



9<sup>th</sup> October 2006

## PROTECT CHILDREN'S HEALTH WITH REACH

Dear Member of the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety Committee,

Tomorrow you will be voting on REACH – and thereby making crucial decisions about Parliament's **position on the protection of vulnerable groups: babies, children, pregnant & breastfeeding women**, in this legislation. On this subject, Council has largely ignored your prior work. Of the original 7 amendments which Parliament passed in the first reading, Council has only taken up 1 recital in their text, in a weaker form, and has not even defined the term.

In Budapest in June 2004, the 52 Health and Environment Ministers signed a declaration committing their countries to reducing the risk of disease and disability arising from exposure to hazardous chemicals for people during pregnancy, childhood and adolescence. **The single most effective way to put those commitments into practice** is to ensure that that REACH has a strong substitution component and takes account of vulnerable populations.

We ask you to uphold your initial strong position and vote for the amendments listed below.

**Please support:**

- 1) **the amendments, sponsored by Madame Ries (et al) to ensure the adequate protection of vulnerable populations within the REACH proposal. AMS:**

**53; 54; 55; 56; 60/61/63; 78; 79; 80; 120;**

- 2) **the package on substitution promoted by MEP Sacconi.**

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Genon Jensen".

Genon Jensen, Executive Director