

Emerging Issues Discussion Group

Main topics discussed

- Implications of past failures and need for cross sectorial collaboration recognized.
- Discussion paper accepted and recommended to the agencies for implementation
- Recommendation that contact points in each EU body be appointed
- EMRISK Discussion Group to be reconstituted (as standing group between bodies)
- Scientific WG to be set up with a horizontal mandate

Some consequences of failures to detect emerging issues

- Adverse health and environmental consequences.
- Loss of confidence by stakeholders in the ability of the organisation to protect their health.
- Negative views on related technologies

Follow up to the discussion paper

- Formal feedback needed from the agencies by end of January 2010
- February 2010 put forward the document as part of the international initiative to collaborate on Risk Assessment

Establishing contact points in EU bodies

- Key roles:
 - ensuring networking and collaboration
 - Possible role in communication (with stakeholders) to be discussed by EMRISK (second step) and others
- Other roles:
 - to be considered further by EMRISK Discussion Group

EMRISK Discussion Group

Membership: to include the contact points.

Tasks:

- Ensure that procedures for collaboration are kept
- Develop the proposal for international collaboration and serve as a starting point for an enlarged international WG
- Considers issues of communication with stakeholders

Scientific WG

- Identifying priorities for cross sectorial cooperation (including learning from past mistakes)
- Assess the potential value of shared indicators and broad cross-sectorial emerging issues
- Prepare recommendations to the Commission/agencies
- Research proposals to DG Research

This paper was produced for a meeting organized by Health & Consumers DG and represents the views of its author on the subject. These views have not been adopted or in any way approved by the Commission and should not be relied upon as a statement of the Commission's or Health & Consumers DG's views. The European Commission does not guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this paper, nor does it accept responsibility for any use made thereof.