Draft Notes
HPV Conference Steering Committee
International Subcommittee Conference Call
Thursday August 17, 2006

Participants: Luke Trip, CEC; Dianne Dugas, LA DHH; Nora Lopez, EPA Region 2; Russell White, API; Jeff Burke, NPPR; Karen Hoffman and Christina Thompson, EPA HQ; Jennifer Griffith and Terri Goldberg, NEWMOA

The call began with a summary of the status of overall conference planning by Terri Goldberg. The near-final agenda and conference registration should be posted on the website in early September. There will now be three tracks instead of four - the data uses and interpretation and the data accessibility tracks have been combined. Terri noted that she will probably convene conference call of the whole Steering Committee in September to firm up the agenda. She noted that there is a plan to have an exhibit area, and asked the participants to start thinking about possible exhibits.

Review of the Proposals that Were Submitted

There are seven concurrent session slots for the international track – so we need seven panels of three speakers each, or 21 speakers. We received four presentation proposals that the call participants agreed all looked fine for the track.

Session 2C has two presentations, but needs a third company/trade association. Nora noted that Puerto Rico has a lot of pharmaceutical companies and she has some contacts from which she will try to find a good speaker.

Terri has suggested that Session 3C focus on chemical prioritization efforts in the US, Canada and Europe; however, specific presenters are not yet identified.

Session 4 C could be on the CEC, Canada, and Mexico. Luke is all set as a speaker from the CEC and Luke will help with contacting a speaker at Environment Canada. Luke thought that the CEC might be able to find a good speaker from Mexico.

Session 7C would focus on REACH in Europe. Jeff Burke at NPPR is helping organize this session. Currently it looks like Andrew Fasey will speak on the REACH program and they will contact Rob Doneker from the EC to present. The group would like to add a global company to provide their perspective – Luke might have contacts.

Session 8C could focus on what is going on in Asia. This is a huge region as it includes both China and India. Both Canada and the US have programs with these countries. In addition, Japan has contacted the EPA and was invited to send a proposal – but we have not yet received one. Jeff noted that NPPR has contacts through the Asia Pacific Roundtable, and will see about ideas for topics and speakers.

Sessions 6C and 9C have no focus at this point. Some asked about having a presentation about what the UN is doing? UNEP has and HPV program – Luke has contacts. The International Council of Chemical Associations is doing a strategic assessment of chemicals management

Call participants liked the geographical approach – organizing sessions around different regions. Nora will contact Michele Price on International TRI efforts. Latin America? Luke will investigate contacts in Brazil and Chile.

Terri noted the lack of involvement by international NGO's. Participants thought their perspective should be integrated into the sessions as much as possible. Terri will contact Daryl Ditz to discuss. Ken Geiser or Joel Tickner might have NGO contacts as well – Terri will contact them.

How about the companies that transport these chemicals? How are they regulated? Would be interesting to have the trucking and/or bulk carriers association perspective on HPV?

Terri mentioned at Shelly Metzenbaum has an idea to work with ASTDR statistics on accidents and spills to see how they can be used to protect public health. This could be relevant.

Also – the ICCA in Brussels has a list of chemicals as well – they were taken off the HPV list – where did they go? What is happening to them? It would be good to find out/have a presentation on. Nora will see if she can find a contact through the EPA's International Office.

Call participants also noted that for the international track, getting travel visas is an important consideration and therefore need as much time to get the necessary approvals as possible. Therefore, we need to get this track nailed down as soon as possible.

Everyone agreed to cc Terri on all the contacts they make. Call participants agreed that we should have another conference call of this subcommittee soon – Thursday September 7th at 1:30 EST was agreed upon.

Next Steps

The following were the next steps identified by the group:

- Hold a follow-up conference call of the Subcommittee on Thursday September 7th at 1:30 EST
- Terri and Jennifer will revise the draft straw agenda to incorporate the proposed sessions
- Terri and Jennifer will contact the individuals and groups that submitted proposals that the Subcommittee recommended for inclusion in the conference agenda
- Luke will follow-up to make contacts with international companies dealing with REACH; and with officials from Mexico, Brazil, Chile, and UNEP;
- Nora will follow-up to make contacts with pharmaceutical companies in Puerto Rico; Michele Price on Africa; and the EPA International Office on the ICCA work
- Jeff will follow-up to make contacts with the Asia Pacific Roundtable to see about developing a session focused on Asia
- Terri will follow-up to make contacts with Daryl Ditz, Ken Geiser, and Joel Tickner regarding international NGO participation

Terri will reconvene the whole Steering Committee for a call in September to firm up and finalize the agenda