

To:

Ms. Jessika Roswall
Commissioner for Environment, Water Resilience and a Competitive Circular Economy
European Commission
B-1049 Brussels

Brussels, 20 January 2025.

Dear Commissioner Roswall,

On behalf of CropLife Europe, I extend my warm congratulations on your appointment to the College of Commissioners. The EU requires a vision and a clear framework to address the challenges and opportunities outlined in the Draghi report and the Strategic Dialogue on the Future of Agriculture. We are excited to introduce CropLife Europe as a partner in the transition to sustainable and innovative food systems for Europe.

As the European organisation that represents the crop protection sector, we advocate for an outcome-focused approach that leverages a sustainable toolbox of solutions for farmers. Our members are 25 global companies, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) and 32 national associations operating in conventional pesticides, biopesticides, plant biotechnology, and digital and precision agriculture

A successful and secure agricultural sector relies upon a healthy and biodiverse environment. Our sector is committed to providing solutions for farmers that enable them to be custodians of Europe's land for the future while remaining competitive. With your work on the bioeconomy strategy and Circular Economy Act, your portfolio is of vital importance to the future success of European agriculture. With our resources and extensive technical expertise in working with legislation in the sector, we hope to be able to provide useful perspectives on where policy can become more efficient, effective and predictable to encourage positive change.

Europe is a global leader in chemical policy and innovation in scientific fields. I would also like to take this letter as an opportunity to highlight the work on our 2030 Commitments, launched in 2021. These Commitments focus on three main priorities: advancing the Circular Economy, fostering Innovation and Investment, and protecting People and the Environment.

This year, we are proud to share substantial progress across these areas:

Innovation & Investment

We are investing €10 billion in Digital and Precision Agricultural technologies and an additional €4 billion in biopesticides by 2030. We have made substantial progress, with €3.8 billion allocated to digital agronomy and €2.4 billion to biopesticides. This demonstrates 38% and 60% of our respective targets.

Circular Economy

Our dedication to resource efficiency is central to our packaging recovery and recycling efforts. In 2023, we achieved a 71.8% collection rate for plastic packaging, with an ambitious target of reaching a 75% collection rate across all EU countries by 2025. Notably, 89% of the collected plastic was successfully processed for recycling, underscoring our focus on turning waste into valuable resources.

Protecting People & the Environment

We have reached 69% of our goal to train 1 million advisors, trainers, and farmers in best management practices. Additionally, we are on track to make Closed Transfer Systems available to all European farmers and operators by 2030, significantly reducing exposure risks during product handling.

Beyond these achievements, we support the Strategic Dialogue on the Future of Agriculture core recommendations, the Letta report and the Draghi report. We are eager to continue working towards solutions that can support the transition to a more sustainable and competitive EU.

Once again, congratulations on your appointment. We would welcome the opportunity to meet you and your team to explore avenues for collaboration and share further insights into how our sector can support Europe's environmental ambitions.

Thank you for your attention and we look forward to working together.

Yours sincerely,



Oliver de Matos
Director General

Cc.

Paulina Dejmek Hack, Head of Cabinet.

Jan Ceyskens, Deputy Head of Cabinet.