

Meeting date:

23 February 2010

Open Gov.  
Status:

Fully Open

**Secretary's Report for 18th Meeting, 23 February 2010****A. Progress on minuted actions arising during the 17<sup>th</sup> Meeting, 10<sup>th</sup> November 2009**

Min. Ref.	Action	Status
4.48	The action plan on asbestos:	
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li data-bbox="252 674 1002 1032">(i) The position established by WATCH at the October 2008 WATCH meeting should be revisited at the next WATCH meeting in February 2009. The purpose would be to examine whether or not additional risk estimates for lower level exposures, particularly to the amphibole forms of asbestos, could be made. WATCH should also further develop and clarify its view on how the H&amp;D model should or should not be used to derive positions on risk. (also 4.32)</li> <li data-bbox="252 1039 1002 1285">(ii) An interim report, summarising WATCH's progress on asbestos to date, should be drafted by the WATCH secretariat and sent to WATCH, ACTS and relevant people in HSE, to invite responses. The report will incorporate a summary of the action plan proposed by WATCH. (also 4.44)</li> <li data-bbox="252 1292 1002 1464">(iii) A working group of WATCH (and ACTS) members and HSE/HSL people would seek to further develop the control banding model for asbestos into a practically applicable tool. (also 4.42)</li> <li data-bbox="252 1471 1002 1644">(iv) In so doing, the group would examine the scope for applying the control banding tool to test whether current advice on exposure control can be applied to give consistently low exposure scenarios. (also 4.42)</li> <li data-bbox="252 1650 1002 1912">(v) WATCH advocated that simple advice be issued to workers likely to encounter asbestos materials in work-related tasks (e.g. builders and allied trades). WATCH indicated that this message should be relayed to HSE to ensure that a sustained campaign of awareness-raising and advice ensues, targeting these workers.</li> <li data-bbox="252 1919 1002 2022">(vi) WATCH advocates further research (collecting existing information and possibly pursuing new data) to more fully characterise what is known</li> </ul>	Agenda item 2: 18 <sup>th</sup> meeting

	about exposure to asbestos in buildings. HSE/HSL will report back on this at the next WATCH meeting. (also 4.38)	
5.7	Secretariat to obtain and send to WATCH the revised proposed ACTS workplan	Verbal update at agenda item 4: 18 <sup>th</sup> meeting
6.8	Metal working fluids programme: The Chairman informed WATCH that further updates on the progress of the programme would be provided at future committee meetings. He reminded members that the suggestion had been raised at previous meetings that a representative from the UK Lubricants Association be invited to attend a WATCH meeting to provide members with insights on the different components of MWF. A member suggested that a representative from a European industry association may offer insights into the situation in Europe. The Chairman thanked members for their comments and brought the item to a close.	Updates to come to a future meeting

## **B. Updates on other activities**

Nothing to report