



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL  
ENVIRONMENT DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

Directors General

Brussels, 25 -03- 2014  
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Mr Pavel Poc, MEP  
Mr Kriton Arsenis, MEP

European Parliament  
Rue Wiertz, 60  
B-1047 Brussels

Dear Honourable Members,

President Barroso asked us to thank you for your joint letter of 16 October 2013, regarding endocrine disruptors, which you have also sent to Commissioners Janez Potočnik, Tonio Borg, Dacian Cioloș and Máire Geoghegan-Quinn. Please accept our apologies for the delay in responding.

The Parliament and the Council have empowered the Commission to develop scientific criteria to identify substances with endocrine disrupting properties. Given the concerns about the possible potential significant impacts on some sectors associated with any particular choice of criteria and the vigorous debate in the scientific community on endocrine disruptors that escalated over last summer, the Commission has decided to carry out an impact assessment.

This impact assessment aims at developing different options for the criteria and for their implementation to support the College's decision. An important element of the impact assessment will be a public consultation, which is expected to be launched in the course of 2014.

The preparation of the measures establishing the criteria will take more time than originally planned, but this can be justified by the particular complexity of the issue which calls for a good and sound basis for the College's decision making at a later stage. We can reassure you that our services are working hard to establish the criteria as quickly as possible. In any case, I would like to recall that this procedural delay does not mean that endocrine disruptors in plant protection and biocide products are currently unregulated as both pieces of legislation provide for the application of strict interim criteria which are protective to the consumer.

I thank you once again for your letter and for your interest in the subject of endocrine disruptors.

Yours sincerely,



Karl Falkenberg



Paola Testori Coggi

cc. Vice President Tajani,  
Commissioners Potočník, Borg, Cioloş, Geoghegan-Quinn,  
Jerzy Bogdan Plewa (DG AGRI), Robert-Jan Smits (DG RTD), Daniel Calleja  
Crespo (DG ENTR), Catherine Day (SG)  
Alan Seatter, Julio García Burgués (DG ENV)