



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**

DIRECTORATE-GENERAL HEALTH AND CONSUMER PROTECTION

Directorate C - Scientific Opinions

Unit C2 - Management of Scientific Committees; scientific co-operation and networks

**Scientific Committee on Toxicity, Ecotoxicity and the Environment**

Brussels,

SANCO.C.2/JCD/jcd.sanco87.D(02)

CSTEE/00/Minutes.22.02.2002

**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON  
TOXICITY, ECOTOXICITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT (CSTEE)**

**Minutes of the  
30th PLENARY MEETING**

**22 February 2002  
Centre Albert Borschette, rue Froissart 36,  
B-1040 Brussels**

**1. Welcoming address, apologies for absence, declarations of interest**

Apologies were received from Profs. J. Utne Skaare, Peter Calow and Benedeto Terracini.

No declaration of interest was submitted by any CSTEE member in respect of any of the points in the draft agenda.

The CSTEE secretary informed that this should be last CSTEE meeting to be attended by him given his taking up of a new post in DG Enterprise of the Commission as from 1 March 2002.

Some Commission staff attending a CSTEE plenary meeting for the 1<sup>st</sup> time presented themselves and informed about which agenda points they were interested in.

**2. Adoption of the draft agenda**

The draft agenda was adopted.

**3. Approval of the draft minutes of the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> CSTEE plenary meetings**

The draft minutes of the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> CSTEE plenary meetings were adopted with minor editorial corrections.

#### **4. Health effects of Radio Frequency and Electromagnetic fields:**

##### **i) Recommendations of the CSTE E for research – status report**

The committee was informed by its 2<sup>nd</sup> vice chairman about his and the WG chairman participation in a conference in Madrid organised by an association of electromagnetic companies and the main focus of which was the CSTE E opinion on EMF/RFF adopted at the 27th CSTE E plenary meeting, 30 October 2001. The conference was very well covered by the media (TV, several newspapers, etc.). The WG chairman had taken the conference as an opportunity to provide participants with more detailed information on some aspects of the CSTE E opinion and in particular help them understand the available data.

A JRC representative informed about their forthcoming Kick-off meeting on Collaborative Action "Human exposure to radiation from GSM and GPRS/UMTS base stations across Europe", 1/2 March 2002, 09:30-18:00, JRC- Ispra, Italy. Two expert roundtables are foreseen on:

- Expert Roundtable "R&D issues on Human Exposure EMF measurements and protocols", 2 March 2002, from 09:30 to 12:00, and
- Expert Roundtable "EMF Risk Perception & Communication", 2 March 2002, from 15:00 to 18:00.

Several expert working groups had been proposed by the JRC. Interested experts and stakeholders had been invited to submit contributions to the JRC (demosthenes.papameletiou@jrc.it) on the various key points specified for each of these working groups. The expected contributions could include:

- R&D issues on Human Exposure: scientific work, standardisation efforts at national level, experiences from field work, advanced instrumentation etc.
- Risk perception & communication: methods, fieldwork in risk perception monitoring, development, application and validation of risk communication tools.

The deadline set for delivering contributions was 22 February 2002. The JRC and the *rapporteurs* were looking forward to receiving contributions which would be presented in the roundtable to animate discussions. Committee members had previously been informed that for further information they should contact Mr Demosthenes Papameletiou from the JRC.

##### **ii) New opinion request from DG SANCO – 1<sup>st</sup> discussion**

A representative of Directorate SANCO/G was present to answer any questions the committee could have on the new mandate to the CSTE E and was informed himself that a working group meeting had been scheduled for 13 March 2002. A committee member informed that in his opinion the mandate was clear enough and confirmed that suggestions were being collated on research priorities.

The CSTE E secretary informed that the contribution of Dr Repacholi, a world-wide authority in this field, to the working group had now been firmly secured.

Comments were made by committee members about the 'borderline' nature of the new mandate in that some questions were on risk management issues but hopes were also expressed that, with the addition of Dr Repacholi to the CSTE E working group, the problems could be minimised.

5. **Regulation 793/93 on Existing substances (ESR):**
- A. **Status reports/opinions (Human Health and/or Environment):**  
**Opinions were adopted on the following substances and sections:**
- a) *Dodmac* (Human Health part)
  - b) *Naphthalene* (Environmental part)
  - c) *Ethyl acetoacetate* (Environmental part)
  - d) *Tetrachloroethylene* (Environmental part)
  - e) *Bis(pentabromophenyl)ether* (Human Health part)
  - f) *Methyl acetate* (Human Health part)

Opinions are available in:

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/fs/sc/sct/out143\\_en.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/food/fs/sc/sct/out143_en.pdf)

**g) 3,4-dichloroaniline (Human Health part)**

The draft text submitted by the CSTEE *rapporteur* was discussed but the adoption postponed for the next CSTEE plenary meeting.

**h) Bis(pentabromophenyl)ether (Environmental part)**

The adoption of this part of the RAR was postponed for the next CTEE plenary. The CSTEE *rapporteur* informed that, in his view, the current RAR on this part did not change the CSTEE opinion on the chemical expressed previously.

**i) Methyl acetate (Environmental part)**

A first discussion took place on the environmental part of the RAR. The CSTEE opinion should be adopted at the next CSTEE plenary meeting after the committee considers the yet to be produced draft opinion.

**j) Bisphenol-A (4,4'-isopropylidenediphenol) (HH and Env)– presentation of RAR and 1<sup>st</sup> discussion**

CSTEE *rapporteurs* were nominated to centralise the gathering of comments and produce the first drafts on the two RAR parts of the chemical.

**B. State of play regarding other substances evaluated under the ESR**

No new information was yet available on which chemicals being evaluated under the ESR would be submitted soon for CSTEE opinion.

**6. Input of the CSTEE into the revision of the ‘Technical Guidance Document’ in support of Regulation 793/93 - Status reports/opinions of subgroups on:**

1. *'Environmental exposure'*
2. *'Marine risk assessment'*
3. *'Environmental effects assessment'*
4. *'Human health exposure assessment'*
5. *'Human Health effects assessment'*

The status quo relative to this opinion request was reviewed. The CSTEE secretary informed that, according to information received from the responsible Commission service (DG Environment), EU Member States representatives would look again at ‘revised’ versions of the various Technical Guidance Document’s parts by mid March 2002.

In the absence of a Commission representative that could inform how the CSTEE input so far would be considered in such a revision, the CSTEE expressed by unanimity its

wish to see the opinions it had adopted by written procedure on 25 January 2002 on the various parts, published on the DG SANCO web-site as CSTEES opinions.

The CSTEES further expressed the view that, in case the evolving of the TGD section drafts would have been such that expressing publicly a CSTEES opinion now could have been liable to causing confusion, this could be sorted out by explicitly mentioning on which draft versions (referring to dates) had CSTEES opinions been adopted. In any case the option of not publishing CSTEES opinions duly adopted as such for reasons of the possible confusion they could cause to some, was not acceptable to the CSTEES.

**7. *Member States' assessments of the risk to health and the environment from cadmium in fertilisers – progress report***

The working group chairman informed the committee of the outcome/conclusions of the working group meeting that had taken place on 23 January 2002. A draft set of tasks in tabulated form had been one of such outcomes. In it the situation for different M. States is described and different WG members had been given the task of checking specific M. States' reports. The WG chairman informed that already it looked evident that there were major differences of approach for different M. States. This called for consideration on what factors may justify such differences and it was for this reason that putting data in tabulated form was judged better since it makes comparisons easier.

The CSTEES agreed that, in order to make quick progress, in principle another WG meeting should take place by March/April 2002 if possible.

**8. *Emerging issues identified by the SSC and for which the CSTEES is the 'lead' committee:***

**a) *Endocrine disruption (Human health)***

The CSTEES confirmed that the next WG meeting could take place on 26 June 2002 (no need felt to have it before). One working group member informed the committee that a contribution had been prepared on male/female ratios of which committee members will receive a copy in due course.

**b) *Indoor climate***

The CSTEES accepted that a working group meeting could take place in March/April 2002. CSTEES secretariat to take action and find a suitable date.

**9. *Strategies for dealing with additional opinion requests submitted by other DGs of the Commission***

**i) *Request for an opinion from the CSTEES on certain questions arising from a study on Risks to Health and the environment Related to the Use of Lead in Products – opinion request from DG ENTR***

Several committee members volunteered to tackle this new opinion request and suggestions for nominating outside experts were also made. CSTEES secretariat to contact possible nominees. One CSTEES member suggested that copper be also considered when checking risks posed by lead.

**ii) Questions to the CSTEE relating to *scientific evidence of risks to health from chromium VI in cement* – opinion request from DG ENTR**

Membership for the working group that will address this opinion request was also discussed, with some CSTEE members volunteering. Further nominations of external experts will be indicted by some CSTEE members to the CSTEE secretariat.

**iii) *Justification of a notification by the Netherlands to introduce national measures concerning wood treated with copper substances* – opinion request from DG ENTR**

Same as for 9.i) and 9.ii) above.

**10. Feedback from the relevant services of the Commission on the follow up to the opinions adopted previously by the CSTEE**

No information was available from Commission services on the follow up given to CSTEE opinions adopted in a recent past.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> vice chairman sought to obtain from the CSTEE secretariat information on the status of the publication of the CSTEE opinion on Terrestrial Environment as a Commission document. He also informed of the publication ‘Nature’.

**11. Participation of the CSTEE in activities/working groups of other scientific committees of the Commission**

Committee members informed the committee about their recent involvement in other scientific committee’s activities. In particular information was provided on the foreseen involvement on risk assessments on copper (WG meeting foreseen for 12 March 2002) and zinc (WG meeting to take place in April 2002).

No news were yet available on the timing of those CSTEE members involvement supposed to provide a contribution to the ‘Coccidiostats’ opinion request submitted to SCAN.

**12. Update on the latest meetings of the Scientific Steering Committee on matters of interest to the CSTEE**

**a) Harmonisation of Risk Assessment Task Force and Working groups**

The CSTEE chairman provided information on this agenda point. The SSC is still being kept busy essentially with BSE related issues.

Apparently the EP is keen on banning primate research in Europe on the grounds of viral transmission. The CSTEE chairman further informed the CSTEE that anybody wishing to comment on this issue was welcome to do so.

Food borne pathogens was also an area under scrutiny.

The Harmonisation of Risk Assessment Task Force has produced a paper on formulation of opinions, reports, risk assessment/risk management issues, etc., attempting to shed light on procedural aspects.

The suggestion was made that this be discussed at a forthcoming CSTEE plenary meeting, one fundamental issue seemingly being the distinction of opinions from reports.

Finally the CSTEE chairman informed that the Harmonisation of Risk Group had had its 'life span' extended till the autumn of the current year.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> vice chairman informed of his involvement in various WG activities dealing with chemicals, animal population and ecological risk assessment.

Another CSTEE member expressed hopes that similar activities taking place under the auspices of the IPCS are known to the relevant Commission services, others being: Framework of risk comparisons, Quality of life/Animal welfare, Probabilistic Risk Assessment, all in the harmonisation of the Risk Assessment Task Force agenda.

**b) Cross committee's collaboration**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> vice chairman informed of document produced by the SCP task force on pesticides.

**c) *Environmental impact evaluation of Alkaline processes used for animal by-product treatment***

The CSTEE chairman informed that he had written a paper on this topic but that this had been held back because of the research still going on. On the other hand several other processes are under way as well.

**13. Arrangements for the following (31<sup>st</sup>) plenary meeting of the CSTEE**

Three CSTEE members expressed difficulties with the schedule foreseen for the next CSTEE (8 April 2002). Alternatives were considered but no final decision was taken. CSTEE secretariat to act.

**14. Any other business**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> vice chairman informed the committee about his mission to Canada where he provided input on the CSTEE opinion on the Draft CPMP Discussion Paper on Environmental Risk Assessment of Medicinal Products for Human Use [Non-Genetically Modified Organism (Non-GMO) Containing], expressed at the 24th CSTEE plenary meeting, 12 June 2001.

**Annexes:** 1. Draft agenda

## 2. List of participants



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
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**Scientific Committee on Toxicity, Ecotoxicity and the Environment**

Brussels,  
SANCO.C.2/JCD/jcd.sanco81.D(02)  
CSTEE/00/plen.age.22.02.2002

**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON  
TOXICITY, ECOTOXICITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT (CSTEE)  
30th PLENARY MEETING**

**22 February 2002, all day, starting at 10H00 in  
Centre Albert Borschette, rue Froissart 36,  
B-1040 Brussels**

**- DRAFT AGENDA -**

- 1. Welcoming address, apologies for absence, declarations of interest**
- 2. Adoption of the draft agenda**
- 3. Approval of the draft minutes of the 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> CSTEE plenary meetings**
- 4. Health effects of Radio Frequency and Electromagnetic fields:**
  - i) Recommendations of the CSTEE for research – status report**
  - ii) New opinion request from DG SANCO – 1<sup>st</sup> discussion**
- 5. Regulation 793/93 on Existing substances (ESR):**
  - A. Status reports/opinions (Human Health and/or Environment) on:**
    - a) *Dodmac* (HH) - for opinion**
    - b) *3,4-dichloroaniline* (HH) - for opinion**
    - c) *Naphthalene* (Env) - for opinion**
    - d) *Ethyl acetoacetate* (Env) - for opinion**
    - e) *Tetrachloroethylene* (Env) - for opinion**
    - f) *Bis(pentabromophenyl)ether* (HH and Env) – for opinion**
    - g) *Methyl acetate* (HH and Env) - presentation of RAR and 1<sup>st</sup> discussion**
    - h) *Bisphenol-A (4,4'-isopropylidenediphenol)* (HH and Env) - presentation of RAR and 1<sup>st</sup> discussion**
  - B. State of play regarding other substances evaluated under the ESR**



6. **Input of the CSTEE into the revision of the ‘Technical Guidance Document’ in support of Regulation 793/93 - Status reports/opinions of subgroups on:**
  1. *‘Environmental exposure’*
  2. *‘Marine risk assessment’*
  3. *‘Environmental effects assessment’*
  4. *‘Human health exposure assessment’*
  5. *‘Human Health effects assessment’.*
  
7. *Member States’ assessments of the risk to health and the environment from cadmium in fertilisers – progress report*
  
8. **Emerging issues identified by the SSC and for which the CSTEE is the ‘lead’ committee:**
  - a) *Endocrine disruption (Human health)*
  - b) *Indoor climate*
  
9. **Strategies for dealing with additional opinion requests submitted by other DGs of the Commission**
  - i) **Request for an opinion from the SCTEE on certain questions arising from a study on *Risks to Health and the environment Related to the Use of Lead in Products* – opinion request from DG ENTR**
  - ii) **Questions to the CSTEE relating to *Scientific evidence of risks to health from chromium VI in cement* – opinion request from DG ENTR**
  - iii) ***Justification of a notification by the Netherlands to introduce national measures concerning wood treated with copper substances* – opinion request from DG ENTR**
  
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  - a) **Harmonisation of Risk Assessment Task Force and Working groups**
  - b) **Cross committee’s collaboration**
  - c) ***Environmental impact evaluation of Alkaline processes used for animal by-product treatment***
  
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**SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON  
TOXICITY, ECOTOXICITY AND THE ENVIRONMENT (CSTEE)**

**30<sup>th</sup> PLENARY MEETING**

**22 FEBRUARY 2002**

**Brussels**

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

**CSTEE:**

Prof. James BRIDGES, Prof. Giorgio CANTELLI-FORTI, Prof. Wolfgang DEKANT, Prof. Erik DYBING, Prof. Dr Helmut GREIM, Prof. Colin JANSSEN, Prof. Bo JANSSON, Prof. Soterios KYRTOPOULOS, Dr Claude LAMBRE, Prof. Amadeu SOARES, Dr José TARAZONA, Prof. Katarina VICTORIN, Prof. Marco VIGHI, Prof. Joseph VOS.

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION:**

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J. COSTA-DAVID, A. SANABRIA, M. RAJALA, E. ESTELLER

**Enterprise DG**

P. BRUNERIE, S. PICKERING, D. HODRICK

**Information Society DG:**

J.C. HEALY

**Joint Research Centre (Ispra):**

S. KEPHALOPOULOS, K. VORMANN, D. REMBGES