

**Question for written answer E-003913/2013
to the Commission**

Rule 117

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Subject: Endocrine disrupters

The World Health Organisation (WHO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) recently highlighted the problem of endocrine disrupters. Suspected of having harmful effects on fertility and the natural environment and even of being one of the factors that causes neurobehavioural problems, they are now seen as a global threat to public health. On 14 March 2013, the European Parliament took a stand by adopting an own initiative report on the protection of public health from endocrine disrupters, in which it calls on the European Commission to take prompt action to address the matter, basically by revising its strategy on endocrine disrupters. On 2 April 2013, the consumer association UFC Que Choisir published an alarming survey on endocrine disrupters containing the results of tests carried out on 66 widely-used cosmetic and hygiene products.

For the purpose of consumer protection, can the Commission answer the following:

1. Does it intend to strengthen the regulatory framework, in applying the precautionary principle, by taking account of the cocktail effect of molecules when evaluating the toxicity of products? If so, by when?
2. Does the Commission intend to organise independent research into the impact of these molecules on human health and on the environment?
3. Does the Commission intend to strengthen the regulatory framework governing the duty of information of professionals, by requiring them to provide full labelling of the real composition of their products and to remove molecules which are proven or suspected endocrine disrupters from their formulae?