

ECOPA Expert workshop: “Good Practices in Human Tissue use for Alternatives”

Date: November 24, 13.00 – 19.00 (pre-meeting to the 7th ECOPA Annual workshop)

Location: Brussels International Sheraton Airport,Hotel.

The aim of the meeting is discuss some of the ongoing practices and to explore options for further joint actions.

Human Tissue is often mentioned as a good option to reduce the numbers of animals in applied and basic research and to increase the relevance of data obtained from cell and tissue cultures from animal origin.

In some countries human tissue banks have been established that facilitate the use of human tissue in research. Most of these initiatives operate according to local national setting. Some have the ambition to extend their services abroad. The potentials seems to be hampered by national, and maybe international, legislation regarding the constraints to obtain human tissues or by the uncertainties in the product-demand chain, or in the scientific qualifications of specific tissues.

The program will be focused on three (overlapping) themes:

- Practical and scientific quality and constraints of human tissue for research purposes(Chair prof. Geny Groothuis, Univ. Groningen, Netherlands)
- National opportunities and legal constraints to obtain human tissues for scientific purposes. (Chair Roman Kolar, Animal Welfare, Germany)
- Joint actions to facilitate use of human tissue materials for research (Chair prof. Tjard de Cock Buning, Vrije Universiteit, Amsterdam, NL)

The aim of the workshop is to draft options for further (joint) actions to facilitate human tissues in basic and applied research, and replacing animal use.

Program : Sheraton Brussels Airport Hotel

12.30 Light lunch buffet

13.00 Welcome by Prof. Tjard de Cock Buning (Chair section Ethics of *Ecopa*)

13.15 Theme 1 State of the art: Scientific opportunities and constraints in human tissue banking

15. 15 Tea break

15.30 Theme 2 Legal frame: Good practices and options to cope with national and international legalistic constraints.

17.30 break

17.45 Theme 3 Options for action: Exploration of options for joint activities to facilitate human tissue as an alternative for animal experimentation.

19.00 Closing the meeting

Please confirm to Tjard.de.Cock.Buning@falw.vu.nl for participating this **expert workshop**.

The **annual ecopa meeting**, the lodging and diner have to be registered by the ecopa forms:

http://www.ecopa.eu/doc/7th_ecopa_workshop_registration.pdf