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**MUT/05/18**

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

**OVERVIEW OF NANOMATERIAL TOXICOLOGY (March 2005)**

1. The risk assessment of nanomaterials has been identified by COT/COC/COM as an area of interest during horizon scanning discussions for 2004. The Committee's interest in this area was prompted by the publication of the royal society review of nanotechnology. (<http://www.nanotec.org.uk/>) The appended documents have been drafted to provide baseline toxicology information for all three committees. These comprise; The objective is to collect initial views from the COC (21 April), COM (26 May ) and COT (12 July) and draft a short statement.

2. The overview paper has been submitted to COM for information (

(Annex 1) The HSE review: health effects of particles produced for nanotechnologies

(Annex 2) An update review prepared by the secretariat which is based on the structure of the HSE review but also provides some further information, for example on structure activity of photo-oxidative effects of fullerenes and the oral administration of nanomaterials.

(Annex 3) Appended selected references. These provide some more information on potential novel structures of nanomaterials.

2. A separate paper on the mutagenicity data retrieved for nanomaterials has been drafted for members consideration (MUT/05/18). A number of further abstracts from the SOT meeting will be forwarded to COT in July.

3. There are a number of generic questions posed at the end of the update review (Annex 2, para 48, page 18. Do COM members have any views?

**Secretariat May 2005**