

# **EFSA/WHO Stakeholder Meeting on Threshold of Toxicological Concern**

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# TTC

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EFSA/WHO expert meeting on TTC



# Background

- **More unintended chemicals will be detected:**
  - in food and drinking water, as well as in our bodies
  - In light of ever improving methods in analytical chemistry
- **In light of incomplete data need an approach:**
  - to estimate the potential human health impact
  - to prioritize for further actions and make informed risk management decisions
  - to allow for a risk assessment of these new exposures
- **The TTC is a pragmatic risk assessment tool, based on:**
  - conservative, screening-level exposure limits
  - chemical structure and estimated exposure
  - comparison with known chemicals



# Background

- This initiative builds on previous work
- Is intended to update/revise TTC taking new scientific knowledge into account
- Include stakeholder views
- Provide guidance on TTC application to risk assessors and risk managers
- The overall goal: development of a globally harmonised decision tree for a tiered approach on the application of TTC in the risk assessment of chemicals



# Objectives

- **This joint activity intends to provide recommendations as to:**
  - **If/how the existing TTC framework may be updated and expanded by updating/revising the Cramer classification scheme**
  - **Clarify application of the TTC approach to specific structural classes, thereby building on existing and ongoing work in this area**
  - **Identify/confirm exclusion criteria**
  - **Provide clarity as to the application of the TTC approach**



# Call for Data

- On 5 August 2013, a public call for data for global scientific information
- A background paper developed based on this info and taking all the work already undertaken by EFSA in this area into account



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*WHO Project to Review*  
the Threshold of Toxicological Concern Approach

Call for data

Posted 5 August 2013



# Call for Experts

- **Call for experts published on 30 September 2014**
  - **50 applicants**

- **Selection of experts**

- **Criteria: TTC experience/publications, technical expertise, working language of English, representation from different geographic and economic regions, gender balance, conflict of interests, and diversity of experience and scientific backgrounds**
- **Selected experts: 26**



# Call for Stakeholder input

- **To allow for sufficient stakeholder input (over and above the public call for data already published)**
- **A call for interest was published with detailed questions:**
  - **Cramer classification scheme**
  - **Underlying scientific principles**
- **70 respondents, 9 requests to present**
- **Meeting Agenda published**





# Stakeholder event

- **Moderated event**
- **All stakeholders present their view and interests in an open forum.**
- **All experts invited for the subsequent expert meeting attended the public meeting.**
- **A short report of all issues raised will be presented and considered during the expert meeting.**



*"Only if we act together can we respond effectively to international food safety problems and ensure safer food for everyone"*

*Dr Margaret Chan – Director-General*



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**Thank you**