



## MEETING WITH AMERICAN CHEMISTRY COUNCIL (ACC)

**DATE:** Friday, October 25, 2002  
**TIME:** 2:30 – 3:30 pm  
**LOCATION:** Room 3864  
**FROM:** Henry Levine, DAS for Europe  
**Prepared by:** Don Wright, MAC/EUR/OEURA, X5844

### I. OBJECTIVE/ROLE

- Get briefed on the agenda for the Transatlantic Business Dialogue (TABD) Chemicals CEO and Senior Government Meeting
- Discuss ACC's proposed recommendations for the Chemicals Working Group to help insure a focused discussion and solid outcomes in Chicago.

### II Background

Mr. Garrity Baker, American Chemistry Council (ACC), is the U.S. Working Chair for the TABD Chemicals Working Group. He will attend the Chicago meetings.

Mr. Baker will provide you with an annotated agenda of topics to be discussed at the Chemicals meeting. He will brief you on ACC positions on the EU White Paper on Chemicals.

Mr. Baker will also thank the U.S. Government for its efforts to garner support for U.S. industry's position on the new EU Chemical Strategy (REACH - Registration, Evaluation, Assessment of Chemicals). The U.S. government was instrumental in setting up meetings between representatives from the American Chemistry Council (ACC) and U.S. Ambassadors in Italy, Ireland, Spain, Austria and Portugal to foster the U.S. position on REACH.

We expect Mr. Baker also to ask for continued senior level support in raising U.S. industry's concerns to the EU and its member states.

With CEOs and Commissioner Liikanen present, the TABD Chemicals meeting is a great opportunity for US and European industry to air their joint concerns over the Chemicals Directive, and to seek concrete steps to address those concerns. This meeting will also be attended by senior level officials from the Environmental Protection Agency (Assistant Administrator Johnson), U.S. Trade Representatives, and the Department of State who also will provide their perspective on the issue.

The draft Chemicals Working Group paper (copy attached) contains some recommendations. Your discussion of those recommendations with ACC can help insure a good focus for the discussion in Chicago.



### **III. PARTICIPANTS**

#### **You**

Garrity Baker, American Chemistry Council

Mike Walls, American Chemistry Council (tentative)

Jeffrey Horowitz, Rohm-Haas

Henry Levine, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Europe

Victoria Kader, Director, Trade Policy Division, Office of European Union and Regional Affairs

Don Wright, Office of European Union and Regional Affairs

Kim Copperthite, Office of Chemicals, Trade Development

### **VI. LIST OF ATTACHMENTS**

Talking Points

Background Paper

TABD Chemicals Working Group Draft Paper

## **TALKING POINTS**

- I appreciate your commitment to TABD and to helping us expand and improve our trade relations with the EU.
- We hope the November 7-8 meetings will be productive and will help revitalize the TABD. Under Secretary Aldonas is looking forward to leading the discussion at the TABD Chemicals meeting.

### **Chemicals White Paper**

- I am concerned the EU's REACH program will have significant implications for U.S. business and transatlantic trade in chemicals and downstream products.
- We support the goal of protecting human health and the environment. However, we believe the REACH system was designed to enhance the competitiveness of the EU industry, not third country markets like the U.S.
- We feel the Commission proposal will impede innovation and create an administrative and cost burden that many U.S. and EU small and medium-sized enterprises are incapable of bearing.
- We have pushed the Commission to give serious consideration to the constructive input from U.S. regulators and U.S. stakeholders and hope that has been helpful..

### **Working Group Recommendations**

- I have read the draft Chemicals Working Group paper, including the recommendations.
- I would like your assessment of how you see the discussion going in Chicago. How can Grant and the other US officials present play the best role possible?
- Which of the recommendations do you see being agreed on at the session? How do you see next steps, post-Chicago?

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