

Debate on Governance Initiatives for the European Nanotechnology Community in the Public and Private Sectors

Date: Wednesday, 5 December 2007, 10.30-17:00

Venue: European Commission
Marsveldstraat 21 rue du Champ de Mars
Brussels, Belgium
Rooms SDR 1-2 (floor -1)

The Programme:

This debate will allow participants to be informed about, and discuss, two proposed Codes of Conduct concerning nanotechnology research and commercialisation.

The European Commission will give information on the results of a public consultation on Responsible Research in Nanosciences and Nanotechnologies.

Another initiative being presented, The Responsible Nano Code, has been developed for businesses involved in the manufacturing, use and retail of nano-enabled products, by a multi-stakeholder group of international businesses, academics and NGOs run from the UK.

The workshop will also include the experience of the Project on Emerging Nanotechnologies at the Woodrow Wilson Centre in Washington, DC, which has provided a US forum for discussion of the Responsible Nano Code; and the views of a coalition of international NGOs encapsulated in the Principles for the Oversight of Nanotechnologies.

This programme will also draw upon the practical experience of BASF after three years of working with its own internal Code and the appropriateness of such codes for small and medium sized enterprises outlined by ENTA. International lawyers Mayer Brown will explore the legal aspects of introducing Codes of Conduct.

The event aims to bring together businesses, academics and NGOs involved with nanotechnologies and is designed to allow significant time for discussion and debate.

Participation:

Up to 80 places are available for this workshop. Interested participants are kindly requested to contact Dr Nicholas Deliyianakis (EC) by e-mail (nicholas.deliyanakis@ec.europa.eu) as soon as possible. Confirmation will be given on a first-come-first-served principle, taking into consideration the representation of various categories of stakeholder.

References:

EC consultation paper: http://ec.europa.eu/research/consultations/pdf/nano-consultation_en.pdf
(consultation closed on 21 September 2007)

The Responsible Nano Code: www.responsiblenanocode.org

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Programme

10:30	Arrival & Registration	
11:00	Welcome	Dr Renzo Tomellini, European Commission
11:10	Introduction by the Chair	Dr Anna Gergely, Principal Scientific & Regulatory Adviser, Mayer Brown International LLP
11:15	Results of the Open Consultation on a proposed Recommendation on a Code of Conduct for Responsible Research in Nanosciences and Nanotechnologies	Pēteris Zilgalvis J.D., European Commission
11:45	Questions & Answers	
12:00	<i>The Responsible Nano Code</i> and its Open Consultation	Hilary Sutcliffe, Secretariat, Responsible Nano Code
12:30	Questions & Answers	
12:45	Lunch	
13:45	Principles for the Oversight of Nanotechnologies and Nanomaterials	Greenpeace / Friends of the Earth Dr David Santillo, Senior Scientist, Greenpeace Research Laboratories
14:05	Questions & Answers	
14:15	Putting Principles into Practice - BASF internal Code of Conduct	Dr Martin Kayser, Senior VP & Director Product Safety, Toxicology & Ecology BASF
14:35	Questions & Answers	
14:45	Relevance and Implications of Codes to SMEs	Del Stark, Chief Executive ENTA
15:00	Questions & Answers	
15:05	The US experience	Dr Andrew Maynard, Science Adviser, Project on Emerging Nanotechnologies Woodrow Wilson Centre
15:20	Questions & Answers	
15:25	Coffee	
15:40	Legal Aspects of Introducing Codes of Conduct	Kiran Desai, Partner, Mayer Brown International LLP
15:55	Questions & Answers	
16:00	Panel - Speakers take further questions from participants	Chaired by Dr Anna Gergely, Mayer Brown International LLP
16.55	Closing remarks	Dr Maurizio Salvi, European Commission