Berlin, 12th of December 2019

Dear Mr. Timmermans,

I would like to congratulate you on your election as Executive Vice-president and Commissioner for the European Green Deal of the European Commission and use this opportunity to introduce you to our organisation.

The German Employers’ Federation Food and Consumption (ANG) represents the socio-political and labour market interests of about 6,100 food producers and over 610,000 employees in Germany. Being the largest food producer within the European Union (EU), the German food and consumption industry is convinced that the European Single Market portrays the cornerstone of the EU. Besides that, it marks the basis for companies to trade. The Single Market rests on the functioning of sustainable socio-political and labour market systems in the European member states, which vary considerably for historical reasons. At the same time, the EU already represents a comprehensive and reliable framework for action with more than sixty directives and regulations in the social dimension.

In the context of your election, we would like to draw your attention to our demands for the future European policy. In light of the increased competences of the EU in the field of social and labour market policy during the last legislative term, advocates who campaign for
maintaining the established social systems in the member states are needed more than ever. More precisely, we demand more respect by EU-social policy for the competencies of the European member states, the preservation of the free movement of workers within the Single Market as well as the promotion of social partnership and a Europe-wide social dialogue.

We would be pleased to engage in further dialogue with you on our demands.

Sincerely