



SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON EMERGING AND NEWLY IDENTIFIED HEALTH RISKS
16TH PLENARY MEETING

Held on 21 March 2007
in Brussels

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

The Chairman, Prof. J. Bridges, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Prof. A. Ahlbom, Dr. J.-M. Pagès, Prof. D. Stahl, and Prof. D. Williams.

2. ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT AGENDA

The meeting would break for the Risk Assessment Days at 12.25 and reconvene at 15.00. It was decided to focus on item 6.1 (EMF – for adoption) on the agenda and deal with most of the other topics in the next plenary meeting.

3. DECLARATION OF INTEREST ON MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

The Secretariat informed the Committee that 4 of the external experts of the SCENIHR Working Group (WG) on Dental Amalgam had declared interests in view of their affiliations.

Taking into account the nature of the declarations, the Committee decided that they did not constitute a conflict of interest and that the experts could participate in the discussions on those matters.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PLENARY MEETING

The draft minutes of the 15th plenary meeting were adopted without modifications. The minutes are available at:

http://ec.europa.eu/health/ph_risk/committees/04_scenihr/docs/scenihr_mi_015.pdf

5. CHAIR'S/MEMBERS' REPORT

5.1. Inter-Committee Coordination Group on 31 January 2007

The discussion on this item was postponed to the next meeting.

5.2. Other

One member suggested the *International Journal of Occupational Medicine and Environmental Health* as a possibility for publicising news about the Scientific Committees.

6. ONGOING REQUESTS

6.1. Electromagnetic Fields (EMF) (for adoption)

The SCENIHR discussed the updated opinion, which was revised based on the comments received during the public consultation. The scientific rationale of the opinion was revised, stating more explicitly the task given to the SCENIHR, clarifying the scope of the opinion and the methodologies of the risk evaluation undertaken. In addition, the literature was updated with relevant publications up to the end of 2006. Furthermore, one of the tables and some sentences or paragraphs were revised to avoid misinterpretation and to better reflect the viewpoint of the working group or the SCENIHR. The final opinion was adopted and will be published on the SANCO Public Health website after editorial revision.

6.2. Nanotechnologies (for discussion)

The discussion on this item was postponed to the next meeting. Approval for public consultation is foreseen for the next plenary session.

6.3. Smokeless Tobacco Products (for discussion)

The discussion on this item was postponed to the next meeting.

6.4. DEHP (for discussion)

The discussion on this item was postponed to the next meeting.

6.5. Dental Amalgam (for discussion)

The discussion on this item was postponed to the next meeting.

6.6. Biocides (for discussion)

The discussion on this item was postponed to the next meeting.

7. NEW REQUESTS

A new request for a scientific review of existing and proposed definitions on nanomaterials was presented. EC services will provide a draft list and circulate it to members. The opinion would make an important input to the OECD work on safety of nanomaterials.

8. EMERGING ISSUES

The list of emerging issues and potential new topics still needed to be updated and will be resent by the Secretariat for comments. One member mentioned ongoing work by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) and proposed a related working document for SCENIHR on global climate change. He would propose a first draft for circulation among members.

9. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The next SCENIHR Plenary meeting will start at 10:30.

Annex I

<p style="text-align: center;">SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE ON EMERGING AND NEWLY IDENTIFIED HEALTH RISKS 16TH PLENARY MEETING</p>

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LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

MEMBERS OF THE SCENIHR:

Prof. J. BRIDGES (Chair), Dr. W. DE JONG (Vice chair), Prof. J. HAJŠLOVÁ, Prof. P. HARTEMANN (Vice chair), Dr. T. JUNG, Prof. M.-O. MATTSSON, Prof. K. RYDZYNSKI, Dr. M. THOMSEN

EUROPEAN COMMISSION:

SCENIHR Secretariat (DG SANCO):

Ms. K. BROMEN, Ms. N. FOUVEZ, Ms. M. PUOLAMAA

Other Commission staff:

Ms. I. DEMADE (DG ENTR), Ms. B. VAN TONGELEN (DG ENV)