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**VOTES ON REACH:
TRANSLATE COMPROMISE INTO A WORKABLE SOLUTION**

UNICE and its member federations welcome adoption of the compromise amendments which have been supported by a large number of MEPs from different political groups in the EP's industry and internal market committees. Although not as far-reaching as it could have been, this compromise follows to a significant extent the risk-based approach advocated by European companies.

This compromise is a positive example of cooperation between the main political groups working together to find a balanced and reasonable solution to problems and applying the principles of better regulation.

"A risk-based approach will put a particular emphasis on substances of high concern and ensure their registration first, thereby leading to a more efficient system that is more compatible with the capacities and resources of companies. In particular, this will help SMEs and downstream users in all sectors.

"At the same time, a risk-based approach would not reduce the responsibilities placed on industry nor would it put at risk the health and environmental objectives of REACH. We strongly encourage the environment committee to translate the compromise reached in the internal market and industry committees into a workable solution during the votes in early October and later in the plenary", said Philippe de Buck, UNICE Secretary General.

NOTE TO THE EDITOR

UNICE is the voice of more than 20 million small, medium and large companies. Active in European affairs since 1958, UNICE's members are 39 central industrial and employers' federations from 33 countries, working together to achieve growth and competitiveness in Europe.

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