

**Question for written answer P-011344/2011
to the Commission**
Rule 117
Anja Weisgerber (PPE)

Subject: Toy Safety Directive

On 20 July 2011 the new version of the Toy Safety Directive entered into force. The new directive provides that limit values for heavy metals may be amended on the basis of new scientific knowledge.

As the issue of toy safety is being debated critically above all in the run-up to Christmas, I would appreciate a prompt reply to the following questions:

1. In its opinion of 18 March 2010, the EFSA recommended a reduction in exposure to lead. The Commission is currently carrying out an impact assessment. When are specific conclusions expected to be reached in connection with the impact assessment and when is a decision expected to be taken on a possible change to the limit values?
2. Has SCHER produced new findings regarding the tolerable daily intake of barium and the use of perfumes in children's toys?
3. Are there any new findings on antimony, arsenic and mercury and on the question of whether the limit values for these substances under the directive are sufficiently stringent?
4. Even should limit values need to be increased on the basis of the latest scientific findings, we already have a high level of protection in Europe thanks to the entry into force of the Toy Safety Directive. Is the Commission planning to conduct a campaign to provide information to consumers about toy safety during the Christmas sales period?