



**INTER-COMMITTEE COORDINATION GROUP**

**17<sup>TH</sup> MEETING**

**26 September 2007**

**MINUTES**

**1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Chair of ICCG welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Prof. Rogiers and Dr. Tarazona.

**2. APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT AGENDA**

The draft agenda was accepted. It was decided to show the video on the work of Scientific Committees after the lunch break.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 16<sup>H</sup> MEETING OF THE ICCG**

The minutes were approved and are available at

[http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph\\_risk/committees/coordination/docs/coord\\_mi\\_016.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_risk/committees/coordination/docs/coord_mi_016.pdf).

**5. INFORMATION EXCHANGE**

**5.1. ADMINISTRATIVE AND GENERAL MATTERS**

Prolongation of the Terms of Office:

The Chair informed the meeting that the Inter-Service Consultation has been closed successfully and the adoption will take place via written procedure. It was decided that due to the lengthy process foreseeable for the Call for Experts, it will not be feasible to have two separate calls in a 6-8 months time period. Most appropriate would be to create a long-term reserve list for a pool of scientists.

Planning the preparatory work for the revision of mandates and restructuring of the SCs after 2008:

The Chair informed the members about the ongoing revision process for the non-food Scientific Committees. It was decided that extra-ICCG meeting will be scheduled for 30 October in order to discuss the following items:

- ECHA, Commission priorities, Structural adaptations, broader pool of expertise, Adaptation of Rules of Procedures, Roles of new non-food Scientific Committees and Risk assessment Structure.

#### Meeting on training of risk assessors:

The Secretariat informed about the special meeting on 20 November 2007 on training of risk assessors. The aim is to ensure the development of a critical mass of risk assessment expertise that will also speed the 'catch up' of the practices of the new Scientific Committee members. The meeting will take place via invitation and will involve people from the key national risk assessment bodies, universities, academies, industry (e.g. ECETOC<sup>1</sup>, ILSI<sup>2</sup>, SETAC<sup>3</sup>), Eurotox<sup>4</sup>, etc. the Secretariat will send the agenda of the meeting in due course.

#### International Dialogue on risk assessment:

The aim of the meeting is to bridge with US Agencies on a scientific basis in addition to risk assessment policies. This will enable to reconcile different positions and discuss the diverging views on key risk assessment initiatives. The preparatory video meeting will take place in December and the first conference in 2008.

### **5.2. INFORMATION FROM/TO CHAIRS AND VICE CHAIRS**

#### **5.2.1. SCCP**

The key points of discussion were the results from the public consultations on the preliminary opinion on Nanocosmetics and the self-testing of hair dyes.

#### **5.2.2. SCHER**

The main issues mentioned were risk assessment of zinc, dental amalgam (and the safety of their alternatives) as well as phosphates.

#### **5.2.3. SCENIHR**

The main issues mentioned were: smokeless tobacco products, Di(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate (DEHP) in medical devices, scientific review of definitions related to the risk assessment of products of nanotechnologies, dental amalgam, noise from personal music players and biocides.

### **5.3. NEW REQUESTS TO THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEES**

The Secretariat presented a new mandate from DG Sanco on TTC (Threshold of Toxicological Concern) the general applicability of which in various fields needs to be assessed jointly with all committees, SCCP would be in the lead. The members were invited to comment on the draft mandate.

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<sup>1</sup> European Centre for Ecotoxicology and Toxicology of Chemicals

<sup>2</sup> International Life Sciences Institute

<sup>3</sup> Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry

<sup>4</sup> European Societies of Toxicology

The Secretariat presented also a new mandate from DG Sanco on methodologies related to mutagenity and genotoxicity that also needs to be assessed jointly by all committees. This will be led by SCHER. The members were invited to comment on the draft mandate.

New mandates have been received by the SCCP on polydeconol and by SCHER and SCENIHR on biocides. The SCENIHR may also receive a new mandate on electromagnetic fields (EMF). Another probable mandate for the SCENIHR may come on tobacco additives.

## **6. COLLABORATION WITH OTHER COMMUNITY BODIES**

### **6.1. EFSA**

The Secretariat informed about the EFSA arrangements for members, external experts and organisation (with respect to emerging risks), practices on Declaration of Interest, Priorities in Work Programme 2008 and the discussion on the Commission request to EFSA on the potential risks of nanomaterials in food applications.

### **6.2. FOLLOW-UP OF MEETING OF CHAIRS OF EU SCs AND PANELS**

The Chair informed about the agenda for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of Chairs of the Community Scientific Committees and Panels, scheduled to 6-7 November 2007 in Stockholm. As the programme is still evolving, the Chair invited comments from members.

On the follow-up activities to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chairs meeting, the following developments were presented:

Emerging risks: Report from the group to be presented in the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

Members were informed on the progress made in relation to the Nanotechnology Workshop on 25-26 October.

### **6.3. OTHER**

#### **6.3.1. RISK ASSESSMENT DAYS 2007**

The Chair informed about the results with the meetings with STOA and SANCO and the Committees. Director General. Mr. Madelin will meet ENVI in November 2007. The Chair concluded that the most efficient way to cooperate with the Parliamentary Committees will be to participate in their normal meeting agenda. Furthermore, the next risk Assessment days will be organised in late spring or summer in 2008.

The Chair reminded that since 15 September the Stakeholder Dialogue process will be applied for one year in order to collect inputs from stakeholders and integrate them, to the extent possible, to the work of the Scientific Committees.

#### **6.3.2. PROGRESS WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PLAN**

The Chair reviewed the actions taken in regard to Newsletter, Scientific Opinions (compendium to be published by the end of 2007) and publishing of opinions in scientific journals. Especially the latter requires further discussion in the ICCG.

## **7. COLLABORATION WITH RTD AND JRC**

The Secretariat made a brief overview on the discussions on the key concern issues of the Committees (allergies, EMF etc.) that C7 is trying to integrate in the next work programme.

As regards JRC, it has and will have an important role in practical research areas as well as an organiser of the workshops on diverging issues e.g. arising from the Stakeholder dialogue process.

## **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

The extra-ICCG meeting will take place on 30 October morning and the next ICCG on 28 November 2007.

Annex I: List of participants

**INTER COMMITTEE COORDINATION GROUP**

**17<sup>TH</sup> MEETING**

26 September 2007  
in Brussels

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

**Chairs and vice-Chairs of the Scientific Committees**

Prof. J. BRIDGES, Dr. W. de JONG, Prof. H GREIM, Prof. P. HARTEMANN, Prof. B. JANSSON, Prof. T. SANNER and Dr. I. WHITE.

**Apologies:** Prof. V. ROGIERS and Dr. J. TARAZONA.

**European Commission**

**SANCO C7 'RISK ASSESSMENT'**

Mr. B. DELOGU (Chair), Ms. M. PUOLAMAA (ICCG Secretariat), Mr. P.H. MARTIN, Mr. T. DASKALEROS, MS. M. MARINI, Ms. K. BROMEN (SCENIHR Secretariat), Ms. G. FONTANESI (SCHER Secretariat), Ms. K. KILIAN and Mr. A. VAN ELST (SCCP Secretariat).