

Dear Sir/Madam,

Belgium very much welcomes the Commission's Green Paper on passive smoking and regards smoke-free policy as a high priority. Therefore the Belgian authorities would like to send in a reply to the questions raised in the Green Paper.

However, within less than two weeks federal elections are taking place. Being such an important item, the way forward on smoke-free policies will be determined within the framework of the new coalition agreement. This implies that the authorities will not be able to take a position on this subject for as long as negotiations on the new coalition agreement are not finished.

Consequently the Belgian authorities would like to ask for a postponement of the deadline for replying to the Green Paper until the 1st of August 2007.

Is this feasible?

Kind regards,

Marleen Steenbrugghe

Marleen STEENBRUGGHE

Counsellor

Health, Pharmaceuticals and medical devices

Permanent Representation of Belgium to the European Union

61-63 Rue de la Loi - 1040 Bruxelles

Tel. 02/233.03.53

Fax 02/231.10.75

Email marleen.steenbrugghe@diplobel.fed.be

This paper represents the views of its author on the subject. These views have not been adopted or in any way approved by the Commission and should not be relied upon as a statement of the Commission's or Health & Consumer Protection DG's views. The European Commission does not guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this paper, nor does it accept responsibility for any use made thereof.