

IPCS Risk Assessment Steering Group - 7 December 2005

Minutes

Participants: S Dobson, R Hertel, M.E. Meek, T Inoue
Could not be reached. J Jeyaratnam, Y Zheng; C De Rosa
Secretariat: T Meredith; A Aitio; L Onyon and M Shibatsuji

Agenda item

1. The draft agenda prepared on the 30 November was accepted.
2. The Minutes from the teleconference of the 20 October 2005 were approved and have been added to the IPCS website.
3. A brief oral update of the discussions of the GHS and RASG activities were reported and included in the report of the FRB meeting report http://www.who.int/ipcs/publications/cicad/rep_13th_frb.pdf. Based on the interest of the FRB and linkages with the experts involved in the preparation of the International Chemical Safety Cards ICSC, a separate joint consultation will be prepared in association with the ICSC meeting planned to take place in Lodz, Poland 3-7 April 2006.
4. Dr Meredith informed the group of the changes in WHO administration which had a direct interest in the work of IPCS Risk assessment activities. These were the appointment of Dr Maria Neira, who has assumed responsibility for Protection of the Human Environment (PHE) and Dr Susanne Weber-Mosdorf, formally Director-General, International and European Affairs at the Federal Ministry of Health, Germany. Dr Weber-Mosbach assumes responsibilities as Assistant Direct-General, Sustainable and Healthy Environments from 16 January 2006.
5. Following a review of the planned work, it was proposed that the 14th FRB would take place late in 2006 with a date for preparation of CICADS to be discussed at a future teleconference. The Secretariat would provide information at a later date on the proposed venue(s).

Members confirmed the following dates for RASG teleconferences in 2006.
26 Jan, 23 March , 1 June, 7 Sept, 26 Oct and 7 December 2006.

6. Tim Meredith outlined arrangements for the management of the Risk Assessment activities (including CICADS) over the period while recruitment to Antero's position was being completed. Lesley Onyon would ensure that the CICADS agreed at the FRB in Nagpur were printed. Members noted that a reply from Dr Neira, in response to RASG members concerns had been made. In relation to the term of office of current RASG members, it was noted that a proposal would be made taking into account members interest in continuing on the Committee. This proposal would be discussed at the next teleconference.

7. Tim Meredith outlined the process for developing and considering future directions for the CICAD Programme and indicated that a proposed brief for the review should be discussed at the next RASG teleconference.
8. Members noted that the IPCS meeting to extend the MOA framework to other endpoints will take place 30-31 March in Geneva. Nomination of experts is still possible, however priority will be given to organizations not already represented in the participants list. Contact: Carolyn Vickers at vickersc@who.int