



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

**Cabinet of Commissioner John Dalli
Head of Cabinet**

Brussels, 05. 10. 2012

Dear Mr Muilerman,

Thank you for your letter of 13 September 2012 and for the attached document concerning possible identification of chlorpyrifos under the Stockholm Convention on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs). The Convention and the Protocol provide that Parties may propose substances for international action and consequently additional substances may be listed as POPs.

Directorate General Health and Consumers (DG SANCO) has recently been informed by Directorate General Environment (DG ENV) on the future screening of a new group of substances as potential candidates for examination as POP, among those chlorpyrifos. DG SANCO has no objection as regards such examination and will follow up with due attention the screening of the new possible POPs candidates.

However, it has to be noted that on the basis of the assessment, which resulted in the approval of the substance through Directive 2005/72/EC, chlorpyrifos would not qualify as POP with respect to the criteria set for such screening.

In addition, I would like to make you aware that your letter has already been made available (with attached documents) to the experts taking part to the Standing Committee on Food Chain and Animal Health that took place on 27 and 28 September 2012. DG SANCO on that occasion asked Spain, as original rapporteur Member State for the substance, to examine more in depth the information you provided and to report back to the Commission.

Finally, I would like to inform you that a review of toxicological data on chlorpyrifos has been launched in June 2012. It is focused on recent toxicological studies published after the approval of the substance in 2005 and constituting scientific peer review open literature. Such review aims at verifying whether the toxicological end-points set in 2005 are still protecting human and animal health with due margins of safety.

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I hope the above reassures you and in case you would wish to discuss your concerns with the relevant services in DG SANCO, I would invite you to make contact with Mr Michael Flüh, Head of Unit, E-mail: michael.flueh@ec.europa.eu or with Ms Patrizia Pitton, Legislative Officer, E-mail: patrizia.pitton@ec.europa.eu .

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a series of connected, fluid strokes. It starts with a sharp upward stroke on the left, followed by a large loop, and then a long, sweeping horizontal line that tapers off to the right.

Joanna Darmanin