

Defining a position paper by ICOH

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Types of scientific papers developed by ICOH

- It is a scientific paper that can be used for decision makers.
- Guideline
- We may have *overviews* and *reviews*
- We have proceeding
- It must be approved by relevant members of ICOH
- Consensus documents
- Fact sheets

Definition

- Should be evidence based
- Fully independently developed
- For policy makers
- Directed to users (users to be defined)
- Collectively agreed on within ICOH

Definition of a position paper:

- Must be evidence based
- Compact short, i.e. 3-4 pages only
- Concise
- Should contain scientific references.
- If exceeding 3-4 pages, it should start with an abstract - preferably 1 page only.
- It is independent, evidence based and non political.

For whom?

- Policy makers
- Regulators
- Scientific community
- Social partners
- Social actors, i.e. NGOs

Criteria for PP

- Based on sound, up-to-date scientific evidence
- What should we think of the scientific evidence?
- What should we do on the basis of scientific evidence?
- Social relevance
- Potential health and safety impact
- Recommendations based on sound evidence

Mechanism of developing a PP

- Based on extensive and critical review
- Competent drafting
- Subsequently multidisciplinary contributions
- Should be developed in accord with article 8 in the Guidelines for SCs
- *Initiatives* by (in accord with article 8):
 - External initiatives, i.e. NGOs
 - SCs
 - ICOH officers
 - Involving relevant scientific community

ICOH should be the publisher of ICOH Position Papers

- Background scientific review should be published in an scientific journal, if relevant and appropriate.
- Position papers should be official ICOH documents - published in in accord with article 8 in the SC guidelines.
- Should be available on the ICOH WEB-site

Candidate position papers

- Asbestos
- Video work and vision
- Prevention of hazards in pesticide use
- Biomonitoring in occupational health
- Health impact enterprise restructuring
- Health impact of NANO materials

