

Commission Directive 2014/81/EU of 23 June 2014 amending Appendix C of Annex II to Directive 2009/48/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council on the safety of toys, as regards bisphenol A (Text with EEA relevance)

COMMISSION DIRECTIVE 2014/81/EU

of 23 June 2014

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(Text with EEA relevance)

THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION,

Having regard to the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union,

Having regard to Directive 2009/48/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 18 June 2009 on the safety of toys⁽¹⁾, and in particular Article 46(2) thereof,

Whereas:

- (1) Directive 2009/48/EC establishes general requirements for substances which are classified as carcinogenic, mutagenic or toxic for reproduction (CMR) under Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 December 2008 on classification, labelling and packaging of substances and mixtures, amending and repealing Directives 67/548/EEC and 1999/45/EC, and amending Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006⁽²⁾. Such substances may not be used in toys, in components of toys or in micro-structurally distinct parts of toys, except if inaccessible to children, permitted by a Commission decision or contained in individual concentrations equal to or smaller than the relevant concentrations established for the classification of mixtures containing them as CMRs. To further protect children's health, specific limit values for such substances can be set out, when appropriate, for toys intended for use by children under three years old or other toys intended to be placed in the mouth.
- (2) The substance bisphenol A is a high volume chemical that is widely used in the production of a large variety of consumer products. Bisphenol A is used as a monomer in the manufacture of polycarbonate plastics. Polycarbonate plastics are used, amongst others, in the manufacture of toys. Moreover, bisphenol A has been found in certain toys.
- (3) Council Directive 88/378/EEC of 3 May 1988 on the approximation of the laws of the Member States concerning the safety of toys⁽³⁾ governed the essential safety requirements for chemical properties of toys until 19 July 2013. European standard EN 71-9:2005+A1:2007 provides a migration limit of 0,1 mg/l for bisphenol A. European standards EN 71-10:2005 and EN 71-11:2005 provide the relevant test methods. The limits and methods for bisphenol A set out in EN 71-9:2005+A1:2007, EN 71-10:2005 and EN 71-11:2005 are used by the toy industry as a reference to ensure that there is

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no unsafe exposure from bisphenol A in toys. Yet, those standards do not constitute harmonised standards.

- (4) Bisphenol A is classified under Regulation (EC) No 1272/2008 as toxic for reproduction category 2. In the absence of any specific requirements, bisphenol A can be contained in toys in concentrations equal to or smaller than the relevant concentration established for the classification of mixtures containing it as CMRs, namely 5 % as from 20 July 2013 and 3 % as from 1 June 2015 respectively. It cannot be excluded that that concentration may lead to increased exposure of small children to bisphenol A, compared to the migration limit of 0,1 mg/l for bisphenol A set by European standards EN 71-9:2005+A1:2007, EN 71-10:2005 and EN 71-11:2005.
- (5) Bisphenol A was comprehensively evaluated in 2003 and 2008 under Council Regulation (EEC) No 793/93 of 23 March 1993 on the evaluation and control of the risks of existing substances⁽⁴⁾. The final risk assessment report, entitled 'Updated European Union Risk Assessment Report 4,4'-isopropylidenediphenol (bisphenol-A)', found, among other things, that bisphenol A has endocrine modulating activity in a number of *in vitro* and *in vivo* screening assays and concluded that further research was needed to resolve the uncertainties surrounding the potential for bisphenol A to produce adverse effects on development at low doses. Nevertheless, a high level of protection of children against risks caused by chemical substances in toys, in the light of the particular needs of children, who are a vulnerable group of consumers, warrants incorporating the migration limit of 0,1 mg/l for bisphenol A into Directive 2009/48/EC.
- (6) The effects of bisphenol A are under evaluation in scientific fora including the European Food Safety Authority. The migration limit laid down by this Directive should be reviewed if relevant new scientific information becomes available in the future.
- (7) Directive 2009/48/EC should therefore be amended accordingly.
- (8) The measures provided for in this Directive are in accordance with the opinion of the Toy Safety Committee,

HAS ADOPTED THIS DIRECTIVE:

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- (1) OJ L 170, 30.6.2009, p. 1.
- (2) OJ L 353, 31.12.2008, p. 1.
- (3) OJ L 187, 16.7.1988, p. 1.
- (4) OJ L 84, 5.4.1993, p. 1.