

From: [REDACTED] (SG)
Sent: 08 February 2018 15:07
To: [REDACTED] (SG)
Subject: BTO - Today's meeting with EDC-Free Europe coalition

From: [REDACTED] (SG)
Sent: Thursday, September 28, 2017 7:39 PM
To: LAUTSO-MOUSNIER Marika (CAB-KATAINEN)
Cc: SLEATH William (SG); [REDACTED] (SG)
Subject: BTO - Today's meeting with EDC-Free Europe coalition

Meeting with EDC-Free Europe coalition – 28 September 2017

Participants: [REDACTED] (Health and Environment Alliance), [REDACTED] (CHEMTrust)
M. Lautso-Mousnier (Cab Katainen), [REDACTED] (SG)

The EDC-Free Europe coalition represents 70 civil society groups which aim at reducing exposure to endocrine disrupting chemicals. The Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL), which holds the secretariat of the coalition, asked for a meeting to discuss the forthcoming COM strategy on Endocrine Disruptors (ED) and was accompanied by a representative of CHEMTrust (another member of the Coalition). They explained that:

- The ED strategy must ensure that the COM takes a consistent approach to reduce ED exposure in all policy areas. Key points for the strategy should be:
 - **Research:** going beyond exposure testing, or single-substance risk assessment to focus on critical issues like cocktail effects;
 - **Better implementation of existing legislation:** Existing measures (e.g. REACH) work well but there is a need to go further and faster in implementation, in particular in areas close to consumers:
 - Food Contact Materials: More harmonisation is needed;
 - Toys: this is an area where it is difficult to educate consumers on how to reduce ED exposure;
 - Cosmetics.
- They are disappointed with the COM's measure setting ED criteria as, in their view, it requires an excessively high burden of proof to establish that a substance is an ED. Criteria should also be less specific as they should be usable in other policy areas.

The COM:

- Noted that the reflection on the ED strategy has just started at political level under the leadership of VP Katainen. The VP intends to adopt a coherent cross-cutting approach involving all relevant COM departments and is aware of the international dimension of the work in the field. The criteria currently subject to the EP scrutiny are specific to the legislation on Plant Protection Products / Biocides but are of course also linked to the broader reflection on ED;
- Explained that it would be difficult to launch new legislative initiatives at this stage, as the end of the Commission's mandate is approaching. Noted that there needs to be a coherent approach in implementing existing legislation which is similar, in different areas, but not identical;

- Explained that COM's decisions are based on scientific evidence and take account of the advice provided by its Agencies. Noted the difficulties the Agencies are facing in terms of resources.