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IFRA urges inclusion of potency for assessing endocrine disruptors

IFRA supports the inclusion of potency, exposure, severity and irreversibility as criteria to help identify endocrine disruptors of concern.

Potency, in particular, plays a key role in a scientific risk assessment of all potentially dangerous substances, including carcinogens in food. There is no scientific basis for disregarding potency in the risk assessment of endocrine disruptors.

A clear distinction must be made between risk and hazard in the

identification of criteria for endocrine disrupting chemicals. This is fundamental to ensure that ingredients' safety assessments reflect reality. A substance may have endocrine-active properties without necessarily leading to negative effects on human health.

IFRA urges the European Commission to continue conducting a dialogue with all relevant stakeholders to define scientific criteria that may help to identify endocrine disrupting substances. A poor decision on endocrine disruptors poses an unacceptable risk for Europe.

IFRA supports the Commission in its wish to take a responsible, well-informed stance that reflects reality. It must reaffirm its respect for science and consider the exposure and potency of a substance when deciding if it is safe for use or not.

The International Fragrance Association, founded in 1973, represents the interests of the fragrance industry worldwide. IFRA comprises seven multinational Regular Members and 21 national associations in four global regions representing hundreds of small and medium-sized fragrance ingredient manufacturers, as well as supporting members. Its mission is to promote the safe use of fragrance for everyone's enjoyment.

Fragrances are a key platform technology used by consumer goods companies – for fine fragrances, personal care products, household care and more.

IFRA's flagship safe use program, the IFRA Standards, applies safety management measures based on scientific assessment and the evaluations of an independent Expert Panel. The program is at the heart of the IFRA Code of Practice, which applies to all IFRA members globally, including members of IFRA's 21 national associations. The Code also requires members to abide by local, national and international regulation, and to apply good manufacturing practices.

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