

DRAFT AGENDA

Meeting:	Workshop to present the findings - EU-OSHA project on prevention of work-related diseases due to biological agents exposure at work
Date:	10th of October, 2017
Time:	8:30 – 17:15
Place:	Hilton hotel, Schiphol Amsterdam

Between 2015 and 2017, EU-OSHA has carried out a project to address the lack of knowledge and awareness of exposures to biological agents and the related health problems and the lack of a systematic approach to workplace prevention regarding these risk factors at work. The aim was to raise awareness of exposed professions, especially those with unintentional use of biological agents, increase information on related health problems including infectious diseases, acute toxic effects, and allergies, and support efforts to prioritise and structure prevention.

As part of the project a workshop will take place on 9th and 10th of October either in Brussels or Amsterdam where the findings of the project will be presented and discussed. This will include the results of a literature review and the exploration of selected monitoring systems. It will also provide information on the policies in place collected through expert interviews and focus groups with workplace practitioners in five Member states. A number of sectors/occupations were addressed more specifically (animal-related occupations, waste treatment, healthcare, arable farming, and traveling occupations).

The purpose of the meeting is to inform stakeholders about the main findings, and enable a discussion with relevant experts and stakeholders from the Member states and the EU level on what should/can be done at both the European and the national level to prevent work-related diseases and (better) control risk associated with exposure to biological agents at the workplace.

A draft report and/or summary will be sent to participants in advance of the meeting together with questions for the discussion.

A seminar summary will be published online after the meeting and the results of discussions will be incorporated in the final report of the EU-OSHA project.

Draft Agenda

Hours	Activity	Presenter/Coordinator
08:30-09:00	Registration and coffee	
09:00-09:15	Welcome and introduction	Elke Schneider, EU-OSHA
09:15-09:30	Introductory remarks	European Commission
09:30-10:30	Brief description of the methodology and summary of key findings: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Overview over occupations •Emerging issues •Views of experts and practitioners on the prevention policies in place •Information on selected systems for monitoring work-related diseases due to biological agents and exposure (diseases and sectors covered, access to data, data on exposure, limitations of the current systems) •Relevance of findings for the implementation of EU Directive 2000/54/EC 	Suzanne Spaan (TNO) Nicole van Kesteren (TNO)
10:30-10:45	Questions & discussion	
10:45-11:15	Coffee break	
11:15-11:45	Germany's national System for prevention of risks from biological agents - the role of the committee for biological agents and its cooperation with other bodies.	Dr. Gabriela Förster, Committee for biological agents, Germany
11:45-12:15	Germany's national System for prevention of risks from biological agents - the role of the committee for biological agents and its cooperation with other bodies.	Prof. Gérard Lasfargues, ANSES, France
12:15-12:45	Biological agents and the Finnish experience on OSH in agriculture	Kyösti Louhelainen, Finland
12:45-13:00	Questions and discussion with participants	
13:00-14:00	Lunch	
14:00-14:15	Introduction to group discussion/division into groups	Eelco TNO

Hours	Activity	Presenter/Coordinator
14:15-15:45	<p>Discussion in subgroups about specific questions.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Monitoring of diseases and exposures to biological agents 2. Policies in place to manage and control exposures to biological agents at the workplace 3. Specific sectors and occupations, incl. emerging issues and unintentional exposures 4. EU directive on biological agents – relevance of the findings <p>Discussions will also cover transferability issues and the need for international collaboration and the roles of different actors as well as the relevance for other policy areas, e.g. public health.</p>	
15:45-16:00	Coffee break	
16:00-16:45	Feedback from group discussion	Chairs and rapporteurs of the four groups
16:45-17:00	Summary of the discussion	TNO
17:00-17:15	Conclusions and future steps	Elke Schneider, EU-OSHA