To: Members of the European Parliament's Environment Committee
   Members of the European Parliament's Industry Committee

Brussels, 7 November 2006

Dear Member of the European Parliament,

Considering the evolution of the debate in the Parliament on the Waste Framework Directive, our industrial and commerce sectors have felt the need to clearly express the key prerequisites for a meaningful and effective waste management hierarchy serving its purpose in future EU waste policy.

Our industries and commerce sectors share the view that regardless of the number of steps it includes (3, 4 or 5), the waste hierarchy should:

1) be conceived as a guiding principle
2) be realistic and workable
3) rely for its implementation on conditions linked to the environmental, economic and social impacts of individual measures.

In order to fulfil these 3 prerequisites, it is necessary that the future Waste Framework Directive provides for:

1) clear definitions for the different steps in the hierarchy
2) a non procedural approach for the implementation of the hierarchy (i.e. no complex procedures requiring the justification by controversial and expensive studies such as life cycle analyses, which are often incomplete and non-standardized)
3) a requirement for EU Member States to take into account, while implementing the hierarchy, the environmental, economic and social impacts of each individual measure.

In view of the vote in the Environment Committee on 28 November, we kindly ask you to take the above-mentioned requirements into account.

Representatives from the signatory sectors remain at your disposal to provide you with more details, and would be pleased to meet with you to discuss further any specific aspects of the amendments tabled ahead of the vote in November.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you wish to obtain more information on our common position.

Yours sincerely,
**Sectoral Organisations:**

**ASSURRE**
Bill Duncan, Managing Director  
Tel.: +32 2 772 52 52  
management@assurre.org

**Confederation of the Food & Drink Industries of the EU (CIAA)**  
Daniela Israelachwili, Director General  
Tel.: +32 2 514 11 11  
d.israelachwili@ciaa.be

**European Brands Association (AIM)**  
Alain Galaski, Director General  
Tel.: +32 2 736 03 05  
alain.galaski@aim.be

**Retail, Wholesale and International Trade Representation in the EU (EUROCOMMERCE)**  
Xavier R. Durieu, Secretary General  
Tel.: +32 2 737 05 96  
Papazahariou@eurocommerce.be

**The European Organization for Packaging and the Environment (EUROPEN)**  
Julian Carroll, Managing Director  
Tel.: +32 2 736 36 00  
packaging@europen.be

**Material Producers:**

**Confederation of European Paper Industries (CEPI)**  
Teresa Presas, Managing Director  
Tel.: +32 2 627 49 20  
t.preas@cepi.org

**European Container Glass Federation (FEVE)**  
Andrew Somogyi, Secretary General  
Tel.: +32 2 539 34 34  
a.somogyi@feve.org

**European Aluminium Association (EAA)**  
Patrick de Schrynmakers, Secretary General  
Tel.: +32 2 775 63 51  
schrynmakers@eaa.be

**European Confederation of Iron & Steel Industries (EUROFER)**  
Dietrich von Hülsen, Director General  
Tel.: +32 2 738 79 20  
huelsen@eurofer.be

**Association of Plastics Manufacturers (PLASTICS EUROPE)**  
Nancy Russotto, Executive Director  
Tel.: +32 2 675 32 97  
nancy.russotto@plasticseurope.org