# Steering brief

#### Scene setter

You will meet virtually with President of CEFIC, the European Chemical Industry Council, on 13 January at 10:00 (45 minutes). The meeting will be attended by members of CEFIC's executive committee and other chief executive officers (CEO's – see all participants in the CVs section).

This meeting has been requested by CEFIC to primarily discuss the Commission's chemical strategy for sustainability of 14 October 2020, more specifically on two aspects:

- the need for enforcement/market surveillance
- a framework within which the chemical industry can work on the implementation of and innovation to reach the objectives set by the European Green Deal.

Other topics to be discussed include:

- Brexit
- the carbon border adjustment mechanism;
- the EU-China
- .
- (if time allows) sustainable finance (the EU taxonomy regulation)

CEFIC met on 11 June and 5 November 2020 with Executive Vice-President Timmermans to discuss the carbon adjustment mechanism. Another meeting took place on 22 October with DG TRADE Deputy Director-General see background documents).

CEFIC represents medium and small chemical companies across Europe, which provide 1.2 million jobs and account for about 17% of world chemicals production. Virtually all large global and local chemical companies with production facilities in Europe are CEFIC members (including companies headquartered abroad – United States companies).

## Objectives of the meeting



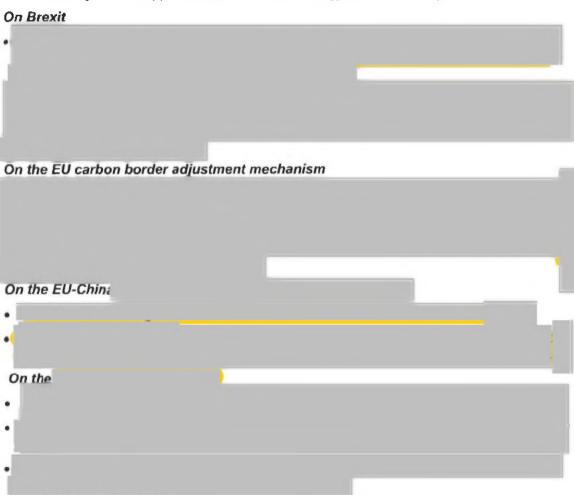
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## Key messages

### On the Chemicals strategy for sustainability

- The Commission wants to reinforce the regulatory framework on chemicals but also to support the EU chemicals industry by ensuring a level playing field.
- The chemicals strategy introduces measures to boost innovation and strengthen the EU legal framework for the transition to safe and sustainable chemicals.
- I count on your full support to implement the strategy and deliver fully its ambitions.



#### On sustainable finance

- To meet the European Green Deal objectives, the draft EU taxonomy criteria need to go beyond the practices of businesses and beyond what is required by applicable law.
- The EU taxonomy is not a mandatory list of activities in which investors are obliged to
  invest if they want to invest in "green". It remains up to each investor to decide.

Contact - briefing coordination:

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