

**ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE  
CHEMICALS COMMITTEE**

**Working Party on Manufactured Nanomaterials**

**RESOURCES**

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**NOTE BY THE SECRETARIAT**

This document provides information on the resources allocated to the OECD Programme on the Safety of Nanomaterials for 2015. It notes that the nanosafety programme is a fully integrated element of the Part II Special Programme on the Control of Chemicals. Consequently, much of the funding for the work on nanosafety is derived from the Part II programme. Most of the remainder is derived from voluntary contributions (VCs) provided directly by delegations. This document also includes information on expenditure - of which - the major cost to the programme is staff time.

The current budgetary situation with respect to the Part II programme as well as the work on nanosafety is precarious. The document gives some of the reasons for this. Unless delegations are able to provide additional VCs it will not be possible to continue with the current level of outputs beyond 2015. In short, this document is intended to encourage WPMN delegations to provide VCs for 2015 and beyond; and it provides some background information on the present situation. In summary, the document estimates that approximately EUR 190K of VCs will be necessary to maintain the current level of work during 2016.

***ACTION REQUIRED:*** *The Working Party is invited to: i) note the document; and ii) indicate whether they are able to provide voluntary contributions for the year 2015 and beyond.*

## Background

1. The programme on the Safety of Manufactured Nanomaterials is a fully integrated component of the Special Programme on the Control of Chemicals Programme, which is a Part II programme. Its work is overseen by the Chemicals Committee. Part II programmes are defined as “programmes that in light of their content, participation or financing arrangements, the Council decided to include in Part II of the Budget. These programmes may be of common interest to a limited number of members, or relate to special sectors of activity not covered by Part I”.

2. Since 2008, the resources available for the implementation of the Part II Special Programme on the Control of Chemicals have evolved on a "Zero Nominal Growth" basis. This means that inflationary pressures have eroded the available resources including those to support the activities of the WPMN. Unless they start increasing again, the number of outputs produced by the programme will need to be reduced. The only way that more resources can be made available (except for a change in the way the part II programme is financed) is through the provision of additional resources by members through voluntary contributions (VCs). The nanosafety programme relies on VCs to support its activities as does the Chemicals Programme and the EHS programme as a whole.

## Estimated expenditure of the programme

3. In 2015, the funds necessary to cover the functioning of the secretariat for the WPMN were approximately EUR 450K.

4. This amount mainly covers the functioning of the secretariat; but it also includes EUR 15K for engaging external consultants to perform specific tasks. The most important sources of expenditure are:

- Direct staff costs, which are equivalent to: 30 months of time of three administrators<sup>1</sup>; six months of senior staff time; six months of assistant support; and six months of consultant support. This also includes all the associated administrative support;
- Operating costs such as the payment for WebEx sessions, teleconferences, postal and parcel service expenses and administrative charges;
- The attendance/ participation of the secretariat in external meetings. Currently, travel by the secretariat has been reduced to a minimum unless externally funded;
- Editing and printing of publications/brochures;
- IT support for Internet/ Public web site/ Nano community web site;
- Translation and interpretation (as needed); and conference room reservations.

## Sources of income in 2015

5. Initially, EUR 349K was budgeted for 2015. Ultimately, the real costs were EUR 450K. EUR 260K was allocated to the work from the Part II chemicals programme. An additional EUR 190K was made available from VCs; of which EUR 30K was covered by VCs and reserves which were intended for allocation to the EHS programme as a whole and not specifically for nano. In other words, EUR 30K was

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<sup>1</sup> One administrator (12 months per year) is on secondment from a home ministry; the funding for this secondment is from a special budget which falls outside the Part II budget and the usual VCs.

allocated to nano that could have been targeted at other EHS activities. This is a situation which cannot persist beyond 2015 as no such reserve resources will be available. In summary, EUR 190K of VCs will be necessary during 2016 to maintain the work at its current level.

### **Status of in-kind contributions**

6. As in previous years, a significant contribution to the nanosafety programme has been provided through in-kind contributions from delegations. In-kind contributions refer to expenditure made by delegations directly in furthering the activities of the WPMN. This can include (but is not limited to) the hosting of workshops, the analysis of data and the preparation of meeting documents and reports as well as the hiring of consultants to further specific projects.

7. Those activities which have involved in-kind contributions during 2015 are noted in the document *OECD Work on Nanotechnologies and Nanomaterials; Report from the Secretariat [ENV/CHEM/NANO(2015)25]*.