



To: members of the PAFF committee - Section "Phytopharmaceuticals - Legislation"

Brussels, 4 July 2023

Subject: 10-11 July SCoPAFF meeting - EDC-Free Europe urges EU Member States to support the European Commission's proposal to ban five pesticides with endocrine disrupting properties

In view of its public interest, this letter will be made publicly available on [EDC-Free Europe](#) web site.

Dear members of the PAFF committee,

Ahead of the meeting of the EU Standing Committee on Plants, Animals, Food and Feed on 11 and 12 July 2023, we are writing on behalf of the EDC-Free Europe coalition to **call on your support to adopt the Commission's proposals to ban five pesticides due to their endocrine disrupting effects on humans and the environment** (points C.06 to C.10 of the agenda of the meeting).

The EDC-Free Europe coalition is an alliance of public interest groups representing more than 70 environmental, health, women's and consumer groups across Europe who share a common concern about hormone disrupting chemicals and their impact on our health and wildlife.

As part of the European Green Deal, the EU has committed to reduce by 50% the use of the most dangerous pesticides by 2030, and as part of its 2020 European Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability (CSS), the EU took the commitment to better protect EU citizens and the environment from exposure to endocrine disrupting chemicals (EDC).

The European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) has clearly identified the five active substances asulam sodium, benthialdicarb, clofentezine, metiram and triflusaluron-methyl covered by these EC proposals, as endocrine disruptors for humans. EFSA has also found triflusaluron-methyl to be an endocrine disruptor not only for humans but also for wild mammals. It is important to note, in addition, that the approval of metiram was due to expire in 2016, that of benthialdicarb and clofentezine in 2018 and that of triflusaluron-methyl in 2019.

In line with the Pesticide Regulation (EC) 1107/2009¹ providing that pesticide's substances having *"endocrine disrupting properties that may cause adverse effects in humans"* or *"in non-target organisms"* cannot be (re)approved for their use in the EU, we therefore call on your support to adopt the EC proposal to ban, with no further delay, these five active substances.

After years of delay in implementing these provisions² and several prolongations of the authorisation of these substances, the adoption of the EC proposals to ban these five harmful pesticides would finally be the first concrete step of the EU to ban pesticide's active substances meeting the 2018 scientific criteria³ for the determination of endocrine disrupting properties for plant protection products.

We very much hope that all EU Member states will stand ready to support the EC proposal to ban these pesticides and ensure a high level of protection of human health, and the environment in the EU. This will be an important step to uphold the EU commitment to better protect people and the environment from exposure to endocrine disrupting chemicals.

We trust your determination to uphold the commitments of the EU Green Deal and bring hope to the millions of EU citizens looking forward to a toxic free future.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Yours faithfully

Sandra Jen
Coordinator EDC-Free Europe campaign

The Secretariat of EDC-Free Europe coalition is hosted by the Health and Environment Alliance (HEAL)

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¹ Namely, Article 4(1), points 3.6.5 and 3.8.2. of Annex II

² HEAL 2021: "A tale of disruption: looking back at one decade of Europe's (unkept) promises to address endocrine disrupting pesticides", [URL link](#).

PAN Europe, "A first ban proposal 14 years after the regulation entered into force", [URL link](#).

³ Commission Regulation (EU) 2018/605 of 19 April 2018 amending Annex II of Regulation (EC) 1107/2009 by setting out scientific criteria for the determination of endocrine disrupting properties, [URL link](#).