



**Scientific Committee on Health and Environmental and Emerging Risks
(SCHEER)
Second Annual Meeting of the Pool of Experts**

27 November 2018

Minutes

1. Welcome and introduction

26 experts from the SCHEER WG on RRA and the pool of experts participated in the annual meeting.

SANTE C2 welcomed the participants and stressed the importance of the SCHEER WG on RRA and the pool of experts in providing the rapid risk assessment of serious cross-border chemical incidents. He also informed that the call for experts in the pool has been reopened:

https://ec.europa.eu/health/scientific_committees/call_experts/call_experts_2018_en

2. New tool for reimbursement of experts

SANTE C2 introduced the new electronic tools that the Commission will use for reimbursement of experts. For the SCHEER and its working groups (including the pool of experts), the tool is planned to be used from 1 January 2019.

3. The SCHEER committee and overview of its role

The Chair of the SCHEER, presented the role and the current work of the SCHEER. He also explained the specificities of the rapid risk assessment work.

4. The roles of the SCHEER Committee's rapid risk assessment working group and the pool of experts

An overview of the roles of the permanent WG on RRA and the pool as well the *ad hoc* WG on RRA was presented.

5. Exercise NIMBUS: evaluation & lessons learned

In total 4 exercises (with the same scenario) took place on 17 and 23 October (2 groups each day). The members of the WG on RRA presented the lessons learned of the exercise.

The SCHEER WG on RRA will discuss the follow-up to the exercise in the next meeting in February.

The SCHEER RRA *ad hoc* WG also participated on the 22nd of November in the EU Exercise PACE and participation in exercise was also mentioned.

6. Overview of recent chemical cross border health threats identified through event based surveillance

Event based surveillance tool developed by Public Health England for surveillance of chemical events was presented. The tool was developed as part of the project funded by the EU Commission. Possible follow-up has been also discussed with the SANTE C3 (the crisis management unit coordinating the EU public health response).

7. What is the involvement of the SCHEER RRA WG and the pool of experts in the different stages of a co-ordinated cross border response to chemical incidents illustrated through examples of past events?

Overview of how information is posted onto RASCHEM and EWRS, using the Salisbury incident in the UK (Novitchok) and Tianjin incident as an example.

8. Interactive session

An interactive session on preparing a hazard statement, case definition and RRA template was organised. Participants were divided into 4 groups for preparation and discussion on a hazard statement and a case definition, using the NIMBUS exercise scenario.

9. Close of Meetings

The next annual meeting will be a one-and-half-day meeting in order to allow sufficient time for discussion and the interactive session.