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Åke Bergman (ake.bergman@swetox.se)
Executive Director, Professor, Ph.D.
Swetox
SE-152 57 Södertälje
Sweden

European Commission
Commissioner for Health and Food
Safety
Dr. Vytenis Andriukaitis
Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat 200
B – 1049 Brussels
Belgium

Formal request for meeting on behalf of EDC-MixRisk

Dear Dr. Andriukaitis,

I am the coordinator of a four-year EU project, EDC-MixRisk (<http://swetox.se/en/research/edc-mixrisk/>), financed by the EU Commission's program, Horizon 2020 (No: 634880). The project – “Integrating Epidemiology and Experimental Biology to Improve Risk Assessment of Exposure to Mixtures of Endocrine Disruptive Compounds” – addresses adverse effects on health caused by exposure to mixtures of endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs) during development in early life. As the project summary states: *“A large body of evidence supports associations between exposure to anthropogenic chemicals and endocrine disruptive effects, leading to disorders in humans and wildlife. Based on the scientific documentation it is beyond doubt that endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDCs) are of concern and need to be handled according to the risks they pose, as single chemicals or as mixtures.”*

Several reports (see references below) provide scientific evidence for the above concerns. The EC is currently discussing how to regulate EDCs. There are three levels in this decision-making process: i) the scientific data pertaining to EDCs, for which the most competent researchers on all relevant aspects of EDCs need to be consulted; ii) a regulatory level, where there is a need to develop workable criteria for chemical testing so as to ensure EDC identification, and iii) a political level with a need for well-informed policy makers able to take effective decisions and for a socially sustainable engagement of relevant stakeholders.

As the coordinator and representative of all the researchers in EDC-MixRisk, I would like to stress that we are at your disposal to provide information and answer any questions you may have. By so doing we hope to contribute our scientific expertise to ensure that the best possible decisions are made regarding EDC regulations.

In particular we are concerned about the delayed impact of exposure to chemical mixtures during early development. We already know that exposure to individual chemicals can cause increased susceptibility to diseases and disorders in infants, children, and adults. Furthermore, the unique edge of our approach lies

Postal address
Forskargatan 20
SE-151 36 Södertälje
Sweden

Visiting address
Astraallén, Gärtuna
Södertälje
[Sweden](#)

Phone
+46 8 524 885 00

Web
www.swetox.se



in our ability to address the increased risk from mixtures of chemicals. In view of the importance of these concerns, I respectfully request a meeting with you at your earliest convenience so that I and small group of EDC-MixRisk collaborators can discuss these matters with you.

On behalf of the EDC-MixRisk consortium

Yours sincerely

Åke Bergman, Professor, PhD

Executive Director of Swedish Toxicology Sciences Research Center (Swetox)
Coordinator of EDC-MixRisk

References:

UNEP/WHO, 2013. State of the Science of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals 2012. Available at: <http://www.who.int/ceh/publications/endocrine/en/index.html> UNEP/WHO, 2013 a, World Health Organization, United Nations Environment Programme

UNEP/WHO, 2013. State of the Science of Endocrine Disrupting Chemicals 2012, Summary for Decision-Makers. Available at: <http://www.who.int/ceh/publications/endocrine/en/index.html>>

WHO-report, Toppari et al

Kortenkamp A, Martin O, Faust M, Evans R, McKinlay R, Orton F, Rosivatz E. (2011). State of the Art Assessment of Endocrine Disrupters. Final Report. [Online] Available at: http://ec.europa.eu/environment/endocrine/documents/4_SOTA%20EDC%20Final%20Report%20V3%206%20Feb%2012.pdf.

Diamanti-Kandarakis E, Bourguignon JP, Giudice LC, Hauser R, Prins GS, Soto AM, Zoeller RT, Gore AC (2009). Endocrine-disrupting chemicals: An endocrine society scientific statement. *Endocrine Reviews*, 30(4):293-342.