

## INTRODUCTION

An international group of experts in cancer research met in Lyon in February 1982 to re-evaluate the epidemiological and experimental carcinogenicity data, as well as other relevant data, on 155 chemicals, groups of chemicals and exposures to complex mixtures that had been evaluated in Volumes 1-29 of the *IARC Monographs*, for which there were some data on carcinogenicity in humans. The background, purpose and overall conclusions of the Working Group and the evidence on which the evaluation for each agent was based were issued as Supplement 4 to the *IARC Monographs* (IARC, 1982).

This volume, Supplement 7, of the *IARC Monographs* is an updating of Supplement 4 to the *IARC Monographs* and represents the conclusions of two IARC Working Groups—one which met in December 1986 and another which met in March 1987.

The aim of the Working Group that met in December 1986 was to summarize and bring up to date the findings from tests for genetic and related effects and from studies of DNA damage, chromosomal effects and mutation in humans for all the agents (chemicals, groups of chemicals, industrial processes, occupational exposures and cultural habits) that had been evaluated in Volumes 1-42 of the *Monographs* and for which some data on carcinogenicity in humans were available. Other data considered particularly relevant to evaluations of carcinogenicity were also included. The conclusions of the December Working Group are presented in full in Supplement 6 of the *IARC Monographs* (IARC, 1987). Summaries of their conclusions are given in the sections on other relevant data for each compound and in Appendix 1 to this volume.

The aim of the Working Group that met in March 1987 was two-fold. The first was to summarize and bring up to date the data on carcinogenicity in humans and in experimental animals for all 189 agents that had been evaluated in Volumes 1-42 of the *Monographs* and for which some data on carcinogenicity in humans were available. The second was to make overall evaluations of carcinogenicity to humans for all 628 agents (comprising more than 700 chemicals, groups of chemicals, industrial processes, occupational exposures and cultural habits) that had been evaluated in Volumes 1-42 of the *Monographs*, on the basis of all the available data, as described below.