

Draft reply to [REDACTED] email of 14 March 2023 to Executive VP Timmermans

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your message of 14 March to Executive Vice-President Timmermans, who asked me to reply on his behalf.

The European Commission is indeed aware of the contribution that enzymes can make to the objectives of the Green Deal, in particular a climate-neutral economy. At the same time, the Chemicals Strategy for Sustainability, which is part of the above-mentioned Green Deal, pursues the safe use of chemicals. The safety of consumer products is a priority.

However, if certain chemicals with hazardous properties – such as, for example, certain enzymes that may affect the respiratory system – are indispensable to achieve the objectives of the Green Deal, practical solutions will have to be sought. The criteria for essential uses, which are currently being developed for use in, inter alia, the revision of the REACH Regulation, could undoubtedly play a role here.

I therefore invite you to follow up on the further developments related to the revision of the REACH Regulation and to share your views on the occasion of relevant consultations.