



Ms. Elżbieta Bieńkowska, Commissioner for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs
Mr. Karmenu Vella, Commissioner for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
Ms. Cecilia Malmström, Commissioner for Trade

European Commission
Rue de la Loi 200
B- 1049 Brussels

Brussels 26 October 2018

Re: Negotiations on the UK's post-Brexit relationship with the EU chemicals regulation REACH

Dear Commissioner,

We are writing to you to stress the importance of keeping the UK within the EU's chemicals safety rules. Only if the UK stays within REACH, accepts the EU's conditions attached to that and remains closely aligned with related pollution laws, can the EU ensure the future protection of its citizens and their environment and the international competitiveness of EU businesses.

Together with the chemical industry associations, CEFIC and the CIA, we have sent a clear public message to the Heads of State and Government of the EU-27 to allow the UK to remain within and bound by REACH and participating in ECHA, as long as the UK accepts the conditions set by the EU.

We believe this is a strong demonstration of shared public, industry and business interests in a value based approach in developing a future EU-UK relationship. More than ever, the EU must show that it defends its values and that it is more than a trading block.

While we fully understand that the withdrawal agreement is on top of the political agenda, we urge you as Commissioners in charge of REACH and Trade to do everything in your power to ensure that the political declaration and negotiation mandate acknowledge the importance of future alignment on environmental and health regulation on the basis of shared values for providing safety and security to citizens, their environment and businesses in an increasingly unstable global environment.

We are aware that the larger resources of industry stakeholders can allow them to get closer to complex processes like the Brexit negotiations than can civil society organisations. We would therefore welcome the opportunity to meet with you as soon as possible in order to discuss our concerns about the

importance of keeping the protection of human health and the environment at the forefront of the negotiations on the future relationship between the EU and UK.

Yours sincerely,



Jeremy Wates,
Secretary General
European Environmental Bureau (EEB)



Dr Michael Warhurst
Executive Director
CHEM Trust

Annex: Joint letter to Heads of State and Government ahead of EU Council by CEFIC, CIA, CHEM Trust and EEB