

EUROPEAN COMMISSION HEALTH AND CONSUMERS DIRECTORATE-GENERAL

0 2, 02, 2010

Deputy Director General

Brussels, SANCO/E3/AS/ms D(2010)530098

Your Excellency,

Subject: Bisphenol A risk assessment and risk management options

I would like to share with you my concern about the ongoing debate in Denmark on the use of Bisphenol A in food contact materials and in particular in infant feeding bottles.

At European level we are following closely the subject as regards risk assessment and market developments. This includes monitoring of the infant feeding bottles market, replacement initiatives by industry and risk management actions around the world. The European Food Safety Authority is monitoring emerging studies on Bisphenol A and is expected to deliver an updated risk assessment as regards developmental neurotoxicity of Bisphenol A in May. We have now clarified with EFSA that our mandate covers new scientific evidence which may have an impact on the risk assessment of Bisphenol A.

In view of a harmonised European approach on the issue we continuously exchanged views among Member States at expert level and intend to do so in the future. I therefore encourage you to share with us any possible concerns, scientific and political, so that we can find a solution at European level.

In view of the political sensitivity of the issue and its possible implications I would appreciate that Denmark could agree to enter first into a dialogue at EU level with the risk assessment bodies of Member States and EFSA before any unilateral measures are taken. In this sense I have asked the EFSA to enter as soon as possible into a dialogue at scientific level with all the Member States experts.

I count on your cooperation in this matter.

Yours faithfully

Paola Testori Coggi

His Excellency Ambassador Poul Skytte Christoffersen Permanent Representative of Denmark to the European Union Rue d'Arlon 73 1040 Bruxelles