

[REDACTED]

From: j.bridges@surrey.ac.uk
Sent: 06 December 2012 13:21
To: SANCO SC ADMINISTRATION; PIHA Tapani (SANCO)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: Participation in the 23rd Risk Assessment Committee (RAC) meeting of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)
Attachments: Participation in the 23rd Risk Assessment Committee.docx

Dear Mr Piha,

please find attached, as you requested, my reply to your e-mailed letter of the 4th of December

Yours sincerely
Professor James Bridges

From: SANCO-SC-ADMINISTRATION@ec.europa.eu [SANCO-SC-ADMINISTRATION@ec.europa.eu]
Sent: 04 December 2012 17:05
To: Bridges J Prof (Health & Social Care); dekant@toxi.uni-wuerzburg.de
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: Participation in the 23rd Risk Assessment Committee (RAC) meeting of the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA)

Dear Prof. Bridges,
Dear Prof. Dekant,

Please find attached a letter signed by our Head of Unit, Mr Tapani PIHA, on the above-referred subject.

Annex :

The original will be sent by post today.

Kind regards,
[REDACTED]

Secretariat of Scientific Committees

European Commission

Health and Consumers Directorate-General
Risk Assessment Unit

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For the attention of Mr T Piha
Head of the Risk Assessment Unit
European Commission
DG SANCO
1049 Brussels.

Liddington Lodge
Liddington Hall Drive,
Guildford, GU33AE
UK
December 5th 2012

**My participation in the 23rd Risk Assessment Committee (RAC) Meeting of the
European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) as an expert invited by industry**

Dear Mr. Piha,

I am writing in response to your e-mailed letter of December 4, 2012, in which you requested a detailed declaration of my involvement in the 23rd RAC meeting of ECHA as an expert nominated by industry.

As you note in your letter, I have already given a verbal declaration of this involvement to the only relevant SCENIHR activity in which I participate namely the working group (WG) on the use of DEHP in medical devices. In view of the potential perception of a conflict of interests I resigned as the chair and rapporteur of the working group at the first relevant meeting of the WG. I should point out that at this stage the WG has focused on identifying the relevant literature and task assignment, it has not started yet to formulate its opinion.

The background to my involvement is as follows:

In October I was asked by a former student, acting on behalf of the European Council on Plasticizers and Intermediates (ECPI), to comment on the draft risk assessment reports on di-isononyl phthalate and di-isodecyl phthalate (DINP/DIDP) developed by ECHA. The reason for requesting my contribution is that the ECHA report uses a weight of evidence approach to its risk assessment and I have considerable experience in using a weight of evidence approach for risk assessments of all kinds. I have made it clear from the outset that in conducting this work I was acting entirely in a personal capacity and I emphasized this to ECHA representatives at the meeting.

My task was to write a report (which has yet to be sent to ECHA), based on the available scientific literature, and to contribute to the risk assessment discussion at the RAC meeting on two specific issues in particular :

- The relevance of using the endpoint of spongiosis hepatitis in rats for the assessment of the health risk to humans from these two chemicals.
- The assessment based, on the published data, on DINP/DIDP exposure through the mouthing of soft plastic objects by young children.

I should emphasize that:

- i) neither DEHP, nor medical devices were involved in the discussions
- ii) Risk assessment of the exposure to individual chemicals by the oral route is not a normal part of our SCENIHR activities.

For the work I conducted for EPCI, they agreed to pay my usual consulting fee rates for the time spent. EPCI also agreed to cover my air travel (economy class) and to pay for my accommodation in Helsinki for one night to attend the relevant part of the RAC meeting.

This activity was a short term one that as far as I am aware is now finished. I have no problem with it being publically recorded. If, because of the potential perception of a conflict of interests it is felt that I should resign from any involvement in the DEHP in medical devices WG then I will do so with immediate effect.

I trust that is sufficient information for your purpose.

Yours sincerely,

Professor James Bridges