on vCJD) were presented to the members of the Coordination Group.

b. NEW REQUESTS ON THE WP OF THE THREE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES

i. SCCP:

- A large number of requests on hair dyes were expected by July 2005.

ii. SCHER:

- Indoor air request: The working group would comprise members of the three SCs.
- Animal testing replacement for endocrine disruptor studies: All the SCs would appoint members to collaborate in this working group.

iii. SCENIHR:

- EMF: In view of the broad scope of this issue, consultation of several DGs was necessary before officially submitting the request.

6. TEMPLATE FOR PRELIMINARY RISK CHARACTERISATION

Members of the Coordination Group were presented with an example of an application of the initial template developed by SANCO C7 to rapidly describe a

“newly identified risk” identified in the media, concerning the cosmetics preservative “triclosan”. Members had been asked for their input at short notice.

A good feedback was received from the ICG members who highlighted the importance of adding a deadline when consulting the members of the SC on “emergencies”. Members were informed that usually there would be an immediate response needed (in 24/48 h) but all information provided would be kept in a “long term” file in case there was a need to expand the preliminary assessment or to examine some aspects in more depth. The lack of environmental impact assessment of cosmetics waste was again highlighted.

The use of the SINAPSE network and the reserve list members for the purpose of gathering information was discussed and it was agreed to undertake a trial with each Committee. Confidentiality issues would need to be explored.

7. POTENTIAL NEW REQUESTS

Sensitisation to non-food related allergens (not only to cosmetics but also to homecare products) was seen as a recurrent event in the EU population affecting a great number of individuals. This shared concern might result in a joint question to the three SCs mapping the situation across EU and identifying potential room for improvement where data are not comprehensive or available. SANCO B3 would lead in drafting the question.

8. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER COMMUNITY BODIES

iv. EFSA

- SANCO C7 was working on procedures and processes to avoid divergences at the earliest possible stage. There was a need for sharing relevant scientific information while respecting confidentiality rules.
- Members were informed of 3 new mandates in EFSA regarding laboratory animals’ welfare and alternative methods. These are not directly within the scope of SANCO non-food SCs but the replacement of animal tests directly affected their work.

v. MEETING OF CHAIRS OF SCs IN THE COMMUNITY RISK ASSESSMENT BODIES

Members were informed about the favourable reply by most of the bodies contacted. Possible dates and topics for discussion had still to be agreed.

SANCO C7 was working towards reaching agreements on common procedures to handle diverging opinions. Bilateral discussions were being carried out with some agencies and the EMEA.

9. COLLABORATION WITH JRC + RTD

Members were briefed on the presentation by the Unit “Physical and Chemical Exposures” of the Joint Research Centre on RC-Exposure Assessment Toolbox and

the EIS-ChemRisks Project on 12th April. More information would be sent to the Members, with a potential presentation in the next meeting of the Coordination Group, on 22nd June. More information is available at <http://www.jrc.cec.eu.int/eis-chemrisks/toolbox.cfm>

Members were also reminded of the SINAPSE network for scientists which is available at <http://europa.eu.int/sinapse/sinapse/index.cfm>

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

Annex I: List of participants

Annex I

INTER COMMITTEE COORDINATION GROUP

5TH MEETING

27th April 2005
in Brussels

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Chairs and vice-Chairs of the Scientific Committees

Prof. J. BRIDGES, Dr. W.H. DE JONG, Prof. P. HARTEMANN, Prof O.B. JANSSON,
Prof. V M ROGIERS, Prof. T SANNER, Dr. J TARAZONA, Dr. I WHITE

Apologised: Prof. EM. H GREIM

European Commission

SANCO C7 'RISK ASSESSMENT'

Mr. P WAGSTAFFE (Chair), Ms. P AGUAR (Secretariat of SCENIHR and the ICG),
Ms T. PEETSO and Mr. A. VAN ELST (SCCP Secretariat), Ms M MARINI,

SANCO B3 'PRODUCTS AND SERVICES SAFETY'

Mr P DASKALEROS