

To  
Members of the Austrian Registration Committee  
and members of the Austrian Register of Toxicologists and ERT

Dear Colleagues,

On Jan. 14 and 15, 2015, I attended the 3rd workshop of EUROTOX subcommittees for Education and Registration in Basel. Our main topic was how further progress with quality and international concordance of toxicology education could be achieved in Europe, an ambition targeted to **official recognition** of ERT by European authorities and better appreciation of toxicology in general by European nations. The entire group worked with high dedication, including the current EUROTOX president Aris Tsatsakis, who is to my knowledge the first president participating in this type of meeting.

We continued work on annex 2 already begun at the preceding workshop in Utrecht. Annex II of the *Guidelines for Registration 2012* will contain a detailed catalogue of the contents and expected learning outcomes of each individual topic listed in section B of the Guidelines, as taught in the Vienna and other ERT courses. This catalogue will provide the basis for harmonization of ERT education throughout Europe, which is considered prerequisite for any approach towards official recognition of ERT. Completion of the annex is expected for the next meeting which is being planned for June (probably in Vienna). Finalization of annex 2 will require a number of revisions in the Guidelines 2012, and the committees will soon invite course providers and Registration Boards to report any criticisms - which may have come up while working with the Guidelines - for consideration during the planned revision.

Implementation of the revised Guidelines with annex 2 will require adaptations in the programs of current ERT toxicology courses in order to gain concordance in Europe.

As a next step we discussed the possibility to have the Guidelines with annex II, after completion, recognized by CEN (*Comité Européen de Normalisation; European Committee for Standardization*) as **European Standard** for the education of Toxicologists.

With respect to the mandate I received in the ARTOX meeting in September to plead for financial support for ERT attending EUROTOX congresses I was told that there are always grants available for young toxicologists incl. ERT. So do not hesitate to apply if necessary! A general reduction of fees for ERT, a wish also expressed at the ARTOX meeting, was rejected.

If you have questions to my report please do not hesitate to contact me.

With kind regards

Rolf Schulte-Hermann ERT

Vienna, January 17, 2015