Organization of AMEG
AMEG is a global Advisory Group open to all interested scientists or students. AMEG is organised by a Steering Committee (SC), which comprises 11 elected members and is led by the chair (Gertie Arts) and co-chair (Mark Hanson) from Europe and North America, respectively. Members of the Steering Committee are distributed across the three stakeholder groups.

Current steering committee (2012):

Academia
Gertie Arts (Alterra, NL, chair)
Mark Hanson (University of Manitoba, CA, co-chair),
Udo Hommen (Fraunhofer, DE)
Chris Wilson (University of Florida, US)

Government
Katja Knauer (BLW, CH)
Silvia Mohr (UBA, DE)
Véronique Poulsen (Anses, FR)

Business
Jo Davies (Syngenta, UK)
Margit Dollinger (BayerCropscience, DE)
Jeff Giddings (CSI, US)
Stefania Loutseti (DuPont, GR)

How to become a member of AMEG
SETAC members and non-members can become a member of the AG by expressing their interest on their SETAC profile. This will enable access to the forum for the AMEG AG via the SETAC communities site. Instructions can be found on the SETAC webpage:

http://www.setac.org/AMEG

If you want to announce an AMEG related event or if you can provide a link to an interesting project, web site or publication please contact Gertie Arts, Alterrra WUR, P.O. Box 47, NL 6700 AA, The Netherlands (Gertie.Aarts@wur.nl), or Mark Hanson, University of Manitoba, 252 Wallace Building, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3T 2N2, Canada (hansonm@cc.manitoba.ca)
About AMEG
AMEG was established in June 2009 to provide guidance on all aspects of aquatic macrophyte testing (laboratory and field) as well as the use of macrophyte data in the risk assessment of chemicals. The group works to accomplish these goals by being a forum for communication, cooperation, scientific discussion and collaboration between scientists, regulators, and policy makers in academia, business, and government.

Focus of AMEG
Current research areas are ecotoxicology and chemical risk assessment. Future research areas may include the use of macrophytes as water quality indicators, their role in phytoremediation, and the management of invasive macrophyte species.

Objectives of AMEG
• Provide a scientific basis for aquatic macrophyte testing and prospective risk assessment
• Provide a scientific basis for the use of aquatic macrophyte data in risk assessment
• Be actively involved in the development of guidance on aquatic macrophyte testing and aquatic macrophyte risk assessment in support of current and future legislation
• Build and extend a global network of macrophyte experts from academia, business and government
• Provide an overview of ongoing activities and new initiatives in the subject area via the SETAC website and an email distribution list
• Organize sessions (e.g. platform or poster) and short courses at SETAC meetings
• Organize and actively participate in expert workshops

Current AMEG Working Groups:
There are currently two active AMEG working groups. Additional working groups will be established in the future when outputs for specific questions are required.

Additional working groups will be established in the future to address data, analysis, and interpretation needs as they arise.

Myriophyllum spp. test guideline group
The Myriophyllum spp. test guideline group was established to develop a test method for Myriophyllum spp. (M. aquaticum and M. spicatum) in a water-sediment system. A ring-test has been conducted and the final report will be available in 2012. The protocol has been accepted as an OECD test guideline project.

SSD group
This working group is evaluating the use of SSDs (Species Sensitivity Distribution) for aquatic macrophytes. The working group has compiled a database with existing toxicity data for macrophytes, which has been used to investigate the sensitivity of standard test species relative to other macrophyte species. A final peer reviewed paper is expected in 2012 (download report: http://www.complianceservices.com/Page.aspx?nid=265.).