

**Dear ecopa messenger subscriber,**

With the final hearing in the European Parliament on December 13, 2006, the REACH Chemical Legislation has come to a (preliminary) halt; by now, the implementation and the selection of the Executive Director of the new European Chemical Agency will be of essence and determine how REACH will be working.

The 7th *ecopa* Annual Workshop "**REACH for help, science back up?**" had delivered the impact essentials (» [List of presentations](#); » [Pictures](#)). The meeting also reported on the "REACH impact report" of the *ecopa*/CONAM Working Group on Chemical Policy. [This report is now ready to be distributed](#). It will also be a major part of the final report on the CONAM 6th FP EU project that will end by end of March 2007; the CONAM project in general was and is certainly a success story for *ecopa*. So, these comprehensive reports mentioned will be available on the *ecopa*-website soon.

There are updates in this newsletter on the 6th EU Framework Programme projects that *ecopa* is participating in, such as ReProTect, PREDICTOMICS and Sens-it-iv, Liintop, Bio-Sim, CARCINOGENOMICS.

On December 18, 2006, the Commission and Industry partnership epaa had their first convention in Brussels. The first results of the working groups of this partnership were presented, and can be found here.

 <http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/epaa/conf.htm>

Also, the planning of *ecopa*'s activities in 2007 and beyond was discussed and agreed on by March 6 at the *ecopa*-Board Meeting which addressed more specifically the finish of the CONAM-project in review.

 [PDF: Major dates / Time schedule 2007/2008 for CONAM / ecopa \(41 kb\)](#)

 [Pictures of the ecopa Board Meeting](#)

Any proposal or recommendation regarding style, content or distribution of the newsletter is highly welcome and appreciated ([bgarthoff@t-online.de](mailto:bgarthoff@t-online.de)).

Let me wish you a Happy Easter!

Bernward Garthoff  
Treasurer *ecopa* on behalf of the *ecopa* Management Board

P.S.: If you know other people or institutions interested, have them visit our website and [subscribe to this newsletter](#).

**Issue # 11 (March 2007)**

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## II.1 EU 6th Framework Programme Projects / ecopa Working Groups

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## I.1. General News

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### I.1.1. Recent News on REACH:

The special REACH animal testing-calculator (free download) makes the impact of REACH "visible" to the public.

 [XLS: REACH Animal Use Calculator \(572 kb\)](#)

Most of the facts and the implementation aspects of REACH are found in the 60-page-report "Impact of REACH", first edition of a new series of *ecopa*-publications (electronic version). A print-version will follow soon.

Beyond the EU 6th FP project CONAM, the *ecopa*-Chemical Policy Working Group will now focus on aspects of implementation of REACH.

The REACH implementation is further progressing by the search for the first executive director of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) headquartered in Helsinki, start operating on June 1, 2007, with an initial 5-year term in office. During the early months, the new director and the other newly recruited staff (about 100 by the end of 2007, 450 by 2010) will be supported by 40 officials seconded from the Commission.



[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/reach/ed\\_publication\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/reach/ed_publication_en.htm)

The CASCADE - network organisation at the Karolinska Institut Novum is organizing an Open Forum that takes up the *ecopa* -theme of our workshop in February 2006 , i. e. "REACH in reality "- How will consumers, industry, NGOs, authorities and researchers accommodate their activities to the new reality under REACH?

It is organized for April 18 in Helsinki, deadline for registration is April 10.



<http://www.cascadenet.org>

### I.1.2. More EU REACH information

#### European Partnership on Alternative Approaches to Animal Testing (EPAA)



<http://www.epaa.eu.com>

The EU Commission under lead of Commissioners Verheugen and Potocnik, had initiated a partnership program with the industry and industry associations resp. individual companies. A first kick off meeting was held on November 7, 2005 – a follow-up on this approach "**Europe goes alternative**" will be held each year.

In the year 2006, the follow-up workshop took place on **December 18, 2006** at the European Commission, Charlemagne, S 3, Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat / B-1040 Brussels, Belgium.

The presentations can be consulted on the website:



<http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/epaa/conf.htm>

The press release of December 18, 2006:



[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/epaa/conf\\_2006\\_press\\_release.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/epaa/conf_2006_press_release.pdf)

Progress report:



[http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/epaa/epaa\\_progress\\_report\\_2006.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/epaa/epaa_progress_report_2006.pdf)

The EPAA has agreed for 21 activities to be carried out over the next 5 years.

A mirror group of stakeholders including animal welfare bodies and patient groups had input into the process in the first Mirror Group Meeting on Oct. 12, 2006. Participants from *ecopa*: Vera Rogiers, Horst



## I.2. Other News

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### I.2.1. Nanotech

Besides of the discussions on the [ecopa Annual Workshop 2005](#) on new technologies, several partners have worked and discussed on nanotechnology, e.g. [at the last eSI-workshop](#).

The US Environmental Protection Agency ( EPA) and its Science Policy Council has issued a nanotechnology white paper. The paper is aimed at providing information on the science issues and needs associated with nanotechnology, and to communicate them to stakeholders and the public.



<http://www.epa.gov/osa/nanotech.htm>



## II.1. EU 6th Framework Programme Projects / *ecopa* Working Groups

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Details, Minutes, Contract numbers and alike will be dispatched on the FORUM pages in future, once activated by the individual teams.

### NOTICE:

To avoid misunderstandings and because of inquiries at the *ecopa* Annual Meeting December 2005 - please, be informed and take note that the abstracts of the EU 6th FP Projects are original abstracts of the project proposals submitted to the EU Commission in most cases, and are not supposed to be adapted after the final contract agreements. Therefore, they will remain and read in their initial form.



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### II.1.1.1. Recent News

Representatives of *ecopa* in EU projects 6th Framework Programme:

- *SSA project ForInViTox* (Forum for researchers and regulators to meet manufacturers of toxicology test methods) - *ecopa* is represented by Dr. Odile De Silva.
- *BioSim* - Flavia Zucco accepted the invitation to represent *ecopa* in this EU Project
- *CarcinoGENOMICS* - Bernward Garthoff is the *ecopa* representative in this upcoming IP FP6 project. *ecopa* has taken over the Work Package of dissemination of results of the consortium. A questionnaire of the WP 11 regulatory group will soon be on the *ecopa* website for consultation.
- *ACute Tox* - Peter Maier is the representative in the Advisory Board.
- *Sens-it-iv* - Vera Rogiers is the representative in the Advisory Board, and *ecopa* is seconding in the dissemination of results
- *PREDICTOMICS* - Bernward Garthoff is the representative in the Advisory Board
- *Liintop* - Horst Spielmann is the representative in the Advisory Board
- *ReProTect* - Karin Gabrielson, Vera Rogiers and Bernward Garthoff (Chair) are representatives on the Supervising Board, and *ecopa* is seconding in the dissemination of results

The CONAM Review Board Meeting took place on October 20, 2006 in Brussels at the Vrije Universiteit Brussels.

The CONAM and Board review meeting was held on the 6th of March 2007 in Paris.

The next *ecopa* Board will be held on September 27, 2007 in Linz, before the 14th Congress on Alternatives to Animal Testing & review.

### II.1.1.2. Platforms

#### II.1.1.2.1. Austrian Platform

» [z e t - Austrian Centre for Alternative and Complementary Methods to Animal Testing](#)

- In spring 2007, the new zet Life Science Laboratory will start its research activities. The laboratory is located in Linz, Austria. Zet will continue its research projects and in 2007, and specially focus on the following subjects:
  - (i)The Hen Egg Test (HET-CAM) as a model for tumour research.
  - (ii)Alternatives to the use of foetal calf serum for cell cultures.
  - (iii)The new EU chemicals policy (REACH) and its impact on the Austrian law on animal experiments
  - (iv) Another subject of interest and engagement is the revision of the Directive 86/609/ EEC on the

protection of animals used for experimental and other scientific purposes.

- The next congress will take place on September 28-30, 2007, the "14th Congress on Alternatives to Animal Testing & 11th Annual Meeting of MEGAT - Middle European Society for Alternatives to Animal Testing", Linz, Austria



[PDF: Announcement and call for papers \(52 kb\)](#)

#### **II.1.1.2.2. Belgian Platform**

» [Foundation Prince Laurent](#)

#### **II.1.1.2.3. Czech Platform**

» [CZECOPA](#)

#### **II.1.1.2.4. Danish Platform**

» DACOPA

- Prof. Ove Svendsen stepped down as chairman of Dacopa and is now followed-up by Prof. Jann Hau.

#### **II.1.1.2.5. Dutch Platform**

» [NCA - The Netherlands Centre Alternatives to Animal User](#)

#### **II.1.1.2.6. Finnish Platform**

» [Fincopa](#)

- Fincopa, the Finnish national platform of *ecopa* was officially established in Tampere September 21, 2003, during the Scandinavian Workshop on In Vitro Toxicology, in a meeting of 10 Finnish participants representing academia, industry, animal welfare and government. In the meeting the goals of this Finnish national platform were defined and a draft of the rules of Fincopa was presented. Fincopa was registered as an official society in the Register of Foundations by the National Board of Patents and Registration of Finland November 09, 2004.



[PDF: Fincopa Activity Report 2006 \(21 kb\)](#)

#### **II.1.1.2.7. Latest news on the creation of the French platform**

- The creation of French platform is ongoing The official inauguration will probably be held by easter 2007.  
In France, a lot of projects are emerging and one is convinced of the necessity to integrate all of them in the same national structure.  
In summary, Afssaps (Agence Française de Sécurité Sanitaire des Produits de Santé) will be the coordinator of this project and will probably be associated to Afsset (Agence Française de Sécurité Sanitaire de l'Environnement et du Travail) and Ineris (Institut National de l'Environnement industriel et des Risques) for the regulatory representation. The Ministry of Research will be also included into this platform.
- Two **animal welfare** organisations are already involved as partners, such as OPAL (Oeuvre pour les animaux de laboratoire) and LMDA(Ligue Française des Droits de l'Animal).  
At this time, an official procedure is ready to be sent out in order to involve private and public research institutions. The adressed partners from the **Public research are the following**; CNRS (Centre national de la Recherche Scientifique), INSERM (Institut National de la Santé et de la Recherche Médicale) and from **Industry** (official procedure); Cosmetic – FIP (Fédération des Industrie de la Parfumerie), Chemical – UIC (Union des Industries Chimiques), Drug – LEEM (les Entreprises du Médicament), **SPTC** (Société de Pharmaco-toxicologie Cellulaire).

#### **II.1.1.2.8. German Platform**

» [Stiftung set](#)

- The Annual Report for 2005 has been published.



[PDF: set Activity Report \(76 kb\)](#)

#### **II.1.1.2.9. Hungarian Platform**

- The new executive Board has been elected:  
It consists of Lajos Balogh, chair, Eva Hercsuth, heading the Animal welfare platform, Prof Tibor Bartha, heading the Academy, Laszlo Pallos, Authority Zsuzsa Somfai, Industry.

#### **II.1.1.2.10. Italian Platform**

» [IPAM - Italian Platform on Alternative Methods](#)

- IPAM organised a Formative Workshop on Alternative Methods to Animal Experimentation, addressing experts for ethical committees on February 15-16, 2007. This workshop is an activity of the EU Project "CONAM"- *ecopa*, Workgroup 3 "Education".

 [PDF: Summery of the Workshop \(10 kb\)](#)

 [PDF: Flyer of the Workshop \(700 kb\)](#)

 [PDF: Preliminary Program \(61 kb\)](#)

 [PDF: IPAM annual report 2006 \(5 kb\)](#)

#### **II.1.1.2.11. Irish Platform**

#### **II.1.1.2.12. Norwegian Platform**

» [Norwegian School of Veterinary Science](#)

- Prof. Adrian Smith gave an update on the situation in Norway during the 7th Annual *ecopa* Workshop, that took place on November 25-26, 2006, at the Sheraton Airport Hotel in Brussels, Belgium. His presentation can be viewed here:

 [PDF: Presentation by Prof. Adrian Smith \(660 kb\)](#)

- The Norwegian Ministries involved want to establish a permanent, *ecopa*-style, National Consensus Platform in Norway Spring 2007. The details are currently being worked out. Funding will be probably be channeled through the National Veterinary Institute.

#### **II.1.1.2.13. Polish Platform**

» [polcopa](#)

#### **II.1.1.2.14. Spanish Platform**

» [REMA – Red Española para el Desarrollo de Métodos Alternativos a la Experimentación Animal](#)

 [PDF: NCP Spain - Activity Report 2005 \(168 kb\)](#)

#### **II.1.1.2.15. Swedish Platform**

» [Stiftelsen Forskning utan djurförsök](#)

- Congratulations to Karin Gabrielson Morton gave birth to a son, Daniel on January 11.

Due to her maternity leave , Karin Gabrielson is now replaced by [Cecilia Clemedson](#), who is the official contact for Swecopa. [Staffan Jakobsson](#) will be the deputy chair of Swecopa until the next Annual General Meeting.

The new government's decided to close down the Animal Welfare Agency, which will have a serious negative effect on the funding of 3R:s alternatives in Sweden in the future. Negotiations are still ongoing to get any government funding for alternatives next year and to find out more about the plans for future years. A major cut-back on 3R's funding is expected.

Due to the situation, the following was agreed by the board: Swecopa will continue its low profile existence, focusing mainly on distributing information to members and to reply to requests for information from *ecopa* and other national platforms.

The next AGM will be held during spring 2007, when the board will give the members a report of activities and finances for 2005 and 2006.

The official website is available: [www.swecopa.se](http://www.swecopa.se)

#### **II.1.1.2.16. Swiss Platform**

» [3R Research Foundation Switzerland](#)

- Update on Activities and the Annual Report:

 [PDF: Short annual report 2005 of the 3R Research Switzerland \(76 kb\)](#)

 [PDF: Annual Reportecopa 3R 2004 \(236 kb\)](#)

#### **II.1.1.2.17. UK Platform**

» [The Boyd Group](#)

- Further information and reports are available at the Group's web-site:  
» <http://www.boyd-group.demon.co.uk>

The FORUM page for CONAM is now activated, see above for technical details.

Also, the FORUM will contain the more general information available on the CONAM project, which will not necessarily be referred to by this newsletter so, check it out (» [ecopa forum](#)).

As part of the CONAM project and in response to the request of the EU, we will give any news, minutes of project (as far as they are non-confidential and non-proprietary) or post relevant info in the respective Forum Section. We will refer to it by use of the Newsletter. Also, as part of *ecopa* extended mission, we will refer to up coming events such as local workshop, conferences, meetings of the NCPs or *ecopa* working group etc. on our Website (» [events section](#)), and if appropriate, in this newsletter.

**Please supply us with the relevant info whenever deemed useful in your own interest.**

#### **II.1.1.4. Interested to form a new national platform in your country?**

Please contact us (» [contact section](#)).

For an upfront info how to create a platform in your country, and which criteria to apply? See also the presentation of Jose Castell at the Stakeholder Workshop in Prague ECVAM/*ecopa* Stakeholder Workshop:

 [PDF: A guided tour to become full members/associate members in ecopa \(200 kb\)](#)

**All the abstracts of the following projects are to be found on the forum of the *ecopa* website, see the comment under II.1.**




[www.reprotect.eu](http://www.reprotect.eu)

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This 6th FP-project, that *ecopa* had co-initiated and in which *ecopa* is represented with 3 members in the Supervising Board including the Chairperson, was started in 2003 with 21 partners.

The overall funding is scheduled to be 9.1 mio EUR, resp. 13.5 mio EUR. Contract with the EU was signed on July 1, 2004; the administration is performed by Prof. Michael Schwarz, University of Tübingen.

#### **II.1.2.1. Recent News**

 [PDF: Minutes of the 5th ReProTect Supervising Board Meeting, Jul. 5 2006, Uppsala, Sweden](#)  
*At present not available for the public!*

 [Photos of the ReProTect Meeting 2006, Uppsala, Sweden](#)

The yearly annual research meeting took place on December 4-5, 2006 in Ispra, Italy. A Supervising Board Meeting was held by Teleconference on January 23, 2007.

 [PDF: ReProTect Flyer \(320 kb\)](#)



[www.predictomics.com](http://www.predictomics.com)

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The *ecopa*-induced 6th Framework Programme project has been started in 2003, with 14 partners, all in all. The overall funding is scheduled to be 2.3 mio EUR. Contract with the EU was signed on September 1, 2004; the administration is done by REMA.

#### **II.1.3.1. Recent News**

Find the non-confidential information on the First Annual Report of the PREDICTOMICS project here:  
» [Publishable Executive Summary](#)

The consortium has launched a new web with several improvements to facilitate the dissemination of the research done. In the public accessible part, clear and easy to understand information is provided

to a general reader, as well links to contact the individual groups through the webmaster.

The 4th meeting took place on September 20-21, 2006, and was hosted by Dr. Patrick Maurel in Montpellier (F). The meeting allowed a discussion and the approval of the 2nd Year Report to be submitted to the Commission.

The next meeting will take place on April 18-19, 2007 in Dublin.

Websites: [www.predictomics.com](http://www.predictomics.com) or [www.predictomics.org](http://www.predictomics.org)



[PDF: PREDICTOMICS - Specific Target Research Project \(268 kb\)](#)



[PDF: PREDICTOMICS - Short-term in-vitro assays for long term toxicity \(392 kb\)](#)



[www.acutetox.org](http://www.acutetox.org)

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#### II.1.4.1. Recent News



[PDF: ACuteTox Summary Report \(80 kb\)](#)



[PDF: ACuteTox - Optimisation and pre-validation of an in vitro test strategy \(44 kb\)](#)



[PDF: ACuteTox - Integrated Project \(324 kb\)](#)



[PDF: ACuteTox - Integrated Project \(136 kb\)](#)

The first Acute Tox newsletter appeared in December with amongst others a summary of the project results accomplished during the first project year.

There will be more Newsletters during 2007, in Spring and in September.

You can subscribe to it by sending an email to [ACuteTox@expertradet.se](mailto:ACuteTox@expertradet.se) and in the mean while, it can be consulted on the website: [www.acutetox.org](http://www.acutetox.org)



[www.sens-it-iv.eu](http://www.sens-it-iv.eu)

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Sens-it-iv is an Integrated Project financially supported by a grant from the European Commission (LSHB-CT-2005-018681). 28 groups overall, of which 9 represent industry. 15 groups represent universities or research institutes, while 4 groups represent organizations.

#### II.1.5.1. Recent News

CONAM / *ecopa* has taken over the responsibility "spreading the news/results" of this EU project, and released a brochure covering the activities on behalf of Sens-it-iv, and supported the website creation. The folder and poster can be downloaded on the website [www.sens-it-iv.eu](http://www.sens-it-iv.eu), section press material.

The fourth Sens-it-iv newsletter will appear duly. We invite you to subscribe to the Sens-it-iv newsletter on the Website: [www.sens-it-iv.eu](http://www.sens-it-iv.eu)



[PDF: Sens-it-iv - First publishable summary \(114 kb\)](#)

The General Assembly Sens-it-iv and Meeting of Sens-it-iv Management Team, Steering Committee took place on November 8-10, 2006 in Hannover.



<http://www.biosim-network.net>

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BioSim, or "Biosimulation A New Tool in Drug Development" started December 1, 2004. BioSim is a Network of Excellence supported by the European Commission as part of its 6th Framework Programme.

#### II.1.6.1. Recent News

The second scientific conference for the BioSim Network took place in the island of Mallorca, Spain, from October 18, 2006 to October 21, 2006 at the Cala Viñas hotel.

The objectives of the conference were:

- to present significant new scientific results obtained by the BioSim participants
- to provide a global overview of the advances in the network during its second year, and
- to foster collaboration among network participants.

For more information the home page of the project is the following:

» [www.biosim-network.net](http://www.biosim-network.net)

Next meeting is scheduled on May 10-11, 2007 in Budapest and the 3rd BioSim Conference in Potsdam, Germany on 10-14 October, 2007.



**Liintop**

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#### II.1.7.1. Recent News

*ecopa* - Representative in Liintop is Horst Spielmann.



[PDF: Liintop Summary \(22 kb\)](#)

The Kick-off meeting of Liintop is planned January 12-13, 2007 in Rome, Italy.



**CarcinoGENOMICS**

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#### II.1.8.1. Recent News

The Kick-off meeting of CarcinoGENOMICS took place November 5-7, 2006 in Maastricht, the Netherlands.



[PDF: CarcinoGENOMICS Press Release \(24 kb\)](#)

The first board meeting was on January 22, 2007 in Brussels and the next one is scheduled for May 10, 2007.

See Presentation by Dr. B.Garthoff, WP Leader of the dissemination work group.



[PDF: CarcinoGENOMICS Kickoff Meeting \(156 kb\)](#)

A questionnaire of the WP 11 regulatory group will soon be on the *ecopa* website for consultation.



**EU 7th Framework Programme Projects / preparation:  
SusChem**

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#### II.2.1. Sustainable Chemistry

The Technology Platform SusChem has been formed and finalized its Implementation Action Plan. The action plan can be downloaded from the SusChem website.

» <http://www.suschem.org/>

The 5th Stakeholder Meeting took place on March 8, 2007 at the Concert Noble in Brussels.

The workshop was meant to coincide with the official launch event for FP7 under the German European presidency. Under the motto "SusChem - winning the innovation challenge", the workshop included a



review of SusChem achievements and sessions on the role of SMEs in sustainable chemistry research & development and innovation (R&D&I), what makes for successful technology transfer and an insight on project evaluation during FP7. The role and value of national SusChem platforms was also featured, as well as a poster session on the work of SusChem relevant ERAnets and other Technology Platforms. Proceedings of the meeting will be available soon.

Presentations available on suschem website

» <http://www.suschem.org/content.php?pageId=3428>

## II.2.2. Preparation 7th Framework Programme Projects

News on the workshop **"EU funded research on alternatives to animal experimentation: stocktaking from FP6 and views for the future"** that took place on June 13-14, 2006. The overall objective of this workshop was to identify gaps in research in the area of development of alternatives to animal testing, to explore ways to close this gap, and to identify opportunities for strategic research activities to be formulated and implemented under FP7.

Additional info on this workshop with the official report and the new topics that were discussed for future projects can be found here:

 [PDF: Group A Report \(Contribution of QSAR/QSPR to alternatives\) \(960 kb\)](#)

 [PDF: Group B Report \(Nanotechnology and alternatives\) \(36 kb\)](#)

 [PDF: Group C Report \(Alternatives and Drug Discovery / Development\) \(88 kb\)](#)

## II.2.3. A look into the future

Update 7th EU RTD- Framework Programme

The start of the 7th FRP end of december 2006 with the publication of the first calls initiated the largest programme ever the EU has began. It will last until the year 2013 with a total of 54.5 bn Euro. More than one bn will be invested via the ERC (European Research Council) into basic research; the former president of the German Research Society , Prof Winnacker will serve as general secretary for that new EU institution . In total, there are roughly two thirds , i.e. 32 bn, earmarked for the so called "cooperation" projects.

*ecopa* is interested to participate with partners in some of the early announced calls within the HEALTH resp the ENVIRONMENT sectors of the 7th FRP. Currently, the *ecopa* management board is trying to identify the optimal way of participation.

 [PDF: Pictures of the meeting in Brussels, March 12, 2007 \(140 kb\)](#)

The respective information and forms for interested parties can be found and downloaded on: <http://cordis.europa.eu/fp7/dc/index.cfm>

## Miscellaneous

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### III.1.1. *ecopa* events

#### III.1.1.1. 7th Annual *ecopa* Workshop

The 7th Annual *ecopa* Workshop took place on November 25-26, 2006, in the Brussels Sheraton Airport hotel, in Brussels, Belgium, covering REACH: "REACH for help: science back up?" The presentations of this event and photos can be consulted at the *ecopa* website:

 <http://www.ecopa.eu/content/archive.php>

 [PDF: Minutes of the 7th Annual \*ecopa\* Workshop \(116 kb\)](#)

#### III.1.1.2. eSI: *ecopa* Science initiative

The eSI-Conference under the heading: "Reaching the young scientist" is an initiative organised by *ecopa* aimed at bringing together senior as well as young researchers to discuss about the new technologies and their applicability in 'in vitro' research as well as to improve creativity and innovation in the search for alternative methods. *ecopa* had performed a detailed literature analysis of the last 5 years of research in alternative methods and had concluded that this area of applied research is drying out.

The full report, presentations, and the final program are listed [on the \*ecopa\* website in the archive section](#).

### **III.1.2. other events**

#### **III.1.2.1. PROTEOMIC AND GENOMIC SAMPLE PREPARATION**

Optimizing Samples for Diagnostics and Drug Discovery

April 11-13, 2007 | World Trade Center | Boston, MA

To register: <http://commerce22.datapipe.com/chidb/2007/got/req.asp>

#### **III.1.2.2. Alternative Test Methods in Inhalation Toxicology**

Berlin, Federal Institut for Risk Assessment, ZEBET May 7-9, 2007.

#### **III.1.2.3. The Institute of Pharmacy of Freie Universität Berlin in cooperation with the German Federal Institute for Risk Assessment, BfR, Berlin, again offers a course on 'validated alternative test methods in reproductive toxicology'**

May 10th to May 11th, 2007.

The practical training focuses on the Embryonic Stem Cell Test. This training course is part of the INVITROTRAIN Project which aims at the demonstration and dissemination of alternative (non-animal) test methods for chemical testing and prediction of toxicity. Participants from industry, governmental agencies and academic institutions are invited.

Please find detailed information on our flyer attached or visit the homepage:

» <http://userpage.fu-berlin.de/~invitrot/>

#### **III.1.2.4. 4th Annual Cell-Based Assays for HTS**

June, 12-13,2007 Pennsylvania, Convention Center Philadelphia.

» <http://userpage.fu-berlin.de/~invitrot/>

#### **III.1.2.5. ICT XI - International Congress of Toxicology**

July 15-19, 2007 Montreal, Canada For more information about this meeting, please visit our website:

» <http://www.ict2007.org>

#### **III.1.2.6. The 6th World Congress on Alternatives & Animals in the Life Sciences**

August 21-25, 2007, Tokyo, Japan.

The on-line abstract submission and registration is now available:

» <http://www.ech.co.jp/wc6/>

Deadline for abstracts is April 20, 2007.

The programme is available at:

» <http://www.knt.co.jp/ec/2007/wc6/sc.html>

#### **III.1.2.7. The 44th CONGRESS OF THE EUROPEAN SOCIETIES OF TOXICOLOGY**

October 7-10, 2007, Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

For more information please visit:

» [www.eurotox2007.org](http://www.eurotox2007.org)

#### **III.1.2.8. "Evidence-Based Toxicology (EBT)" forum in 2007**

How to reshape toxicology to meet the safety challenges of today and tomorrow? ECVAM will hold a forum on "Evidence-Based Toxicology".

ECVAM is currently organising a forum on evidence-based toxicology to be held in October 2007.

The forum is predominantly aimed at exploring the potential use of methodology developed and used in evidence-based medicine (EBM), a recent movement in clinical medicine aiming to make transparent and scientifically justified decisions for patient care using the best evidence available. Moreover, the future practical implementation of evidence-based tools in toxicology shall be analysed.

Date: October 15-18, 2007

Place: Conference Centre Spazio Villa Erba, Cernobbio, Lake Como, Italy

More information:

» [ebt.forum@jrc.it](mailto:ebt.forum@jrc.it)

### **III.2. Awards and Publications**

#### **III.2.1. Announcement of the Doerenkamp-Zbinden-Prize 2008**

The Doerenkamp-Zbinden Foundation for Animal-Free Research will again award a prize for outstanding achievements in scientific animal protection in 2007. Suggestions for the prize may be made by members of the Foundation Board or the Scientific Advisory Committee of the Doerenkamp-Zbinden Foundation as well as by recognized institutions of science and animal protection (e.g. universities, scientific societies, private research institutions, interregional animal protection organisations). Direct applications for the prize are not possible. Suggestions may be made by the 15th of December 2007.

If no convincing suggestions for a laureate are made to the Foundation Board, the prize will not be awarded in 2008. The award ceremony will take place at the 14th Congress on Alternatives to Animal Testing in Linz in September 2007). According to the deed of the foundation scientific methods which can replace or reduce animal experiments that cause pain and suffering, especially to non-human primates, dogs, rabbits and cats as well as pigs, horses and ruminants are worth funding. Work in basic research will be considered preferentially according to the new deed of the foundation.

The prize is endowed with 25 000 CHF and can be shared.

For more info see website:

» <http://www.doerenkamp.ch/en/default.html?id=64>

### **III.2.2. ECVAM database service on alternative methods to animal experimentation (DB-ALM)**

On occasion of its 15th anniversary, the European Centre for the Validation of Alternative Methods (ECVAM) has launched its entire database service on alternative methods to animal experimentation (DB-ALM) on the Internet. ECVAM belongs to the Institute for Health and Consumer Protection (IHCP) of the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC). DB-ALM owes its origin to a Communication from the European Commission to Council and European Parliament SEC (91)1794. The service shall provide scientists, authorities and also non-experts with factual information presented as evaluated data-sheets (ready-to-use information) on various aspects of advanced and alternative techniques for toxicology assessments. The information made available by DB-ALM includes method-summary descriptions and protocols for their performance (INVITTOX Protocols), evaluation studies, details on formal validation studies and individual test results.

The DB-ALM replaces the Scientific Information Service (SIS) -online version which could refer to more than 5000 registered users from various countries.

ECVAM thanks for the interest shown in this service and hopes to welcome them back to consult DB-ALM at the address:

» <http://ecvam-dbalm.jrc.ecc.eu.int>

### **III.3. Calls**

#### **III.3.1. ESF/European Science Foundation, Calls 2007 EUROCORES (European Science Foundation Collaborative Research)**

The scheme provides a framework to bring together national research funding organisations to support European research.

The 2007 Call for EUROCORES theme proposals is now open.

The ESF is inviting well developed proposals for new EUROCORES Programmes (EUROCORES themes) with the deadline of: June 1, 2007 (12:00 midday CET). This year, theme proposals will be submitted online. Applicants should follow the proposal structure as indicated in the above call for theme proposals and the EUROCORES themes online application guidelines.

» [http://www.esf.org/esf\\_activity\\_home.php?language=0&domain=0&activity=7](http://www.esf.org/esf_activity_home.php?language=0&domain=0&activity=7)

#### **III.3.2. JRC, Call for Expression of Interest**

Validation of alternative test methods - call for expressions of interest The Institute for Health and Consumer Protection of the European Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) has launched a call for expressions of interest for the validation of alternative test methods.

To see the full details of the call, please consult the following web address:

» <http://ted.publications.eu.int/udl?REQUEST=Seek-Deliver&LANGUAGE=en&DOCID=047741-2006>

The deadline for submitting tender documents is November 24, 2008.

Document Reference: OJ No S 46-047741 of 8.3.200 RCN: 25319

#### **III.3.3. International Congress of Toxicology, Montréal, Canada ICT XI's theme - "Toxicology: Discovery Serving Society".**

Advance/Early Registration May 1, 2007.

Accommodation Deadline June 1, 2007.

For further information, please visit the Congress web site at: [www.ict2007.org](http://www.ict2007.org) or contact the Secretariat at [ict2007@nrc.ca](mailto:ict2007@nrc.ca) The website also contains information on the program, registration, accommodations, organized tours, social functions and many other details to facilitate your attendance to this international meeting.

### **III.3.4. Searching for the Animal of Animal Ethics, IX Annual Swedish symposium on Biomedicine, Ethics and Society, Seglarhotellet, Sandhamn (Stockholm archipelago) June 11-12, 2007**

Submission deadline for abstracts was March 1, 2007 See also website: [www.bioethics.se/sympoisum/2007](http://www.bioethics.se/sympoisum/2007)

### **III.3.5. Commission announces date for first FP7 calls**

The European Commission has announced the date of the opening of the first calls for proposals under the Seventh Framework Programme (FP7).

With FP7 reaching the end of its adoption process the European Commission has announced 22 December as the day when the first calls for proposals will open.

The Director General of DG Research, José Manuel Silva Rodríguez, made the announcement at a briefing session on the biggest EU Research programme to date. The Seventh Framework Programme will be fully operational as of January 1, 2007 and will expire in 2013.

### **Registration of Experts for Research Activities The call for experts for the seventh framework programme has been launched**

The personal data collected in the context of the present call will be processed in accordance with the Regulation (EC) n° 45/2001 of the European Parliament and of the Council of December 18, 2000 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the Community institutions and bodies on the free movement of such data.

» <https://cordis.europa.eu/emmp7/index.cfm?fuseaction=wel.welcome>

### **III.3.6. The Johns Hopkins Center for Alternatives to Animal Testing (CAAT)**

has issued a call for nominations for two awards honoring individuals and organizations for significant contributions to the field of alternatives. Both awards will be presented at the 6th World Congress on Alternatives and Animal Use in the Life Sciences in August 2007 in Tokyo, Japan. Nominations due April 1, 2007.

For more information, please see:

» <http://altweb.jhsph.edu/news/2007/20070129.htm>

CAAT seeks pre-proposals for 2008-2009 research grants. Deadline March 31, 2007. Please see:

» <http://caat.jhsph.edu/programs/grants/preproposal.htm>

**Abstracts for 6th World Congress** due March 31, 2007. See :

» <http://www.knt.co.jp/ec/2007/wc6/callforpapers.html>

## **III.4 VARIA**

### **Press release " Intervet opens new production facility for vaccines**



[PDF: Intervet Press Release \(76 kb\)](#)

The new NCA website is now online!

» [www.nca-nl.org](http://www.nca-nl.org)