



REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS

The European Commission has launched a public consultation on a definition of the term 'nanomaterial'. The growing use of nanomaterials in consumer products and technological applications has led to the need for a definition of the term for regulatory purposes. A request for a "comprehensive science-based definition" was made by the European Parliament in April 2009. The definition should determine when a material should be considered as a nanomaterial for legislative and policy purposes in the European Union. The Commission invites stakeholders including the general public to put forward their views. The public consultation will run until 19 November 2011. For more details, see

<http://ec.europa.eu/environment/consultations/nanomaterials.htm>

The White House is seeking comments on its plans for a \$1.8 billion research and development program aimed at broadening the application of nanotechnology. The draft strategic plan was put together by 25 agencies such as the White House Office of Science & Technology and the National Science and Technology Council, as well as scientific community leaders, who have been working on nanotechnology policy since 2001. Comments on the draft plan will be accepted until Nov. 30, 2011. The plan lays out these goals for nanotechnology research during the next three years:

- Advancing world-class nanotechnology research and development.
- Fostering the transfer of new technologies into products for commercial and public benefits.
- Developing and sustaining education, a skilled workforce and other infrastructure to support advanced nanotechnology.
- Supporting responsible development of nanotechnology, including risk assessment and mitigation.

For further information, see <http://nano.gov/>

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CONFERENCES AND WORKSHOPS

7th International Conference on Biomedical Applications of Nanotechnology

December 2 - 3, 2010; Logenhaus, Berlin

- Focus Topic – Nanotechnology-Enabled Diagnosis and Treatment of Cancer.
- Drug delivery, targeting and controlled release
- Innovative dental materials
- Nanobioanalytics and diagnostic techniques based thereupon
- Nanomaterials for implants and regenerative medicine
- Microbicidal coatings for sterility, general hygiene and drug packaging
- Novel contrast agents
- Miniaturization of biochips
- Bio-labelling with quantum dots

<http://nm10.nanoevents.de/index.php?module=pagesetter&func=viewpub&tid=2&pid=27>

Nano in Cancer: Linking Chemistry, Biology, and Clinical Applications In Vivo

Jan 12 - 15, 2011; Miami, Florida, United States

Focus areas, each as related to cancer diagnostics and therapy:

- The latest discoveries in nanoparticle chemistry and formulation
- Delivery barriers
- Biomarkers
- Molecular imaging
- Therapeutic applications
- Clinical translation
- Safety

<http://www.aacr.org/default.aspx>

Proceed with caution? - Concept and Application of the Precautionary principle in Nanobiotechnology

Feb 20 - 25, 2011; Muenster Germany

- Risk assessment in nanobiotechnology: concepts, methods, practical experience
- Ethical aspects of nanobiotechnology: personalized medicine, human enhancement, fair access, data protection, privacy
- Precautionary principle in legal and political documents at the european level
- Theoretical conceptions of the precautionary principle in the philosophical debate
- Legal aspects of the precautionary principle
- Implementation of the precautionary principle in nanobiotechnology

http://www.nanoforum.org/dateien/temp/call_for_papers_pp_in_nanobio.pdf?26112010035011