



Eighth plenary meeting of the
Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental Risks (SCHER)
1 July 2010 at 10.00, Rue Froissart 101, room 02/169 - Brussels

Minutes

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES

Prof. Greim, Chair of the Committee, opened the meeting and welcomed the participants.

Apologies were received from J. Linders, C. Janssen, B. Peterlin, Ari Hirvonen, and J. Davison

2. ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT AGENDA

The draft agenda was adopted as proposed

3. DECLARATION OF INTERESTS ON MATTERS ON THE AGENDA

There were no new declarations stated.

4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS PLENARY MEETING

The minutes of the 7th SCHER plenary meeting were adopted.

5. CHAIR'S REPORT

5.1. ICCG – report by H. Autrup and P. Calow

The issue of the full bibliography was found to be a bit controversial and therefore needs more discussion. A disclaimer is to be formulated.

5.2. Transatlantic risk-assessment dialogue – meeting in Ottawa, June 2-4

The Committee was informed about the general outcomes of this meeting. The next steps to be taken are: the preparation of a paper on exposure assessment by the North American side; and the preparation of a paper on the uncertainty issue where the EU is in the lead (A. Hart, J. Bridges, and some SCHER members). The final results of this process will be presented on 25-28 Jan. 2011 at the 2nd International Risk Assessment Conference.

6. NEW REQUESTS FOR OPINIONS BY COMMISSION SERVICES ON:

6.1. Combination Effects of Chemicals

A decision was made about the WG composition based on the responses received from the EU agencies and the expertise offered. Nine SCHER members expressed an interest in serving. The secretariat informed that the circa site for this WG is already functional

and supplied with quite a few documents. Jose Tarazona suggested forming two separate subgroups – on human health and on the environmental aspects. The deadline is to be strictly adhered to (end of June 2011).

6.2. Lead standards in drinking water

The mandate was clarified to the Committee. The first meeting of the WG is scheduled for 2 July.

6.3. Mandate for new challenges for risk assessment (joint mandate, SCENIHR in the lead)

Because of certain overlap of this mandate with the mandate of the Improvement of Risk Assessment WG (SCHER in the lead), it was decided that Peter Calow, Ursula Ackerman and John Davison will be proposed to SCENIHR as volunteers to serve on this WG. It was not clear the extent to which the environmental aspects will be covered by this work. Therefore, it was decided the issue of ecotoxicity to be developed in parallel or added later. Wolfgang Dekant and Emanuela Testai may also contribute to the work at a later stage.

7. ONGOING REQUESTS FOR OPINIONS BY COMMISSION SERVICES ON:

7.1. Diantimony trioxide in toys

The opinion was presented by the rapporteur and after a short discussion was adopted by SCHER.

7.2. Evaluation of the Migration Limits for Chemical Elements in Toys

The opinion was presented by the rapporteur and after a short discussion was adopted by SCHER.

7.3. WFD – TGD for EQS

The Committee was briefed on the most important conclusions of the opinion by the rapporteur.

7.4. Risk Assessment improvements

The Committee was briefed on the progress with the opinion by the rapporteur.

8. PARTICIPATION OF THE SCHER IN ACTIVITIES/WORKING GROUPS OF OTHER SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES

8.1. TTC – Report on the latest developments at the WG was presented by the SCHER representative in this WG;

A proposal was made to add one more expert.

8.2. Meeting on computational toxicology – 30.09 – 01.10

Interested members were encouraged to attend.

9. NEXT PLENARY MEETING – 16 SEPTEMBER 2010

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS - THERE WAS NONE

ANNEX I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

MEMBERS OF SCHER:

Prof. U. ACKERMANN-LIEBRICH, Prof H ATRUP (*Vice Chair*), Prof. D. BARD, Prof. P. CALOW, Prof. S.CANNA-MICHAELIDOU, Prof. J. DAVISON, Prof. P. DE VOOGT, Prof. W. DEKANT, Prof. A. GARD, Prof. H. GREIM (*Chair*), Dr. A. HIRVONEN, Prof. C. JANSSEN, Prof. J. LINDERS, Prof. B. PETERLIN, Dr. J. TARAZONA, Dr. E. TESTAI, Prof. M. VIGHI.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION:

SCHER Secretariat (DG SANCO):

Mr. V. GARKOV, Mrs. C. DEKINDT

Other Commission staff:

Mr. J. CORTVRIEND (ENV); Mr. P. MURPHY (DG ENV); Mrs. F. PANTAZI (DG ENTR);