Scientific Advice Mechanism

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Scientific Advice Mechanism Unit
DG Research and Innovation
European Commission
new, since end 2015
secretariat in DG RTD
high level group of 7 scientists
relationship with academies
providing scientific advice to the College on any policy area, but not duplicating
complements existing sources
~2.5 per year
Why?
"Making sure that Commission proposals and activities are based on sound scientific evidence"
But... evidence based policy – not a new idea

- Joint Research Centre (JRC) - formal science advisory role since 1988
- European Parliament's Science & Technology Options Assessment (STOA) since 1988
- EU Agencies established since the early 1990s
- Scientific Committees established mostly since the 1990s
- Chief Scientific Adviser 2012-2014
- European Parliamentary Research Service since 2013
- Scientific Advice Mechanism established in 2015
How?
Mandate – Commission Decision

• Provide independent scientific advice to EU policy and legislation at any time and in any policy field *without duplicating existing advice*

• Identify policy issues for which scientific advice is needed

• Recommend improvements for interaction between policy-making and scientific advice

• Transparent and independent

• Science for policy, not policy for science
Who?
The members of the High-level Group of Scientific Advisors

Cédric Villani
Elvira Fortunato (Vice-Chair)
Carlos Moedas (Research Commissioner)
Rolf Heuer
Henrik Wegener (Chair)
Pearl Dykstra
Janusz Bujnicki
Julia Slingo
Establishment of a close collaboration with the European Science Academies
The SAM Unit

**HoU:** J. Klumpers  
**Deputy HoU:** J. Bray  
**Adviser:** M.G. Carvalho  
**HLG Secretary:** J. Jiménez

**SAM Team:**  
F. Bastide  
J.M. Müller  
I. Pottaki  
J. Verraes  
S. Weiland

**EGE Team:**  
J. Dratwa  
L. Cuesta Fernández  
J. Parkin

**Scientific Integrity Team:**  
I. Karatzas  
Y. Cheikh  
E. Diamanti  
Y. Dumont  
I. Ginga  
E. Sikorska

**Assistants:**  
I. Hirschmann-Gray  
A. Avcioglu  
C. Carvalho  
V. Fehnle  
C. Gils
High-Level Group

- European/National Academies & Learned Societies
- Wider Scientific Community
- Existing Specialised Advisory Bodies

Operational support (within DG Research & Innovation)

Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation

Supply of independent high-level scientific advice

Commission*

President and College

*Including the Joint Research Centre which provides in-house scientific support

Other Stakeholders
What & When?
Subjects agreed at the first SAM High-Level Group meeting

Cybersecurity

CO₂ emissions from light-duty vehicles
What next?
Meetings

29 January 2016

First meeting of the High Level Group of the Scientific Advice Mechanism (SAM)

Read the News Alert

The seven leading scientists who form the High Level Group met with Carlos Moedas, European Commissioner for Research, Science and Innovation, and with Andrus Ansip, the Commission’s Vice-President responsible for the Digital Single Market. They agreed that issues surrounding cybersecurity would be one subject for the Group’s first scientific advice to the Commission, contributing to efforts to build trust in the development of the Digital Single Market. The group will also examine CO2 emissions from cars and vans, with a view to exploring possibilities for future policies regulating their measurement to ever closer reflect real-world driving conditions.

Documents

- Agendas 114 KB
- SAM-HLG - Sp - Closing the gap between light duty vehicle real-world CO2 emissions and laboratory testing 206 KB
- SAM-HLG - Sp - Cybersecurity 324 KB
- Rules of procedure 294 KB

Upcoming Events

2nd International Conference on Science Advice to Government
29-30 September 2010, Brussels

Lest we forget, the EU logo is present throughout the page.

https://ec.europa.eu/research/sam/index.cfm
- 3rd SAM meeting ESOF 2016
- Informal network of science advisors of European Member States
- Co-organising 2nd international conference on government science with the International Network of Government Science Advice (INGSA)