European Commission

Vytenis ANDRIUKAITIS
Member of the European Commission

Berl 08/369
Rue de la Loi, 200
B-1049 Brussels - Belgium
Tel. 00.32.2.295.41.59
e-mail: vytenis.andriukaitis@ec.europa.eu

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Mr Paul Whaley
Lancaster Environment Centre
Lancaster University
45 Trafalgar Road
Lancaster, LA1 4DB
United Kingdom
Email: p.whaley@lancaster.ac.uk

Dear Mr Whaley,

Thank you for your email dated 6 July 2016 and for sharing with me the open letter signed by Ms Agerstrand and colleagues.

I am pleased that you welcome some aspects of the two draft legal acts presented by the Commission on 15 June 2016, which set the criteria to identify endocrine disruptors. These two acts, one under the Biocidal Products legislation and one under the Plant Protection Products legislation, will be adopted according to the relevant procedures, which in both cases involve discussions with experts from Member States and, at a later stage, scrutiny by the European Parliament and the Council.

A first meeting with Member States has already taken place and discussions will continue. The criteria were also discussed with stakeholders on 30 June at a meeting of the Advisory Group on the Food Chain and Animal and Plant Health. Stakeholders are now invited to send their contribution via the Better Regulation Portal until 28th July: http://ec.europa.eu/info/law/better-regulation/initiatives_en.

I would like to draw your attention to the fact that these criteria must be analysed in the context of the regulatory framework within which they will apply, namely Regulations (EC) No 1107/2009 and Regulation (EU) No 528/2012. These Regulations contain strict provisions, including in relation to detailed data requirements. For instance, animal data are an essential part of the data requirements under these Regulations and the draft criteria are clear with regard to their relevance for humans.

I believe that we have proposed the best possible approach for the criteria, considering the latest scientific developments. This being said, I am looking forward to receiving more information from you, in particular the accepted publication mentioned in your letter (SYRINA), and to meeting with you to discuss its content.

Yours sincerely,