

**Minutes' statement adopted by the Scientific Committee on Food  
at its 131<sup>st</sup> plenary meeting (25/26/27 February 2002)  
corresponding to item 14 of the agenda**

**14. Food Irradiation**

**14.1. Consideration on 2-alkylcyclobutanones**

The Commission's legislative service explained the background of the request for an evaluation by the Committee of a report on 2-alkylcyclobutanones (2-ACB)<sup>1</sup>. The Secretariat also distributed a copy of a letter received from "Center for Food Safety" and "Public Citizen".

The Committee identified a number of issues in the report<sup>2</sup> that need further clarification and evaluation as to the interpretation of the studies and their relevance for the risk assessment of food irradiation. The Committee noted that the studies in the report were not of the type usually required for the safety assessment of toxicological effects from exposure to chemicals.

In the context of the on-going update of the SCF opinion on food irradiation expressed in 1986, the Committee requested some members of the SCF, assisted by additional experts in the field of irradiation, to further evaluate these and other studies on 2-ACB.

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<sup>1</sup> Burnouf D, Delincée H, Hartwig A, Marchioni E, Miesch M, Raul F, Werner D (2001). "Etude toxicologique transfrontalière destinée à évaluer le risque encouru lors de la consommation d'aliments gras ionisés / Toxikologische Untersuchung zur Risikobewertung beim Verzehr von bestrahlten fetthaltigen Lebensmitteln – Eine französisch-deutsche Studie im Grenzraum Oberrhein." Rapport final / Schlussbericht Interreg II. Project / Projekt N° 3171 (submitted to the Commission by the authors in confidence).

<sup>2</sup> A summary of the report is available on Internet at:  
<http://www.iaea.org/programmes/rifa/icgfi/documents/summary-press.pdf>