



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

Safety of the Food Chain  
Innovation and Sustainability

Brussels,  
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Dear Dr Warhurst,

**Subject: (1) Concerns regarding EFSA's reporting of panel report on risks to bisphenol A**

**(2) Follow up of letter to previous Commissioner on chemicals in food contact materials**

**Ref.: Your e-mail and letter of 25 February 2015 to Commissioner Adriukaitis Ares (2015) 839009**

Thank you for your letter to Commissioner Andriukaitis on the abovementioned subjects, who asked me to reply on his behalf.

Concerning the communication of the Opinion of the European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) on the risks to public health related to the presence of bisphenol A (BPA) in foodstuffs, indeed EFSA as an independent Authority is responsible for communication on risk assessment as per Article 40 of Regulation (EC) No 178/2002.

I can assure you that the Commission will take into account all possible considerations concerning the risk to public health from BPA, including the EFSA Opinion in its entirety. Regarding exposure from non-dietary sources, the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) is currently working on the risk from BPA in thermal paper under the remit of the Regulation on Registration, Evaluation, Authorisation and Restriction of Chemicals (REACH), together with EFSA.

On your second point, the Commission's Joint Research Centre (JRC) has indeed recently started a "baseline" study to fully establish the current state of the EU market and regulatory situation concerning food contact materials for which there are no specific harmonised measures at EU level. The baseline study will help to consider all possible options going forwards. The Commission is also actively involved in EFSA's initiative to

look at the risk assessment of food contact materials for which there are no specific EU harmonised rules and took part in the first workshop that you mentioned, held in January.

I do hope this helps and I look forward to staying in touch on these important issues.

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Yours sincerely,



Chantal Bruetschy  
Head of Unit