

**COMMITTEE ON MUTAGENICITY OF CHEMICALS IN FOOD, CONSUMER PRODUCTS AND THE ENVIRONMENT (COM)**

**Draft paper on the significance of chemical-induced mutation for human health**

1) At the June 2010 COM meeting, the Committee considered a short piece on the significance of chemical induced mutation on human health. It was decided that the paper should be expanded to include more detail and that it should be a stand alone document available on the website as part of the Guidance series.

2) Further to this it was realised that this paper offered the opportunity to lay out some basic concepts regarding the process of chemically induced mutagenesis and thereby putting into context the role and relevance of the Committee. As such, it should be considered to be aimed at informed but non-expert lay-readers. To this end, the attached paper is quite broad and basic in its contents. Once the content is finalised, an executive summary and glossary will be generated.

3) Members are asked to review the attached document and provide comments as follows:

- Is the paper written at a suitable level and are the contents appropriate?
- Is the referencing appropriate?
- Editorial commentary welcomed.

**DH Toxicology Unit/Secretariat**

**February 2011**