

Relevant developments in the work of the Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO) for the information of T-PD

Research on biological materials and biobanks

The DH-BIO is currently re-examining Recommendation (2006) 4 on Research on Biological Materials of Human Origin. In this context, it has already sought the opinion of the T-PD on specific issues and the comments of the T-PD have been taken into account in the drawing up of a draft revised Recommendation. From March to August 2014, this draft Recommendation was made public in the form of a working document for consultation. On 2 October 2014 the TPD, following a request by DH-BIO, submitted its opinion on the whole working document (T-PD-BUR(2014)06).

At its 7th plenary meeting (4-7 May 2015), the DH-BIO examined a revised draft (DH-BIO (2015) 1), which had been prepared by the Drafting Group in the light of the comments received during the public consultation and taking into account the opinion from T-PD. The Drafting Group was entrusted with the task of preparing a revised version of the draft Recommendation in the light of the comments from delegations, to be examined by the DH-BIO at its 8th plenary meeting (1-4 December 2015) with a view to its approval and subsequent presentation to the Committee of Ministers for adoption.

Processing for insurance purposes of personal health-related data, in particular data resulting from genetic testing

On 27 March 2014, T-PD submitted its opinion on the draft Recommendation on the use for insurance purposes of personal health-related information, in particular information of genetic and predictive nature ((T-PD-BUR(2014)03). A revised version was prepared by a Rapporteur designated within the DH-BIO, in the light of comments made by delegations and by T-PD, which was examined by the DH-BIO at its 6th plenary meeting (12-14 November 2014).

At its 7th plenary meeting, the DH-BIO examined a freshly revised text and entrusted the Rapporteur with the task of revising the draft Recommendation in the light of comments made by delegations to be examined by the 8th plenary meeting for finalisation and subsequent submission to the CDDH.

Emerging Technologies

An international Conference on Emerging Technologies took place in Strasbourg on 4-5 May 2015. The Conference aimed at identifying priority human rights challenges raised by emerging technologies and their convergence. Two members of the T-PD participated in this Conference: Mr Gérard Lommel (Luxembourg) acted as one of the rapporteurs to Session 3, dedicated to the theme “Data Collection and Processing – New Dimensions”, and Dr Peter Kimpian (Hungary) made an introductory presentation to this session.

The rapporteurs are currently elaborating their final report which will be used as a basis for a white paper to be prepared by the DH-BIO.

The program and video of the conference are available [online](#).