

### **Box 3: Questions that remain controversial**

- Which of its characteristics makes asbestos carcinogenic?
- Is commercial chrysotile significantly less carcinogenic than other types of asbestos?
- Are there asbestos products that entail a very low likelihood of significant asbestos exposure at the point of production, at the point of use and further down the line?
- What are the most valid estimates of the numbers of cancers that have been caused by past exposure to asbestos?
- More importantly, what are the most valid estimates of the numbers of cancers that will be caused by present and future exposure to asbestos?
- Are the most prevalent substitute products safer than asbestos, considering the way in which they are used?
- What are the cost and product quality comparisons between asbestos and its substitutes?

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