



WORLD ASSOCIATION OF MANUFACTURERS OF BOTTLES AND TEATS

**22nd February 2011**

**European Commission's Directive 2011/8/EU restricts polycarbonate baby bottles in Europe**

Taking into account the recent Directive 2011/8/EU from the European Commission regarding a precautionary restriction of PC feeding bottles in the EU market, the WBT would like to reassure all parents who are either currently using or have used PC feeding bottles in the past to feed their babies.

This Directive prohibits, as a strictly precautionary measure, the manufacture of polycarbonate infant feeding bottles with BPA as from 1 March 2011 and the placing on the market and import as from 1 June 2011 for the European market.

The Directive acknowledges that the comprehensive evaluation of the available scientific data does not call for the even temporary ban of polycarbonate baby bottles, and that studies indicating possible negative effects of BPA have many shortcomings.

Furthermore, the ban is only applicable to PC infant feeding bottles for children up to the age of 12 months. The Commission explicitly refers to the European Food Safety Authority's (EFSA) assessment that even an infant has sufficient capacity to eliminate BPA from its body at the age of six months.

Accordingly, no other baby products are affected by this Directive.

All members of the WBT remain, as always, fully committed to the safety of our consumers. We look to the relevant authorities for guidance on use of food contact approved materials for infant feeding bottles and have always adhered to all relevant regulations.

Keeping in mind the consumer's needs and concerns, industry had already started to phase out the use of PC infant feeding bottles well before this Directive.

As the authorities want to study the effects of BPA further, and as industry had already taken steps to phase out PC infant feeding bottles, the European Commission took the precautionary principle approach and has decided to bring this Directive into force.

For more information on the Directive, please visit the European Commission's website on

<http://eurlex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:L:2011:026:0011:0014:EN:PDF>