Dear Mr Warhurst,

Thank you for your letter of 6 January 2016 regarding endocrine disruptors, which you sent on behalf of nine associations.

Your views on defining criteria for identifying endocrine disruptors in the implementation of the Plant Protection Regulation and the Biocidal Products Regulation are very much welcome. I would like to reassure you by stating that the purpose of both legal frameworks is "to ensure a high level of protection of both human and animal health and the environment". This obviously includes the health of farmers, their families, and agricultural workers.

The impact assessment that the Commission is finalising will give information on the potential effects on health and environment of the different options for defining endocrine disruptors. The Commission will present new scientific criteria for endocrine disruptors before Summer 2016, for their subsequent adoption under the relevant procedures.

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As Commissioner for Health, I am fully committed to ensure that the high level of protection of human health and environment set by the European legislation is maintained, including protection from endocrine disruptors.

I would be pleased to discuss with you how to achieve this important objective. Please do not hesitate to contact Nathalie Chaze (nathalie.chaze@ec.europa.eu) to find a convenient date for a meeting.

Yours sincerely,