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