

**Question for written answer E-002795/2012
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Emilie Turunen (Verts/ALE)

Subject: Dangerous substances found in babies' feeding bottles

As you will be aware, in June 2011, the EU prohibited the use of the substance bisphenol A in, among other things, babies' feeding bottles. However, a new report from the Commission's Institute for Health and Consumer Protection shows that the new types of plastic now being used in babies' bottles contain a number of different substances, many of which can be harmful for small children.

The most common type of plastic used in the manufacture of babies' bottles today is polypropylene, and researchers have discovered, *inter alia*, the carcinogenic substance benzene in 17 % of bottles made from this material. Another type of bottle made from polyamide plastic was found to contain bisphenol A which, as mentioned earlier, has been prohibited in babies' bottles in all EU Member States since June 2011.

In view of this study, the Commission is asked to answer the following questions:

1. How does the Commission intend to respond to the fact that, in spite of the clear EU ban on bisphenol A in babies' feeding bottles and other products, traces of the substance continues to be found in them?
2. How does the Commission intend to follow up the aforementioned study? On the basis of the report, will steps be taken to ban other substances used in the manufacture of babies' bottles and other products that small children may come into contact with?