



## EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs

Consumer, Environmental and Health Technologies  
**Chemicals**

Brussels, 17 October 2017

GROW/D.2/

### NOTE FOR THE FILE MEETING WITH CEFIC

**Participants Cefic:** Marco Mensink, Director-General  
Aaron McLoughlin, Executive Director Public Affairs  
(*transparency register id 64879142323-90*),

**Participants GROW:** Lowri Evans, , , ,

**Date & time:** 17 October 2017, 16:30-17:30

#### 1. BACKGROUND

Mr Mensink requested a meeting with Ms Evans to discuss four issues: (1) REACH enforcement, (2) R&D support, (3) ETS innovation fund, and (4) Better Regulation. The recently published industrial policy strategy was also added to the agenda.

#### 2. DISCUSSION

- Cefic provided an update on its current key activities, including improving outreach to SMEs around Europe, followed by an overview of the chemicals sector, which has shown a strong performance over the past six months.
- In relation to the EU industrial policy strategy, GROW underlined the importance of all relevant actors on a national and regional level to contribute and encouraged Cefic to provide suggestions on effective indicators to monitor progress.
- Cefic presented the work on its Mid-Century Strategy, aiming at a chemical industry that is decarbonised, circular and economically viable. The lack of investment in new industrial installations in Europe was raised as a particular concern by Cefic.
- In relation to the plastics strategy, it is important to obtain a more granular understanding of plastics manufacturing, use and recycling. In addition, Cefic considered it crucial that chemical recycling is counted towards recycling targets and called for the introduction of standards for recycled plastics (as has been previously done for paper). → **Inform GROW/D.2**
- Cefic raised the lack of REACH enforcement at the border (imported chemicals and articles) as a major concern. This requires further coordination between REACH authorities and customs authorities. → **Follow-up with GROW/B on market surveillance and with GROW/D.1, which is already working on this matter with DG TAXUD and the Member States.**

- Cefic advocated more support to SMEs for substitution activities. It also stressed that any potential future work on a non-toxic environment strategy should consider competitiveness and innovation.
- In relation to the Better Regulation Agenda, Cefic indicated that economic impact assessments should be more consistently conducted on technical adaptations (in particular new harmonised classifications under CLP), as well as proposals under the Stockholm Convention. It specifically raised concerns about the impacts of the classification of titanium dioxide (widely used in paints) and pyrethrin zinc (used in shampoo). GROW indicated that the classification of mixtures containing titanium dioxide is on the agenda of the next CARACAL expert group meeting. → ***Follow-up with GROW/01 on economic impact assessments and GROW/D.2 (responsible for CLP)***

c.c. L. Evans, A. Peltomäki, [REDACTED] (GROW), C. Pettinelli (GROW/D)  
 [REDACTED] (GROW/D.2)  
 [REDACTED] (GROW/D.1)  
 [REDACTED] (GROW/01), [REDACTED] (GROW/B.1)