

**STATEMENT BY POLAND
REGARDING A NEW CHEMICAL POLICY – REACH SYSTEM**

(statement after Competitiveness Council on December 13, 2005)

"In the spirit of reaching a compromise Poland wishes to support the political agreement on REACH. The agreed compromise by the Council has not eliminated all the fears of Poland regarding potential deterioration of competitiveness of the chemical industry in the EU.

The government of Poland also maintains its concerns regarding the practical functioning of the REACH system and the high implementation costs. The competitiveness of the sector is still threatened and thus limits the possibilities to fully realise the Lisbon Strategy. For this reason further work on the REACH package in no way should lead to weakening the position of industry in the EU Members States and to impairment of competitiveness of the EU chemical and many other industries.

However, taking into account broad support for the agreed compromise by the EU Member States, Poland agrees to accept the political agreement."