Event: Expert Meeting to Reach Scientific Consensus on Endocrine Disruptors

Where: Berlin

When: 11-12 April 2016

Participants: experts from Academy and Scientific Institutes, including (toxicologists), (one of the authors of the WHO/UNEP report 2013), (Endocrine Society), (US-EPA) and (Institute for Environmental Toxicology, Japan)

Observers: SANTE, ENV, EFSA, ECHA.

Summary

- The meeting was organized by the German Federal Institute for Risk assessment (BfR) (University of Brunei, UK) and (Imperial College, UK).
- (ex-chief Scientific Advisor of President Manuel Barroso) was chairing the meeting.
- A draft "consensus" paper was circulated before the meeting and comments received were circulated in form of a table to the participants.
- The draft "consensus" paper and the discussion at the meeting were kept focussed on hazard identification of EDs.
- SANTE asked whether participants could agree on the most scientific approach to assess EDs for regulatory purposes (e.g. consider all evidence available including hazard characterization and exposure data or limiting assessment to hazard identification)
- The Chairs replied that they wanted to limit the scope of the discussion to hazard identification of EDs, considering the limited amount of time available during the expert meeting
- Besides the technical discussion on elements for hazard identification of EDs, the following statement was agreed and inserted in the text: "This document has focused on the identification of endocrine disruptors. However, the assessment of the corresponding risks on human health and wildlife would further require consideration of dose-response relationships, including potency, exposure assessment and risk characterisation, including susceptible sub-populations, severity and reversibility of effects. This emphasizes the one chemical – one
assessment philosophy which has implications for data generation of both regulated and unregulated chemicals".

Next steps
The finalized "consensus paper" and the report of the meeting will be published soon on the BfR website. The finalized "consensus paper" is intended to be published also on the EFSA website and on the scientific journal "Health and Environmental Perspectives". Some information (e.g. presentations given at the meeting, video about conclusions of the meeting) are already available at the BfR website: http://www.bfr.bund.de/en/international_expert_meeting_on_endocrine_disruptors-197246.html

The documents already available (meeting program, first draft of "consensus paper" and related table of comments) are saved in:

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Further documents (final consensus paper, report of the meeting) will be saved in the same folder as soon as they are made available.