



**INTER-COMMITTEE COORDINATION GROUP**

**18<sup>TH</sup> MEETING**

**30 October 2007**

**MINUTES**

**1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES**

The Chair of ICCG welcomed the participants. Apologies were received from Prof. J. Bridges, Dr. W. de Jong, Prof. V. Rogiers and Prof. T. Sanner (partly present).

**2. APPROVAL OF THE DRAFT AGENDA**

The draft agenda was accepted with minor modifications.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**4. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 17<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\\_017.pdf](http://europa.eu.int/comm/health/ph_risk/committees/coordination/docs/coord_mi_017.pdf)

**5. REVISION OF MANDATES AND RESTRUCTURING OF THE SCs AFTER 2008**

The Chair informed the members about the approximate timings of the ongoing revision process for the non-food Scientific Committees. It is foreseen that the proposal will be adopted before summer 2008 so that it will facilitate the start of the new Committee(s) in January 2009. The stakeholder consultation is foreseen to take place in early 2008.

The Chair invited the participants to discuss about their experiences in the current non-food Scientific Committees (current and possibly new areas of scientific advice): structure of the committees; composition of the Committees; procedures; conditions offered to the Committee members; risk assessment versus risk analysis (risk/benefit evaluation); networking and collaboration with scientific bodies (EU and National bodies).

The participants highlighted that a considerable amount of the work of SCHER on risk assessment of existing chemicals will be transferred to the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA). However, the Commission will need scientific advice on issues remaining outside the scope of ECHA. A part from the current mandates of the SCCP and the SCENIHR, the continuation of the non-food Scientific Committees might be extended to areas such as

methodologies of risk assessment; risk/benefit analysis; socio-economic assessment; public health and environmental issues.

There are several options for the structuring of the non-food Committees, but it was considered feasible to assess also the 'no changes' option. The current working practices have been flexible inside and between the Committees and in cases where the Committees have jointly prepared memorandums and/or contributed to the work of other Scientific Committees. The current role of Chairs was considered optimal both for the practical work and the communication purposes. The Committees have used external experts very much and the experiences have been positive in all domains.

The conditions of work offered to members both in regard to indemnities and participation need further consideration. Further guidance will be necessary for the declaration of interests. 'Rapid advice procedures' were considered problematic both from administrative and practical point of view. The rapid risk advice in crisis situations should be always complemented by an in-depth risk assessment after the crisis. This would imply the need for a better networking with other Community risk assessment Committees as well as National risk assessment bodies.

The Chair concluded that the discussion also highlights needs to possibly refresh the Commission principles on risk analysis as a whole, including dialogue between risks assessment and risk management and on the practical implementation.

## **6. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None.

Annex I: List of participants

**INTER COMMITTEE COORDINATION GROUP**

**18<sup>TH</sup> MEETING**

30 October 2007  
in Brussels

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS**

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

Prof. H GREIM, Prof. P. HARTEMANN, Prof. B. JANSSON, Dr. J. TARAZONA and Dr. I. WHITE and Prof. T. SANNER (partly present).

**Apologies:** Prof. J. BRIDGES, Dr. W. de JONG and Prof. V. ROGIERS.

**European Commission**

**SANCO C7 'RISK ASSESSMENT'**

Mr. B. DELOGU (Chair), Ms. M. PUOLAMAA (ICCG Secretariat), Mr. T. DASKALEROS, MS. M. MARINI, Ms. K. BROMEN (SCENIHR Secretariat), Ms. G. FONTANESI (SCHER Secretariat).