



Letter to the 25 Heads of States of the European Union

Mr President, Mr Prime Minister, Chancellor,

The vote in first reading for the **REACH** bill at the European Parliament, in November, was an important step towards the passing of this legislation. Signed by more than a thousand scientists and the Standing Committee of European Doctors representing **2 million physicians**, the **Paris Appeal** calls for the reinforcement of this legislation.

According to this international declaration, the sanitary bill that all European member states are faced with today is mostly a direct consequence of the toxicity of chemicals that are put on the market. In Europe, one cancer out of two is related to chemical substances; 10 to 20% citizens suffer from allergies; one child out of seven suffers from asthma; 15% couples are sterile. **The very first victims of chemical pollution, children are now in danger.**

**The Competitiveness Council and European Council** will meet on December 13, 15 and 16.

We urge you to **maintain a mandatory and inviolable substitution principle** within the authorization procedure and to **re-establish an effective registration procedure** in order to guarantee the toxicological identification of, not only 10,000 chemicals, but 30,000, as the Commission had initially stipulated.

As Heads of States, you will be held responsible for the decision that you will make for your country and the people you represent.

**As determined as ever, physicians in every country will see to it that these demands are met.** A strong REACH program is the only way to preserve a united Europe that protects citizens' health.

Yours faithfully,

Pr. Dominique Belpomme

On behalf of the Paris Appeal Committee