

**UN/SCETDG/24/INF.27**  
**UN/SCEGHS/6/INF.3**

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**COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE TRANSPORT OF  
DANGEROUS GOODS AND ON THE GLOBALLY  
HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION  
AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS**

Sub-Committee of Experts on the  
Transport of Dangerous Goods  
Twenty-fourth session  
Geneva, 3-10 December 2003  
Item 7(c) of the provisional agenda

Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally  
Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling  
of Chemicals  
Sixth session  
Geneva, 10-12 December 2003  
Item 4 of the provisional agenda

GLOBALLY HARMONIZED SYSTEM OF CLASSIFICATION AND LABELLING OF CHEMICALS

Physical hazards

Establishment of an OECD Ad Hoc Group on Physical Hazard Characterization

Note by the secretariat

1. The secretariat has received from OECD the attached information concerning the establishment of an OECD Ad Hoc Group on Physical Hazard Characterization.
2. In this respect, attention is drawn to the fact that a proposal, submitted by OECD to the GHS Sub-Committee at its fourth session, to designate the International Group of Experts on the Explosion Risks of Unstable Substances (IGUS), had not been adopted. See ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/8, para. 22, as reproduced below.

"22. The proposal by OECD in INF.17 to designate the International Group of Experts on the Explosion Risks of Unstable Substances (IGUS) as focal point for physical hazards was not adopted. The TDG Sub-Committee had acted as focal point for physical hazards during the development of the GHS, and had completed its work. Any new issue should now be brought first to the attention of the GHS Sub-Committee, who would refer it to the TDG Sub-Committee for resolution. The competence of IGUS in matters related to unstable substances was acknowledged, and the TDG Sub-Committee might then wish to seek assistance from IGUS experts, if appropriate, as it did in the past for the development of the Manual of Tests and Criteria."



ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT

DIRECTION DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT  
ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATEDivision Environnement, santé et sécurité  
Environment, Health and Safety Division

ENV/EHS/HK/ka/2003.47

23 September, 2003

To: International Group of Experts on the Explosion Risks of Unstable Substances (IGUS)

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Cc: Working Group of National Co-ordinators of the Test Guidelines Programme (WNT)  
European Commission (DGs Environment, Enterprise, Sanco, Science, JRC)  
BIAC (including ACC, CEFIC, Croplife International, ECETOC, JCIA)  
EEB  
ICAPO  
ILSI Europe/North America  
IPCS  
ISO  
TUAC  
National Delegations (letter only)

**Subject: Relation between OECD and IGUS**

Dear Dr Pfeil and Dr Roberts,

At the request of your International Group of Experts on the Explosion Risks of Unstable Substances (IGUS), the 15<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the WNT (Working Group of National Co-ordinators of the Test Guidelines Programme) in OECD discussed the offer from IGUS to adopt a formal structure to assist member countries in future development and review of draft Test Guidelines for physical chemical properties. Document ENV/JM/TG(2003)13 was drafted to assist the WNT with its discussion and briefly describes IGUS' request and provided background material explaining the Group's history and objectives. This document is attached to this letter for your information as Attachment 1.

In its introduction of this issue at the 15<sup>th</sup> WNT, the Secretariat explained the historic relationship of OECD with IGUS that goes back to the 1960s and emphasized that, in order to recognize an existing IGUS working group as a formal OECD Expert Group, a number of requirements have to be met. These



conditions were laid out in paragraph 8 of document ENV/JM/TG(2003)13. The Secretariat also explained the current structure of IGUS and the proposed position in that structure of the OECD Expert Group.

I can now inform you that the 15<sup>th</sup> WNT appreciated the offer from IGUS and agreed to establish an **OECD Ad Hoc Expert Group on Physical Hazard Characterisation** under the umbrella of IGUS. The WNT further agreed that the Secretariat should start the process as defined in paragraph 8 of document ENV/JM/TG(2003)13 in order to ensure that member countries will have an opportunity to comment on the current composition of the Expert Group and, as appropriate, could nominate additional experts.

As a first step, the Secretariat will start the procedure of requesting formal nominations of experts to the Expert Group by member countries, BIAC (Business and Industry Advisory Council to the OECD), TUAC (Trade Union Advisory Council to OECD) and appropriate NGOs. As discussed earlier, the Secretariat will recommend to the WNT to confirm the current membership and nominate additional experts, as appropriate. In order to facilitate this process I would appreciate if you could send me an up-to-date list of the current membership together with all available details, including affiliation, of all members. This information will be shared with the WNT when requesting confirmation/nomination of national experts to the Group.

Next, I would like to remind you that for each project for which the WNT will seek the input from the Expert Group on Physical Hazard Characterisation, the objectives and approaches of the work need WNT approval and that the Group reports directly to the WNT. Furthermore, the approach of the work should always be based on consensus solutions for all issues.

The Current Work plan, as described in document ENV/JM/TG(2003)14/REV1 (Attachment 2 to this letter) includes only three projects on physical chemical properties. Once established, the Expert Group's assistance may be sought in the near future on a technically complex issue related to the pH-metric method for measuring the partition coefficient.

I look forward to a long-lasting and very fruitful co-operation with IGUS.

Yours sincerely,

Herman B.W.M.Koëter  
Principal Administrator,  
Environment, Health and Safety Division

**ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE  
JOINT MEETING OF THE CHEMICALS COMMITTEE AND  
THE WORKING PARTY ON CHEMICALS, PESTICIDES AND BIOTECHNOLOGY**

**ENV/JM/TG(2003)13  
For Official Use**

**Test Guidelines Programme**

**OFFER FROM 'IGUS' TO ASSIST WITH THE TECHNICAL WORK INVOLVED IN THE  
DEVELOPMENT OF TEST GUIDELINES FOR PHYSICAL/CHEMICAL PROPERTIES**

**15th Meeting of the Working Group of National Co-ordinators of the Test Guidelines Programme (WNT)  
to be held at OECD Headquarters, 26th-28th May, 2003, OECD, Paris, beginning at 09h30 Monday the  
26th**

<p>Herman Koëter Email: <a href="mailto:Herman.Koeter@oecd.org">Herman.Koeter@oecd.org</a> Tel: +33(0)1.45.24.98.44 Fax: +33(0)1.45.24.16.75</p>
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Document complet disponible sur OLIS dans son format d'origine  
Complete document available on OLIS in its original format

**English - Or. English**

This document briefly describes the request of a scientific expert group, initially very active in the field of explosivity testing and later broadened to include all physical hazards, to be recognised as *ad hoc* OECD Expert Group. The document includes some background material explaining the group's history and objectives for the future.

***ACTION REQUIRED:***

***The Working Group of National Co-ordinators of the Test Guidelines Programme (WNT) is invited to take note of the request and to agree on the most appropriate way of co-operation between the IGUS experts and the WNT.***

## INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1. The International Group of Experts on the Explosion Risks of Unstable Substances (IGUS) was initially established as an OECD Expert Group as early as in 1962 to provide technical assistance with analysis of chemical accident case histories and harmonise national strategies for the testing of energetic substances. Later the Expert Group assisted with the development of the first OECD Test Guidelines for physical-chemical properties.

2. After the adoption of the first set of OECD Guidelines in May 1981, the Expert Group was never formally abolished and remained active as an independent scientific platform for discussions and information exchange on hazardous physical properties of chemicals and mixtures. Since 1981 the relationship of the IGUS group with OECD has been very informal and, apart from the effort by the National Co-ordinators to develop OECD Test Guideline(s) for flammability and explosive properties in the early 1990s, there has not been any need to consult with the IGUS Expert Group. However, the Group was never formally abolished.

3. Until today, members of the independent IGUS Expert Group are still experts from government laboratories and organisations in OECD member countries. Scientists from non-member countries are participating in the work as observers. During the last two decades IGUS has developed into a well-recognised scientific expert group of more than 50 expert from 18 OECD member countries working together and meeting on a voluntary basis.

4. Since its establishment in 1962, the IGUS Group has used the acronym OECD as part of its title (OECD-IGUS) as a semi-formal expression of international recognition. However, in 2002 the Secretariat explained that the more or less improper reference to OECD should be deleted from the title.

5. In response, IGUS requested to be formally recognised, again, as OECD Expert Group of Experts in Physical Hazards.

6. Since 1988 the IGUS Expert Group has also assisted the former UN Sub-Committee of Experts on Transport of Dangerous Goods (CETDG) with the work on test methods and development of hazard criteria for physical hazards relevant for transport and within the realm of their expertise. Considering this co-operation and OECD's leading role in the development and maintenance of the GHS, IGUS requested the Secretariat to propose to the newly established UN Sub-Committee of Experts on the GHS that IGUS be recognised as focal point for future work on physical hazard criteria.

7. More information about the IGUS Expert Group is provided on their web pages at: <http://www.oecdigus.org>.

## REQUEST FOR FORMAL (RE)ESTABLISHMENT AS AN OECD EXPERT GROUP

### Offer to assist with Test Guidelines for Physical Hazards

8. At their annual plenary meeting in March 2003, the IGUS membership endorsed a proposal to request the OECD Secretariat and the Working Group of National Co-ordinators of the Test Guidelines Programme to establish a new "OECD Expert Group on Physical Hazard Characterisation". This Expert Group, once established, would be a separately defined IGUS Expert Subgroup in a structure comprising two other defined IGUS expert subgroups (on energetic/oxydising substances and explosives/propellants/pyrotechnics, respectively) and the overarching plenary IGUS Group. The IGUS Group

recognised that, when it would be an OECD Expert Group, it will have to meet OECD requirements for Expert Groups including:

- Membership is nominated by OECD member countries; additional experts nominated by BIAC, TUAC and NGOs, as defined by the Joint Meeting, participate as expert observers;
- Objectives, tasks and approach of the work are set by the WNT;
- Responding to *ad hoc* requests for technical assistance from the WNT and/or Secretariat has high priority;
- The Group reports to the WNT; and
- Approach of work is based on seeking consensus solutions for all issues.

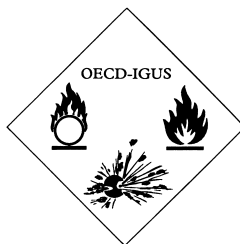
9. Further details of the request from IGUS are provided in Annex 1.

10. In considering the request, the National Co-ordinators are invited to take into account that: (a) the offer does not require any additional resources from member countries, (b) is without any time limit, (c) provides access to a well-recognised and independent source of knowledge in the area of physical hazard characterisation, and, (d) the work of the Group would be formally managed by the WNT, despite it being embedded in the IGUS structure. In return, the IGUS subgroup would be allowed to use the acronym OECD in the name of its Expert Group.

#### **Offer to Assist with Future Technical Revisions of Physical Hazard Classes of the GHS**

11. At the request of IGUS, the Secretariat proposed in December 2002 to the 4<sup>th</sup> Session of the UN Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonised System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (UN SCE GHS) to consider the assistance of IGUS for future revisions of the GHS in the area of physical hazards. The request was made as an Informal Paper (INF.17) to the 4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the UN SCE GHS in December 2002 (see INF. 5).

12. The UN SCE GHS did not adopt the proposal and stated in the report of the meeting (ST/SG/AC.10/C.4/8, paragraph 22) that: “The Transport of Dangerous Goods (TDG) Subcommittee had acted as focal point for physical hazards during the development of the GHS and had completed its work. Any new issue should now be brought first to the attention of the GHS Subcommittee, who would refer it to the TDG Subcommittee for resolution. The competence of IGUS in matters related to unstable substances was acknowledged, and the TDG Subcommittee might then wish to seek assistance from the IGUS experts, if appropriate, as it did in the past for the development of the “Manual of Tests and Criteria”.

**ANNEX 1**

**OECD-IGUS Plenary Meeting  
19 March 2003  
Frankfurt on the Main, Germany**

**Relation between OECD and IGUS:  
Amendments to the terms of reference of IGUS to enable better  
international recognition in the field of physical hazards**

*Proposal submitted by the Chairman and Secretary*

**1. Previous activities**

The following activities have taken place in regard to relations with OECD and development of the work on physical hazards:

- Meeting held with Dr. Herman Koëter on 1 August 2000 at the OECD Headquarters in Paris (see Annex 1)
- Discussion of the future relation between IGUS and OECD at the last Plenary Meeting on 15 June 2001 in Berlin and subsequent letter to OECD (see Annex 2)
- Discussions with Dr. Herman Koëter at the Steering Committee Meeting on 28 June 2002 at Buxton (see excerpt of draft minutes in Annex 3)
- Announcement to the UN Sub-Committee of Experts on the Globally Harmonized System of Classification and Labelling of Chemicals (UN SC GHS) made by the OECD Secretariat (see Annex 4)

**2. Current situation**

The task of making the GHS available worldwide and of keeping it up-to-date has been given to a new UN SC GHS. This Sub-Committee recognised that the most efficient way



of keeping the GHS up-to-date would be to use the resources and expertise of other organisations to assist in its work. At its meeting in December 2002 the UN SC GHS identified as the main focal points with specific expertise OECD and the UN Sub-Committee of Experts on the Transport of Dangerous Goods.

The latter has developed the physical hazards part of the GHS. With the inclusion in the GHS of the physical hazard classification, the GHS became the truly global system for classification of all physical/chemical hazards. By separating the general classification and labelling issues from the specific requirements for the transport of dangerous goods, the future tasks of the UN SC TDG will be restricted to the specific transport issues.

IGUS has long been recognised by the UN SC TDG as an expert group and has already contributed to the development of the GHS in the fire and explosion hazards area. In the early years of Test Guideline development in OECD (the 1970s and 1980s) IGUS has played an important role in the development of OECD Guidelines for physical properties. The current focus of OECD is mainly in the areas of health and environmental hazards. However, although currently only 4 projects in OECD focus on physical/chemical properties (2 projects on partition coefficient determinations, 1 on hydrolysis and 1 on vapour pressure), in the future there may be again the need to develop new or update existing Guidelines for physical properties. IGUS' interest in being recognized for its contribution by the new UN SC GHS meets with OECD's interest in taking the lead in the development and revision of harmonised hazard classification criteria and communication tools for all areas of chemical hazards identification, including hazards related to physical properties.

It has been many years since IGUS has had an official mandate from OECD. In practice, IGUS has grown into an expert group with worldwide recognition independent of OECD. It is no longer possible to use OECD in the title without having official OECD recognition of at least one expert group that is assisting the OECD in its work on chemical hazard characterisation (Test Guideline development and future revisions of the GHS).

### **3. Proposal**

It is proposed that IGUS should explore with OECD the establishment of a new expert group, provisionally called "OECD Expert Group on Physical Hazard Characterisation". This group will have to meet the OECD requirements for expert groups and have OECD member countries' approval in order to have official OECD recognition. The most important requirement is that experts should be nominated by member countries, recognised NGO's, BIAC (Business and Industry Advisory Committee to OECD) and TUAC (Trade Unions Advisory Committee to OECD).

IGUS as a whole (in future without OECD in its overarching name) will remain independent and can further its work according to the current terms of reference (TOR). However, the TOR will have to be amended to encompass the new expert group. The resulting structure of IGUS would be as shown below.



With some experts participating both in one of the IGUS' Working Groups and in the OECD Expert Group, IGUS could contribute as a whole to the OECD and to the UN SC TDG as well.

BAM, Berlin, is prepared to accept - within the OECD rules - the chairmanship of the OECD Expert Group.

#### 4. Actions

The members of IGUS are requested to:

- (a) Endorse the suggested way forward;
- (b) Give authority to the chairman to negotiate with OECD the establishment of the proposed new expert group;
- (c) Suggest names of experts from among their Working Groups to be considered by member countries in their nomination of experts to the new OECD Expert Group, including experts from industry. Initially, the total number of experts suggested by IGUS should be limited (preferably not exceed 15), because OECD member countries may wish to add other experts and
- (d) Agree to the amendment of the Terms of Reference as suggested in Annex 5. The new TOR to come into effect once OECD has accepted that the new Expert Group on Physical Hazards Characterisation be established.

**ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE  
JOINT MEETING OF THE CHEMICALS COMMITTEE AND  
THE WORKING PARTY ON CHEMICALS, PESTICIDES AND BIOTECHNOLOGY**

**Test Guidelines Programme**

**THREE-YEAR ROLLING WORKPLAN AND SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES 2003-2005  
FIRST YEAR: 2003, AS AGREED AT 15TH WNT**

**15th Meeting of the Working Group of National Co-ordinators of the Test Guidelines Programme (WNT)  
to be held at OECD Headquarters,  
26th-28th May 2003, Paris, beginning at 09H30 Monday the 26th**

<p>Herman Koëter Email: <a href="mailto:Herman.Koeter@oecd.org">Herman.Koeter@oecd.org</a> Tel: +33(0)1.45.24.98.44 Fax: +33(0)1.45.24.16.75</p>
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**JT00145857**

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## ACTIVITIES OF A GENERAL NATURE

<b>2003/0.1: Inventory of Data Requirements for Chemicals other than Pesticides</b>		
Priority [M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat / June 2001 2004 Not relevant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work will recommence September 2003</li> <li>• Proposal submission to WNT in February / March 2004</li> </ul>
<b>2003/0.2: Updating / Maintaining of Networks National Experts &amp; Improvements of Communication</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	NC's + Secretariat / summer 2000 Continuous effort Not relevant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basis is ENV/JM/TG/RD(2003)1</li> <li>• Info on TG WebPages (password protected)</li> <li>• Input from NC's before autumn 2003, if they wish to continue this document</li> </ul>
<b>2003/0.3: Updating / Maintaining Overview of All Active ad hoc Expert Groups</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat / 10 <sup>th</sup> NCM (Sept 98) Continuous effort Not relevant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basis is ENV/JM/TG/RD(2003)2</li> <li>• Info on TG WebPages (password protected)</li> </ul>
<b>2003/0.4: Updating /Maintaining TGP WebPages</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat / Continuous effort Not relevant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thorough revision of Endocrine Disrupters WebPages</li> <li>• Thorough revision of TGP main pages</li> <li>• New webpage for animal welfare issues</li> </ul>
<b>2003/0.5: Revision of Guidance Document No.76</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat / February 1998 Spring 2004 Not established <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circulation for review in early 2004.</li> </ul>
<b>2003/0.6: Update of OECD/ISO Comparison of Test Methods, Including Human Health-Related TGs</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat + US + France / fall 2003 16 <sup>th</sup> WNT May 2004 Not relevant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Updated information needed from ISO, requested in summer 2002</li> <li>• Secretariat with assistance of US and France will update document ENV/JM/TG/RD(99)3 as soon as ISO info is available</li> <li>• Circulation for comment to ECETOC/ACC/ASTM/ISO/CEN before circulation to WNT</li> </ul>

<b>2003/0.7: New Edition of the OECD Test Guidelines Publication in Three Volumes, Adding Declassified Guidance Documents</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat / summer 2003 Not relevant Not relevant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Negotiations with OECD PUB about availability as paper and on-line publication stated in late 2002</li> </ul>
<b>2003/0.8: Exploring the Appreciation and Preferred Level of Detail of Robust Study Summary Templates for Various Assessment Areas (e.g. Pesticides, ind. Chemicals)</b>		
Priority [M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat / 2 <sup>nd</sup> half 2003 16 <sup>th</sup> WNT May 2004 Not relevant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secretariat will explore the specific requirements, level of detail and other elements of assessment for various areas, including pesticides, industrial chemicals, etc. in order to evaluate the need and appreciation of RSST's - 2<sup>nd</sup> half 2003 / first half 2004</li> </ul>
<b>2003/0.9: Exploring the Individual Acceptance of Studies According to OECD TGs and Identifying Possible Differences in Requested Data</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	BIAC (?) / 2003 16 <sup>th</sup> WNT May 2004 Not relevant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Collection of information from data submission and registration to identify which TGs do not meet all OECD member countries' data requirements. Information will be provided in a generic way without any link to specific chemicals / products or notifier</li> </ul>

**SECTION 1: PROJECTS RELATED TO TEST GUIDELINES ON PHYSICAL-CHEMICAL PROPERTIES**

<b>2003/1.1: New Guideline for Partition Coefficient: Slow-Stirring Method</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Netherlands / 1996 – 1997 Late 2003 1997 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revised proposal (Version 2) will be circulated for review in August / September 2003</li> <li>• Submission to WNT is expected following the 2<sup>nd</sup> review round in January 2003 / February 2004</li> </ul>
<b>2003/1.2: New Guideline 122 for Partition Coefficient: pH-Metric Method</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat + UK / 1995 2004 Not considered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revised proposal expected from UK (submitter of the proposal) in summer 2003</li> <li>• Circulation for review in autumn 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/1.3: Revisions of Test Guideline 111 Hydrolysis as a Function of pH</b>		
	Project finished: agreement reached at 15 <sup>th</sup> WNT in May 2003. The proposal for TG 111 will be submitted to the Joint Meeting for approval.	
<b>2003/1.4: Revision of Test Guideline 104: Vapour Pressure</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Germany / 2001 2003 Not considered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Version 2 was submitted in April 2003 to 15<sup>th</sup> WNT for final approval</li> <li>• Agreement reached on the text of the guideline but not on Table 1 and the notes to the table</li> <li>• Revised table and notes including adequate information will be circulated in August 2003 to NC's for approval</li> </ul>

**SECTION 2: PROJECTS RELATED TO TEST GUIDELINES ON EFFECTS ON BIOTIC SYSTEMS**

<b>2003/2.1: Revision of TG 201 (Micro-Algae, Growth Inhibition Test)</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Norway / 1998 Late 2003 1998 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expert meeting will be held in autumn 2003</li> <li>• Circulation of final proposal (Version 3) for approval by WNT by the end of 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/2.2: Proposal for a New TG 221 for Aquatic Plants (<i>Lemna</i>)</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat / 1995 Late 2003 1997 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expert meeting will be held in autumn 2003</li> <li>• Circulation of final proposal (Version 5) for approval by WNT by the end of 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/2.3: New Guidance Document for Aquatic Field Studies</b>		
Priority [M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Germany + Secretariat / 1996 2003 Not considered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The revised draft proposal (Version 2) was submitted in April 2003 to the 15<sup>th</sup> WNT for approval</li> <li>• 15<sup>th</sup> WNT could not agree and recommended circulation of all comments with request for further guidance on scope of the GD</li> </ul>
<b>2003/2.4: Development of a Guidance Document on Statistical Analysis of Ecotoxicity Tests</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	France / autumn 2000 2003 2000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First draft GD received by the end of April 2003 and was circulated for review in May/June 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/2.5: Proposal for new TGs for Sediment Organisms 218-219(<i>Chironomidae</i>)</b>		
	Project finished: agreement reached at 15 <sup>th</sup> WNT in May 2003. The proposal for TGs 218-219 will be submitted to the Joint Meeting for approval.	
<b>2003/2.6: New TG 220 for Soil Annelid Reproduction Toxicity Test (<i>Enchytraed</i>)</b>		
	Project finished: agreement reached at 15 <sup>th</sup> WNT in May 2003. The proposal for TG 220 will be submitted to the Joint Meeting for approval.	
<b>2003/2.7: New TG 222 for Soil Earthworm Reproduction Test (<i>Eisenia</i>)</b>		
	Project finished: agreement reached at 15 <sup>th</sup> WNT in May 2003. The proposal for TG 222 will be submitted to the Joint Meeting for approval.	

<b>2003/2.8: New TG for Copepod Reproduction and Development</b>		
Priority [M/H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Sweden / Late 2002 2005 Autumn 2002 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> VMG-eco agreed in May 2003 on plan of action and meeting of the Expert Group</li> <li>• First TG proposal expected to be available for review in June 2003</li> <li>• Expert Meeting in October 2003 to discuss the proposal</li> </ul>
<b>2003/2.9: Updated Guideline 208 for Terrestrial Plant Toxicity</b>		
Priority [H/M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	BIAC + US + DK / 1997 2003-2004 1997 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A revised proposal (Version 2) will be circulated for review in summer 2003</li> <li>• Submission to WNT is expected in late 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/2.10: New Guideline for Avian Acute Toxicity</b>		
Priority [M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	BIAC / 1999 2003-2004 2000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal (Version 1) was circulated in October 2002 with a deadline for comment in February 2003</li> <li>• Revision is scheduled for November 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/2.11: Updated Guideline 205 on Avian Dietary Toxicity Test</b>		
Priority [M/L]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	BIAC / 1999 2003-2004 Not considered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal has not yet been received</li> </ul>
<b>2003/2.12: New Guidance Document for Avian Avoidance Studies</b>		
Priority [M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	BIAC / 1999 2003-2004 Not established <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal (Version 1) was circulated for review in February 2003, with a deadline for comments of 15<sup>th</sup> May 2003</li> <li>• Revised proposal (Version 2) is expected in autumn 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/2.13: Avian Reproductive Toxicity Test (1-generation)</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat / 1997 2003-2004 1997 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Validation study planned in USA</li> </ul>



<b>2003/2.14: 2-Generation Avian Toxicity</b>		
Priority [M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	US / 1999 2004-2005 1999 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal has not yet been received</li> </ul>
<b>2003/2.15: Development of New Test Guidelines for Dung Beetles and Dung Flies</b>		
Priority [M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	EC + Secretariat / 2003 2004-2005 Not considered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposals expected in June 2003</li> <li>• Circulation for review expected in August / September 2003</li> <li>• Further activity depends on review outcome</li> </ul>
<b>2003/2.16: Development of a DRP on 2- Generation Tests in Birds</b>		
	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	US / 2002 2003-2004 Covered by the Expert Group on Avian Reproduction <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft DRP was circulated in May 2003</li> <li>• Consideration of comments received: early autumn 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/2.17: Review of Chemical Notifications and Regulations with a View to Obtain Insight in the Role of Terrestrial Effects in the Overall Assessment</b>		
	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat + Spain / 2003 2004 Expert Group on Terrestrial Effect Assessment <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The work will be a joint activity of the TF – HCL and the WNT. The Expert Group will be based on the earlier established TEWG and the HCL Expert Group on Aquatic Environmental Hazards</li> <li>• Spain has offered to take a leading role</li> <li>• Work is expected to start after summer 2003</li> </ul>

**SECTION 3: PROJECTS RELATED TO TEST GUIDELINES ON DEGRADATION AND ACCUMULATION**

<b>2003/3.1: Proposal for a new TG for Accumulation in Sediment Worms</b>		
Priority [M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Germany / 1999 2005 1999 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ring Test underway</li> <li>• A proposal will be circulated in spring 2005</li> </ul>
<b>2003/3.2: Proposal for a new TG for Leaching Studies</b>		
	Project finished: agreement reached at 15 <sup>th</sup> WNT in May 2003. The proposal for TG 312 will be submitted to the Joint Meeting for approval.	
<b>2003/3.3: Development of New TG on Biocide Emission Rates from Treated Wood</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	CEN / Spring 2001 2002 CEN Working Group - 1999 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A proposal (Version 1) was circulated for review in February 2003 with a deadline for comment of 15<sup>th</sup> April 2003</li> <li>• A revised proposal (Version 2) is expected to be available for review in July / August 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/3.4: Proposal for TG(s) on Phototransformation in Water</b>		
Priority [L]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	USA / 1998 2004 Nominated Expert Meeting was held in Rome in 1998 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revised proposal (Version 2) is expected to be available for review by the end of 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/3.5: Phototransformation on Soil Surfaces</b>		
Priority [M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	BIAC / 2000 2004 Not considered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revised proposal (Version 2) is expected to be available for review in summer 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/3.6: Inherent Biodegradability for Poorly Water Soluble (and Soluble) Substances</b>		
Priority [L]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	UK / 2000 2004 Not considered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revised proposal (Version 2) for a new Guideline will be circulated for review in August 2003</li> </ul>

<b>2003/3.7: New TG 310: Aerobic Biodegradability: Head Space Method</b>		
Priority [M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	UK / 2000 2004 Not considered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revised proposal (Version 2) for a new Guideline will be circulated for review in August 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/3.8: New TG 311: Anaerobic Biodegradability</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	UK / 2000 2004 Not considered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revised proposal (Version 2) for a new Guideline was circulated for review in February 2003, with a deadline for comments of 30<sup>th</sup> April 2003</li> <li>Revised proposal (Version 3) is expected in summer 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/3.9: Development of a GD on Principles and Strategies for Biodegradability/Bioaccumulation</b>		
Priority [H/M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Denmark / Summer 2002 2004 Not considered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First draft will be submitted in May 2003</li> <li>Circulation for review is expected in June / July 2003</li> <li>Revised proposal (Version 2 ) is likely to be available in late autumn 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/3.10: Development of Guidance / TGs for Pesticide Residue Chemistry</b>		
Priority [M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	US / autumn 2003 2006-2007 Expert Group established late 2003 or early 2004 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Preparatory work organised by US in fall 2003</li> <li>First meeting of Expert Group in spring 2004</li> <li>Spring / summer 2005: draft proposals available for expert review</li> <li>Late 2005 / early 2006: final proposals available for expert review</li> </ul>

## SECTION 4: PROJECTS RELATED TO TEST GUIDELINES ON HEALTH EFFECTS

<b>2003/4.1: Development of the ATC method as alternative to TG 403</b>		
Priority [M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Germany / 2001 2005 2000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submission is not expected until December 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/4.2: New TG 433: Fixed Dose Procedure as Alternative to to TG 403</b>		
Priority [M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	UK / 2001 2004 2001 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposal (Version 1) was circulated in October 2002 with a deadline for comment in February 2003</li> <li>Comments require additional information from lead country</li> <li>Version 2 is expected to be available for review in late summer 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/4.3: New TG for Acute Dermal Toxicity: Fixed Dose Procedure</b>		
Priority [Not yet indicated]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	UK / 2003 2005 Not considered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First proposal expected in summer 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/4.4: New TG: <i>In vitro</i> Skin Corrosivity</b>		
Priority [H/M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	US / late 2001 2004 Not considered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submission received in March 2003</li> <li>Circulation for review (Version 1) originally scheduled in April/May 2003</li> <li>Resolving a blocking issue with lead country: June 2003</li> <li>Circulation for review (Version 1) in August 2003</li> <li>Revised proposal available for review in late 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/4.5: Development of a Working Paper/DRP on Cell Transformation Assays</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	France / 1996 (as proposal for TG on SHE cell assay) Early 2004 Not considered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revised version (Version 2) was circulated in December 2002 with a deadline of January 2003 for suggestions on follow-up work</li> <li>Revision Group was established in February 2003</li> <li>Revised proposal is expected by late summer 2003</li> </ul>

<b>2003/4.6: New TG for <i>in vitro</i> SHE Cell Transformation Assay</b>		
Priority [Not yet indicated]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	France / 2003 2004-2005 2002 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment of Expert Group after approval of DRP (see 2003/4.5)</li> </ul>
<b>2003/4.7: Development of a DRP on Transgenic Mice</b>		
Priority [M/L]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Canada / 1996 Mid 2003 Not considered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expected to be available for review by late autumn 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/4.8: New TG <i>In vitro</i> Micronucleus Test</b>		
Priority [M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	UK / after 2002 2005 May not be necessary <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposal has not yet been received</li> </ul>
<b>2003/4.9: Development of a Guidance Document for Neurotoxicity Testing</b>		
Priority [None – no SPSF]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Canada + Secretariat / 1996 2003 1996 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Submission of the revised proposal (Version 3) was received by Canada in April 2003</li> <li>Circulation to WNT for final approval in July 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/4.10: New TG 426: Developmental Neurotoxicity Testing</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat / June 1996 2004 Not considered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revised proposal (Version 2) available for review: early summer 2003 (with assistance of US EPA expert)</li> </ul>
<b>2003/4.11: Development of a Guidance Document on Reproductive Toxicity Testing and Assessment</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Denmark / 1996 Early 2004 1999 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting of Drafting Group in US in June/July 2003</li> <li>Draft (Version 1) available in late summer 2003</li> <li>Circulation for review: late 2003</li> </ul>

<b>2003/4.12: New TG: Uterotrophic Bioassay</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Japan / 2001 2004 Not considered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circulation of the proposal of new TG (Version 1) in late 2003, following peer review of the validation (see 2003/5.3)</li> </ul>
<b>2003/4.13: Revision of Test Guideline 417 on Toxicokinetics</b>		
Priority [M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	US / 2000 2005 2002 / 2003 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The establishment of the Expert Group has been delayed until the 35<sup>th</sup> Joint Meeting</li> <li>• It is expected that the Expert Group will be established in late summer 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/4.14: Development of a Guidance Document on Dose Selection in Life-Span Bioassays</b>		
Priority [H/M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat (provisionally) / 1997 2004 - 2005 Not considered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Input from ILSI Meeting on Guidance for MTD in June 2003</li> <li>• Circulation for review autumn 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/4.15: Revision of TG 451, 452, and 453 on Chronic Toxicity and Carcinogenicity</b>		
Priority [M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	BIAC / 1999 2004 - 2005 2000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First proposal expected to be available for review in autumn 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/4.16: Revision of TG 412: Repeat Dose Inhalation Toxicity</b>		
Priority [H/M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Netherlands / 2003 2005 Not considered <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First proposal expected to be available by the end of 2003</li> <li>• Circulation for expert review: early 2004</li> </ul>

## SECTION 5: SPECIAL ACTIVITIES

<b>2003/5.1: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Validation of the Uterotrophic Bioassay</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	VMG–mammalian + Japan (lead laboratory) / March 1998 (EDTA 1) 2003 VMG-mammalian – November 1998 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experimental work finished</li> <li>• Phase 2 report approved by VMG-mammalian</li> <li>• Submitted to EDTA 7 for approval and to 15<sup>th</sup> WNT for endorsement</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.2: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Develop Bridging Data for Inclusion of the Mouse in the Uterotrophic Bioassay</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Japan + Secretariat / March 2001 (VMG-mammalian 3) 2003-2004 covered by VMG-mammalian <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Experimental work on bridging data finished</li> <li>• Comprehensive report expected from Japan in late summer 2003</li> <li>• Circulation for review and approval by VMG-mammalian in autumn 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.3: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Peer Review of the Validation of the Uterotrophic Bioassay</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat / summer 2003 December 2003 / Early 2004 Peer Review Panel <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Establishment Peer Review Panel in June/July 2003</li> <li>• Start of the work: August</li> <li>• Expected final report: December 2003/ February 2004</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.4: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Validation of the Hershberger Assay: Adult Castrated Animal Model</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	VMG-mammalian + US (lead laboratory) / March 1998 (EDTA 1) 2004 VMG-mammalian – November 1998 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Phase 2 work finalised in summer 2003</li> <li>• Phase 2 report is expected to be available in early 2004</li> <li>• Phase 3 workplan will be submitted to VMG-mammalian in June 2003</li> <li>• After approval, Phase 3 work is expected to start in summer 2003 and be completed in February 2004</li> </ul>

<b>2003/5.5: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Validation of the Hershberger Assay: Juvenile Male Model</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	VMG-mammalian + US (lead laboratory) / autumn 2003 2005 VMG-mammalian – November 1998 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposal for bridging studies to be developed by experts of the VMG and Secretariat in June 2003</li> <li>• Submitted for review and approval to VMG-mammalian in June 2003</li> <li>• Work is expected to start in summer 2003 and be completed by February 2004</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.6: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Validation of the Enhanced TG 407</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat + BIAC / March 1998 (EDTA 1) 2004 EDTA VMG-mammalian – November 1998 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting of subgroup of VMG-mammalian on 24 May to discuss details of Phase 2 report</li> <li>• Report of Phase 2 expected in summer/early autumn 2003</li> <li>• Phase 2 Report approval in late 2003</li> <li>• Overall approval of validation work in spring 2004</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.7: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Development of a DRP on Fish Screening Methods</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat + US / early 2002 2003 National US activity <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First draft (Version 1) circulated to experts in 2002</li> <li>• Revised version circulated in May 2003</li> <li>• Finalisation expected by the end of 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.8: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Development and Validation of Fish-Screening Tests (for E.D.'s)</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat + Japan / 1998 2004-2005 VMG-eco – autumn 2000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• VMG-eco discussed initial results in May 2003</li> <li>• Phase 1a completed in summer 2003</li> <li>• Fish expert meeting in UK: September 2003</li> <li>• Report of Phase 1a expected in early autumn 2003</li> <li>• VMG-eco approval to start Phase 1b in autumn 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.9: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Development and Validation of a Fish Life-Cycle Test</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	US + Germany + Japan / 2000 2005 VMG-eco – autumn 2000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Draft DRP submitted by the US in Nov. 2002 and circulated for comments</li> <li>• Validation work, as needed, will be managed by VMG-eco. Starting date not yet established</li> </ul>



<b>2003/5.10: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: New TG for Mysid Life Cycle Toxicity Test</b>		
Priority [M/H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	US / second half 2002 2004-2005 autumn 2000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> VMG-eco agreed in May 2003 on plan of action and meeting of the Expert Group</li> <li>• Expert meeting in October 2003</li> <li>• First TG proposal expected to be available for review late 2003/early 2004</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.11: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Development and Validation of Methods in Amphibians</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat / late 2000 2004-2005 autumn 2000 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expert Group will meet in Duluth in June 2003: development of action plan;</li> <li>• Await outcome of DRP (see 2003/5.22) and Duluth Meeting</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.12: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: "Share the Burden" on Endocrine Disrupters Assessment. Part 1: establish website, add documents</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat / autumn 2002 Not relevant Covered by TF-EDTA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of front page templates in March 2003</li> <li>• Review of submitted documents and completion of templates: February-August 2003</li> <li>• Soliciting additional national documents: autumn 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.13: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: "Share the Burden" on Endocrine Disrupters Assessment. Part 2: collect national lists of chemicals of interest</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat / spring 2003 Not relevant Covered by TF-EDTA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Request for national lists of chemicals: summer 2003</li> <li>• Collecting and collating lists of chemicals plus selection criteria: autumn 2003</li> <li>• Adding all lists to the webpages: autumn 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.14: <u>Animal Welfare Activity</u>: New Guidance Document No.34 on Validation</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat / February 1998 Winter 2003-2004 June 1998 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting of the Drafting Group: March 2003</li> <li>• Drafting work is expected to be completed in May/June 2003</li> <li>• Redrafting of the GD using all submissions and taking all comments into account: July-October 2003</li> <li>• Revised proposal (Version 2) available for review: late autumn 2003</li> </ul>

<b>2003/5.15: <u>Animal Welfare Activity</u>: Workshop on Data Interpretation Procedure as Follow-Up to the Stockholm Conference</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat + Germany / August-September 2003 late 2003 Workshop Steering Committee, August/September 2003 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Workshop provisionally scheduled for December 2003, hosted by Germany</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.16: <u>Miscellaneous Activities</u>: Workshop on Toxicogenomics</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat + IPCS / summer 2003 Not relevant Not relevant <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>As requested by the 33<sup>rd</sup> Joint Meeting as a follow-up to the Special Session on Toxicogenomics: a Workshop will be organised on possibilities and limitations of the use of toxicogenomics in environmental assessment. Objectives: proposal for a plan of action. Workshop provisionally scheduled for spring 2004</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.17: <u>Miscellaneous Activities</u>: Development of Criteria for Valid QSARs and Validation of Promising QSARs</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat / late 2003 Late 2004 Expert Group on (Q)SARs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work item 1: apply development / validation principles to selected (Q)SARs in use: second half 2003</li> <li>Develop guidance for development, validation and regulatory use of (Q)SARs; start late 2003</li> <li>arrange for making acceptable (Q)SARs broadly available: 2004-2005</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.18: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Development of a DRP on Thyroid Hormone Disruption Assays, Covering <i>in vivo</i> and <i>in vitro</i> Methods and Mechanisms of Action</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	US / summer 2003 2004 Covered by VMG-NA, VMG-eco, VMG-mammalian <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ICAPO discussion paper will be circulated for comments in June 2003</li> <li>August / September: comments on ICAPO paper forwarded to US</li> <li>December 2003: first draft of DRP available for review</li> </ul>

<b>2003/5.19: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Development and Validation of a New TG: Partial Life Cycle Test in Fish</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Denmark / late 2003 2005 Covered by VMG-eco <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work will start when the validation of the fish screening test is well underway: hopefully late 2003/early 2004</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.20: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Development of a DRP on Non-Animal Assays for Steroidogenesis Assessment</b>		
Priority [M/H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	US / 2002 2004 Covered by VMG-NA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Formal circulation of the Draft DRP in spring 2003</li> <li>• Revised draft available in autumn 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.21: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Development of a DRP on Non-Animal Assays for Aromatase Assessment</b>		
Priority [H/M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	US / 2002 2003 Covered by VMG-NA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First draft proposal available March 2003</li> <li>• Comments are expected by June 2003</li> <li>• Final DRP is expected in September/October 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.22: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Development of a DRP Amphibian Metamorphosis Assays</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	US + Secretariat / 2002 2003 Covered by VMG-eco <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First draft proposal was circulated in autumn 2002</li> <li>• Revised version available for circulation in August/September 2003</li> <li>• Finalisation in late 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.23: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Development of a DRP on Crustacean Testing</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	US + Secretariat / 2002 2004 Covered by VMG-eco <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First draft proposal was circulated in autumn 2002</li> <li>• Revised version available for circulation in late 2003</li> <li>• Expert Group meeting in October 2003</li> </ul>

<b>2003/5.24: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Development of a DRP on Fish Testing</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	US + Secretariat / 2002 2003-2004 Covered by VMG-eco <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First draft proposal was circulated in spring 2003</li> <li>• Revised version available for circulation end of 2003, taking into account the Japanese desk study</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.25: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Desk Study of Existing Literature on Transgeneration Effects in Fish</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Japan / 2003 2003 Covered by VMG-eco <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Study expected to be available before the end of 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.26: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Inter-comparison Studies of VTG Measurement Methodologies</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	US + France / 2002 2003-2004 Covered by VMG-eco <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First draft report available from US: spring 2003</li> <li>• Final report from US study expected: late spring 2003</li> <li>• First draft report available from France: summer 2003</li> <li>• Final report from France expected early autumn 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.27: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Development of a DRP on Non-Animal Assays for Metabolism Assessment</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Belgium (?) / 2003 2003-2004 Covered by VMG-NA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start of the DRP development: summer 2003</li> <li>• Draft DRP available for review: late 2003</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.28: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Development of a Background Review Document to Support the Hershberger Assay</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	US / 2003 2004 Covered by VMG-mammalian <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Start of the work: summer 2003</li> <li>• Draft Document available for expert review: spring 2004</li> </ul>

<b>2003/5.29: <u>EDTA Special Activity</u>: Promotion of the Validation of (Q)SAR Methods for ED Assessment</b>		
Priority [H]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Japan + US + EC / late 2003 or early 2004 Not relevant (Q)SAR Task Group of VMG-NA <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Task Group will be established late 2003 or early 2004</li> <li>• Task Group will identify and collect data to support the development and validation of (Q)SAR models for ED assessment</li> <li>• The Task Group's output will serve as input to the Expert Group on (Q)SARs (see 2003/5.17)</li> </ul>
<b>2003/5.30: <u>Animal Welfare Activity</u>: Workshop on the Use of Human Data as Reference in Validation Studies as Follow-Up to the Stockholm Conference</b>		
Priority [M]	Lead / Start Date: Submission to WNT: Expert Group established: Major upcoming events:	Secretariat / 2004 2004 Workshop Steering Committee late 2003-early 2004 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshop is provisionally scheduled for first half 2004, depending on input from IPCS and US EPA/NAS</li> </ul>