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By email

Brussels, 21st January 2026

Global recalls of powdered baby milk: open questions to Nestlé

Dear Sir,

foodwatch is a Europe-wide non-profit consumer rights organization that promotes safe, healthy, and affordable food for all people. In the context of ongoing global recalls of Nestlé's powdered baby formulae, we are writing to you today with urgent questions that require transparency and openness.

We would appreciate responses on the following:

- In December 2025, you carried out recalls of powdered baby milk in a handful of countries following contamination with the bacterium bacillus cereus. Why did you wait until 5th January 2026 to extend these recalls to many other countries, 60 countries to our knowledge to date?
- Several recalls of different products took place across Europe in mid-December 2025. Were these recalls based on the traceability of the ingredient in question, or on self-checks positive for the cereulide toxin?
- At which precise moment did you identify the contamination of the arachidonic acid-enriched oil?
- Which actions did Nestlé take between the Italian notification to RASFF on 1st December 2025 and the recalls that took place in mid-December 2025?
- Did your supplier inform you of a problem with contamination by the bacterium bacillus cereus and/or the presence of the cereulide toxin? If so, when exactly?
- Why were recalls carried out silently in December? And why were they only carried out in certain countries, such as Austria for example?
- Why were batches marketed since at least May 2025, in France for example, only recalled in January 2026?

- What levels of contamination by this bacterium were detected by your supplier and your quality control departments in 2025?

- To date, what potential risks to infant health have you identified? To date, how many reports of children falling ill after consuming recalled Nestlé powdered milk have there been?

We look forward to your swift responses on these important questions.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Chris Methmann', with a long horizontal flourish at the end.

Chris Methmann
Executive Director
foodwatch Germany on behalf of foodwatch international