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DIRECTORATE-GENERAL
ENVIRONMENT

The Director-General

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Note to Anne Glover, Chief Scientific Adviser to the President

Subject: RE: Endocrine Disruptors

Thank you for addressing my services with the request to provide input to the reply to the letter from scientists on our work on endocrine disruptors.

Please find enclosed as Annex 1 to this note my replies to your questions. In addition and in order to provide you with more detailed information on DG Environment's ongoing work on endocrine disruptors, on the state of play and on the critical issues, my services have also prepared a detailed briefing which you can find enclosed as Annex 2 to this note.

I would like to take this opportunity to inform you that we have received three other letters from scientists or scientific organisations:

- The Berlaymont Declaration on Endocrine Disruptors signed by some 80 scientists addressed to Vice-President Tajani and Commissioners Borg, Geoghegan-Quinn and Potocnik;
- Letter from the Endocrine Society addressed to President Barroso;
- Letter from the Collegium Ramazzini addressed to President Barroso.

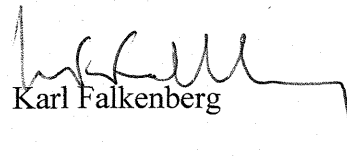
For your information you can find them enclosed as Annexes 3 to 5 to this note.

As you will see from these annexes, there is actually quite some consensus but also some areas with ongoing scientific debate on endocrine disruptors. I have tried to build on the areas of consensus and avoid needing to settle the disputes in moving forward, but would appreciate your assistance in the time to come in stimulating discussions in the areas where consensus is still lacking. Should you have any questions regarding these annexes please do not hesitate to contact Bjorn Hansen, Head of the responsible Unit in DG Environment.

With regard to early involvement of the office of the Chief Scientific Adviser in sensitive files in the environmental domain, I am open to further discussion. If I can take this opportunity to also reply to your note of 18th July regarding a network of experts on thematic foresight, this sounds promising, though DG ENV seems not to have been included in discussion on defining the topics to be covered. However, at least 7 of the 16 themes retained would have a connection with EU environment policy. For those reasons, I would suggest we arrange to meet, to see the best pathway ahead.

Finally, I would be happy to answer to the letter you received on your behalf or alternatively assist in the drafting of the reply.

Yours sincerely,



Karl Falkenberg

Cc: Nicholas Banfield, Robin Miège (DG ENV)
Jean-Claude Thébault (BEPA)