

ToxML Project Advisory Board

Minutes of the Meeting held on 23rd May 2013

Attendees: Ash Ali, Dave Bower, Alessandro Brigo, Kevin Cross, John Connelly, Bertrand Dagalier, Philip Judson, Tanja Sauer and Joerg Wichard.

Apologies for absence were received from: Dan Benz, Nina Jeliaskova, Igor Tetko and Shree Nath.

1. Minutes of the meeting held on 15th January 2013 and actions from them:
 - a) No errors were detected/reported in the minutes circulated from January 2013 and they were approved.
 - b) OECD IUCLID Users' Group at ECHA on 3rd December 2012: short report was circulated to TSO Advisory Board.
 - c) Mukesh Patel presented a ToxML poster at the SOT 2013 conference and spoke to a number of people (pharma companies as well as CROs) – the majority took copies of the poster.
 - d) Igor Tetko was not available to comment further on the data sharing project and Philip had not received any information on this. This is to be clarified at the next meeting.
2. Report on FDA/PhUSE meeting, Silver Spring, 18-19th March 2013:

This was attended by Philip, who provided a summary of the meeting:

Phuse: Pharmaceutical Users Software Exchange. The organisation has a strong interest in clinical trials and wants to be able to make better use of pre-clinical data to inform clinical trials work. ToxML is therefore of potential interest to PhUSE for both clinical and non-clinical data.

Another meeting took place on the 20th March which was attended by representatives from PointCross (including Shree Nath) and Leadscope (Dave Bower). The general agreement at this meeting was that we should give priority to pushing forward with ToxML in those areas not currently covered by SEND. It was noted that ToxML will need to be extended to support incorporation of metafile data such as slide scan data (image) and conversion libraries.

3. Report on IUCLID 5/ToxML web conference on 18th March 2013:

This was attended by Ash, who provided a summary of the meeting:

Following discussions that took place in the context of the OECD IUCLID Expert Panel User Group on the 2-3 December 2012, it was decided to organise a web conference to analyse in more details the potential cooperation between the two projects.

The participants were:

- Ash ALI, from Lhasa Limited, representing the ToxML project
- Vangjelis KOSTANTINIS, representing the IUCLID contractor
- Francois LE GOFF, representing the business aspects of the IUCLID project in ECHA
- Pierre DECEUNINCK, representing the technical aspects of the IUCLID project in ECHA

Bertrand DAGALLIER, representing the OHT Group in OECD, could not participate for technical reasons.

The presentations provided during the web conference highlighted similarities between the two projects from both a format definition and a technical point of view.

It was agreed that an assessment should be carried out on the current ToxML format to identify a) what falls under the OHTs format and b) what falls under the IUCLID format. Data mapping will then need to take place to assess whether a conversion from ToxML format to IUCLID/OHT format would be possible or if an alignment would be needed. Discussions will be held between ECHA and the OECD.

The next step will be to organise a physical meeting with the same participants and an ECHA management representative in order to agree on the possibility of collaboration and a roadmap.

4. Publicity/promotion: any new opportunities?

1. **“ToxML, a data exchange standard with content controlled vocabulary used to build better (Q)SAR models”** has been published and is now available on Taylor & Francis Online at: <http://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/1062936X.2013.783506>.

2. OpenTox Euro meeting: 30 September - 2 October 2013 Johannes Gutenberg University of Mainz, Mainz, Germany.

Ash/Philip to potentially attend this meeting.

Abstract submission deadline is 30th June 2013.

3. OpenTox USA meeting: 29-30 October 2013 Hamner Conference Center, North Carolina Biotechnology Center, RTP, USA.

Kevin stated he could look at attending the USA meeting and present a poster/presentation.

5. AOB

a) Kevin mentioned that Shree wanted to add some extensions to ToxML and hence wanted to know when we could start to review the proposals etc. Philip confirmed that at this stage Shree and his colleagues were reviewing the specification.

b) Dave said he would like to see more people making suggestions in the Forum section of the ToxML website. Although there are now 80 members, only a few of them have made comments/suggestions.

6. Date of next meeting:

a) Schedule meeting for July 2013. Hopefully by July, we can report back on activities from SEND and progress report from ECHA. Also discuss abstract content for the OpenTox meetings.