

**Record of Teleconference of the IPCS Risk Assessment Steering Group**  
**19 October 2006**

**Documents circulated in advance of the call:** Draft Record of the Teleconference of 14 September 2006 (circulated 18 September 2006); Action List from Face-to-face meeting (updated to reflect actions completed as of 13 October 2006); List of proposed CICADs for FRB14 together with names of lead authors; Planning timeline for FRB 14 preparations; Draft Public Charter documents for Cyclic Anhydrides, Inorganic Chromium and 2-Butenal.

**Participants:** Stuart Dobson (Chair); Rolf Hertel, Bette Meek; Lynn Flowers; Tohru Inoue. Lesley Onyon and Masa Shibatsuji (Secretariat). Apologies Chris De Rosa and Yuxin Zheng.

1. The draft record of the teleconference held on 14 September 2006 was adopted.

2. RASG noted that the record of the face-to-face meeting held on 23 June had been published on the IPCS web site

( [http://www.who.int/entity/ipcs/publications/rasg/rasg\\_report\\_2006.pdf](http://www.who.int/entity/ipcs/publications/rasg/rasg_report_2006.pdf) ).

RASG reviewed the action items from that meeting and noted in particular:

- Linkages with the harmonisation project would be further developed and the item included in the agenda for a workshop to be held in association with FRB 14.
- The record of the RASG had been distributed to OECD SIDS Contact Points in relation to further discussion of the BIAC proposal for how to proceed with joint OECD/IPCS assessments. The concerns of RASG were brought to the attention of OECD with the request that the proposal not be finalised in its current form nor in the absence of the experience from the Resorcinol pilot.
- On cross-chemical sector linkages, Dr Chris Portier (US NIEHS) would be joining the Secretariat before the end of 2006 to advise on the further development of a public health risk assessment strategy taking this issue into consideration.
- Feedback on the first SAICM Regional meeting (Africa 11-14 September 2006) would be circulated separately together with information on future upcoming meetings e.g., those of the EU-JUSSCANNZ (Barcelona, 20-22 November 2006) and of the Central and Eastern European Region (4 -6 December 2006).
- Planning for follow-up items on new-tools and processes (with the exception of those relating to peer-review dealt with at this teleconference) would be scheduled in the future.
- Arrangements for FRB 14 would be discussed later in the agenda of this teleconference.

RASG agreed to review the overall list of follow-up actions again at a future teleconferences.

3. The Publication of CICADs following FRB 13 had almost all been completed. The last document of this series (CICAD No.72) had been edited and was now with the authors for final revisions. The publishers had been notified to expect CICAD No.72 for printing in mid November 2006. The progress report showing the status of CICADs nominated or underway has been updated on the web site accordingly <http://www.who.int/ipcs/publications/cicad/progress/en/index.html> RASG expressed satisfaction with the completion of these arrangements.

4. The Secretariat outlined the planning for FRB 14 which included:

- Contacting the lead authors to confirm the status of proposed CICADs for the meeting;
- Alerting lead authors to the time period for addressing peer review comment in preparation for distribution of meeting documents;
- Requesting lead authors to draft an initial charter for peer review to be discussed and amended by the Steering Group, as appropriate; and
- Developing a preliminary list of FRB participants.

5. It was noted that consideration of 2 CICADs previously anticipated for FRB14, namely Hydrogen Cyanide and Aryl phosphates, would not be possible in the timeframe necessary for FRB14. Progress with the group assessment of alkoxyethanols was also uncertain and needed to be re-checked with the lead author. Based on the certainty of having 6 CICADs for discussion at FRB14, RASG recommended that the meeting planning go ahead to avoid any further delays in the programme.

6. Given the need to discuss changes to the Guidelines for Preparation of CICADs and the linkages with the harmonisation project area, the RASG recommended that an agenda for the associated FRB Workshop be developed to fill one- and-a-half days. Bette Meek, Rolf Hertel and Lynn Flowers agreed to work with the Secretariat on developing a draft agenda for the Workshop. RASG noted that nominations for the next CICAD cycle would be needed by mid 2007 and progress with the use of updating tools should be made by this time.

7. In preparation for peer review RASG agreed to finalise the draft peer review charters further at the next teleconference. The Secretariat agreed to circulate those CICADs in hand and Stuart Dobson agreed to take the lead in proposing revisions. The intent being that the public charters were documents produced by the Steering Group RASG agreed that the peer review charters would be freely available on the public web site to inform potential peer reviewers about the draft CICAD and would need to include a summary of the reasons that a CICAD was warranted. It was noted that as this was the first time the RASG had agreed to an open peer review process, that the draft CICADs themselves would continue to be available on-request from the Secretariat or a password-protected web-site and that declaration of interests forms would need to be submitted before any comments were considered, as in past practice. RASG noted that the Secretariat considered that the CICAD on DDT may require an additional period of public comment following discussion at FRB given the widespread interest in this matter.

8. RASG agreed to plan another teleconference in the week of 13 November 2006 in order to finalise peer review arrangements and that the specific date for this would be confirmed by email.

9. RASG agreed that for the period December 2006 to February 2007, the teleconference dates would be 14 December 2006, 11 January 2007 and 23 February 2007.