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Dear Members of the PEST Committee of the European Parliament

PEST Committee Vote – 6th December

I write in advance of the vote on the final report of the Special Committee on the EU Authorisation Procedure for Pesticides on the 6th December.

When I wrote to you at the outset of the Committee, I undertook on behalf of our industry to engage openly and constructively with the process. I hope our input has been useful to the Committee's deliberations, and ECPA also very much welcomed the opportunity to give evidence directly to the Committee at the hearing on 15th May.

I can only commend the Committee for the considered and comprehensive way it has gone about its work. Whilst we do not necessarily agree with all of the points raised in the Committee, it is reassuring to see the Committee's draft report acknowledges that Europe has the most stringent regulatory system for approval of crop protection products in the world, recognising there are areas where the current system could be better implemented. We would support this sentiment, including the need to ensure that the Sustainable Use Directive is fully implemented. We can and should always strive to do things better.

Without wishing to pre-judge the outcome of the vote on Thursday, or ultimately in plenary, I would like to take the opportunity to underline the fact that we support the objective of the Committee to improve the transparency, effectiveness and confidence in the pesticide approval process in the EU. To this end, I would draw attention to our industry's continued support of the aims of the current proposal amending the General Food Law, and our industry's Global commitment to make safety related data in the studies, that we submit in support of pesticide approvals, publicly available. Further information on this commitment can be found here: <https://www.ecpa.eu/industry-data-transparency>

I look forward to reading the recommendations in the final report. We, as always, remain at your disposal should you wish to have ECPA's views on any of the recommendations included in the current draft.

Yours sincerely,



Graeme Taylor
Director of Public Affairs