



PRESS RELEASE

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Joint position of the German chemical sector

Requirements to a sustainable trade policy

The three umbrella organizations of the German chemical industry are jointly calling upon politicians and institutions to create better trade policy rules and to resort to new approaches for this purpose. In their position paper "Anforderungen an eine nachhaltige Handelspolitik des 21. Jahrhunderts" (requirements to a sustainable trade policy of the 21st century) the German Chemical Industry Association (VCI), the Mining, Chemical and Energy Industrial Union (IG BCE) and the German Federation of Chemical Employers' Associations (BAVC) criticize the work of the World Trade Organization (WTO) for no longer meeting the challenges of a growing global economy.

It is held that, due to the growing number of WTO members, the WTO principle of consensus has led to shortcomings in the agreeing on new common rules and principles for investments, subsidies, competition and regulatory cooperation. According to the position paper, this also delays the necessary adaptation of the international regulatory framework for the protection of workers, climate and the environment and the protection of intellectual property rights.

VCI, IG BCE and BAVC see the public debate about the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) between the EU and the USA as a chance to get closer to the requirements to a sustainable trade policy, as brought forward in their position paper. It would be desirable for TTIP to contribute to the further development of the global regulatory framework of the 21st century.

The three umbrella organizations are convinced that their differentiated position paper makes a forward-looking basis for a politically shaped regulatory framework that opens up perspectives also for Germany's export model.

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