



Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
for Scotland

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Please reply to
The Officer in Charge
Your reference

Our reference
Ms.0/9
Date
21st March 1974

Dear Ian,

You referred yesterday to the WHO meeting on PCBs, and the outcome of this. I have now found a copy of the short note issued by WHO after the meeting, which I enclose for your use, and onward transmission to CUEP.

There was really nothing in the meeting which might not have arisen at other similar discussions among those familiar with the problems of PCBs, although clearly there was a slant towards the possible effects on human health. These effects did not get a great deal of discussion, except in the context of the Japanese experience with rice oil, which apparently is the only good example of the effects of PCBs on human beings. As most countries are likely to avoid such situations, the problem may be a rather academic one for most of us. No one has as yet suggested that PCB levels in the environment are likely to create problems for those consuming environmental materials as human food.

I have no word of the final report, which is referred to at the bottom of the first page of this summary.

With best wishes,

Yours sincerely,

Alan Holden

Alan
A. M. Holden