



European Medicines Agency
Post-authorisation Evaluation of Medicines for Human Use

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PRESS RELEASE

Last Meeting of the Working Party on Herbal Medicinal Products

3-4 June 2004, EMEA London

The CHMP Working Party on Herbal Medicinal Products (HMPWP) met for the ninth time at the EMEA offices in London on 3-4 June 2004 under the chairmanship of Dr K. Keller.

The Chairman welcomed new members from the new EU Member States and a new observer from the Accession Countries (Bulgaria).

The following topics were addressed:

- The HMPWP finalised the Position paper on the allergenic potency of herbal medicinal products containing **soya** or **peanut protein** (HMPWP/37/04).
- The Working Party agreed on a Position paper on **laxative bulk producers** and the risk of interaction with drugs known to inhibit gastrointestinal propulsive motility (HMPWP/60/04), released for information on the EMEA Website.
- The HMPWP updated the “Compilation of general quality questions answered by the HMPWP” (EMEA/18123/00) to include recommendations on an appropriate **declaration of extracts in finished herbal medicinal products**.

The Working Party noted the publication on 30 April 2004 in the Official Journal of the EU of Directive 2004/24/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 31 March 2004 amending, as regards traditional herbal medicinal products, Directive 2001/83/EC on the Community code relating to medicinal products for human use.

In the margins of the meeting, the EMEA Director further discussed with the Chair and Vice-Chairperson of the HMPWP the detailed action plan for the establishment at the EMEA of the Committee for Herbal Medicinal Products (HMPC) foreseen in the above-mentioned directive. Draft rules of procedure for this Committee were reviewed by the HMPWP.

With the perspective of the new Committee for Herbal Medicinal Products, the HMPWP celebrated its last meeting. It should be noted that the Working Party will not be in the position to finalise a number of draft guidance documents released for consultation. It will be up to the new Committee to decide on the outcome of those documents.

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