

LET/18/JA/29626  
16 May 2018

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### **May 15<sup>th</sup> Hearing of the Committee on the EU Authorisation Procedure for Pesticides**

Dear Chairman Andrieu,

Following the PEST Committee hearing on the 15<sup>th</sup> May, I wanted to write to once again thank you for the invitation to speak to the Committee. I was pleased to have the opportunity to answer questions from the Members on the approval system, and the role of our industry.

As I said in my opening statement, I can see very clearly the significant challenges we face in terms of reputation and image, and I am absolutely committed to changing that. I hope that you saw yesterday, an industry that is open, ready to engage, and to respond to concerns.

I hope that the written answers we provided in advance, as well as the answers I gave during the Committee provided sufficient insight, however I remain at the disposal of you and your Committee should you require any additional information or have any further questions.

We all have a shared objective of ensuring a safe, sustainable and affordable supply of food for the EU's 500 million citizens. Europe has the strictest regulatory system in the world, and arguably the safest food in the world. We must be able to ensure those high levels of protection for health and the environment, at the same time as protecting the competitiveness of European agriculture.

We look forward to continuing to support the work of the Committee.

Yours sincerely



Jean-Philippe Azoulay  
Director General