

Helsinki

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GD/fb

Mr Pierre Favre  
Head of the Notification Authority for chemicals  
Federal Office of Public Health FOPH  
Notification Authority for chemicals  
CH - 3003 Berne

**Subject: Exchange of Letters on scientific and technical cooperation**

Dear Mr Favre,

I refer to our previous contacts on this matter and suggest the following as a basis for the scientific and technical cooperation between the European Chemicals Agency (ECHA) and the Swiss Notification Authority for Chemicals. The cooperation would be, on our side, on such matters that are within ECHA's remit of managing the implementation of the European Union's REACH and CLP Regulations. Whereas Switzerland's participation in ECHA's Biocides-related work is guided by the Agreement between the European Community and the Swiss Confederation on mutual recognition in relation to conformity assessment (MRA) as well as a formal invitation expressed by ECHA's Management Board, this Exchange of Letters solely formalises scientific and technical contacts in a structured way, without opening any pathway to the participation of Switzerland in ECHA's REACH or CLP-mandated work. Therefore, this collaboration excludes Switzerland for participation in the scientific committees of ECHA.

Each side should nominate a contact person as a focal point for our scientific and technical cooperation. Matters of mutual scientific or technical importance and relevance will be identified during video-conferences that could be held twice per calendar year to steer the collaboration and contacts between experts. For ECHA, Jenny Holmqvist, International Affairs Officer will be the contact person.

The experts, at this juncture, should concentrate on exchanging views on the scientific and technical issues related to the assessment of chemicals, their risk management, safety aspects of manufactured nanomaterials as well as occupational exposure models and limits. If you agree to the foregoing by replying in writing and by nominating a contact person, the present letter and your letter in reply shall constitute the founding basis for conducting the scientific and technical cooperation between our two authorities.

Sincerely yours,

  
Geert Dancet  
Executive Director