



The Cosmetic, Toiletry & Fragrance Association of Singapore

The Straits Time

17 September, 2016

Re: Reply to Ms. Amy Ang letter published in your 11 September edition

CTFAS is the only Cosmetic Association in Singapore, it regroups industry companies small and big who share the objective of promoting safe, quality products accepted by consumers. We were awarded the “Excellent Partnership Award” by HSA the Health Sciences Authority of Singapore.

The US FDA ban on 17 ingredients concerns OTC products sold as “Antibacterial Soap” it does not apply to cosmetics. Contrarily to Authorities in Singapore, ASEAN or many other places in the World, the US FDA cannot restrict the use of an ingredient in term of maximum concentration or product type. Out of the 17 named ingredients, many are not allowed in ASEAN and some, like Triclosan, while allowed are restricted as to the maximum concentration that can be used or the type of product in which they can be used.

The ASEAN Cosmetic Scientific Body evaluates on a regular basis cosmetic ingredient safety. Triclosan was reviewed during the meeting held in Singapore on 26-27 May, 2015. The maximum concentration cosmetic companies can use is limited to 0.3% (maximum is 0.2% in mouthwash) and it can only be used in a small number of products in order to protect consumers safety.

Consumers in ASEAN should rest assured that responsible companies are taking all the steps to ensure product safety and regulators are evaluating ingredients used on a regular basis.

Sincerely Yours,

Alain KHAIAT, Ph.D.
President CTFAS



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