

May 9, 2017

The Honorable Bob Corker  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations  
423 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Ben Cardin  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Foreign Relations  
444 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Chairman Corker and Ranking Member Cardin:

As representatives of leading U.S. business associations representing a broad swath of the manufacturing economy, our organizations recently joined together to launch Engaging America's Global Leadership (EAGL), a new coalition focused on fostering effective U.S. leadership to address the growing number of activities at global institutions such as the United Nations and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development that may impact U.S. manufacturing competitiveness and jobs. EAGL represents diverse industries such as food and agriculture, chemicals, plastics, footwear and apparel, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and consumer products that are important contributors to the American economy, employing millions of American workers.

Our organizations and member companies support strong U.S. leadership in global institutions, as well as initiatives that support these organizations' core missions and promote a vibrant U.S. economy. We are concerned, however, by the growing wave of activities coming out of the United Nations and other multilateral venues that may impact the U.S. economy and U.S. jobs.

Many of these initiatives do not align with the core missions of these various institutions, have not been developed in a manner transparent to all stakeholders, and are not based on good regulatory practice or sound science. These activities and others, such as price controls, appear in a variety of forms, from conferences and reports to action plans and guiding regulations that are being manipulated to pressure national governments to adopt specific policies and recommendations that harm manufacturers in the United States and the high-paying jobs they create.

Furthermore, many of these policy proposals and recommendations are formulated in ways that exclude or marginalize U.S. government and private sector representatives, calling into question the impartiality and motivations of these initiatives. These initiatives directly threaten not only U.S. manufacturing success, but our leadership in these institutions. It is imperative that U.S. interests be vigorously defended at all levels of the various global institutions that the United States supports and engages.

America's diplomats and government officials must stand up for U.S. manufacturing through smart engagement and leadership within these international organizations, hold them accountable, and drive progress and reform. Such leadership must ensure the U.S. government is speaking with one consistent voice across the spectrum of multilateral institutions, employing all available tools and leverage, and delivering real results.

Our organizations are committed to working with the entire administration and Congress to develop concrete strategies and solutions that not only address specific initiatives, but that also improve the ability of the U.S. government – and your agencies – to defend and promote American economic interests. We would appreciate an opportunity to engage you and your staff

further on these concerns and how to address them. For more information or to set a follow-up discussion, please contact Ryan Ong ([rong@nam.org](mailto:rong@nam.org)).

Sincerely,

Advanced Medical Technology Association  
Air Conditioning, Heating, and Refrigeration Institute  
American Apparel and Footwear Association  
American Chemistry Council  
Biotechnology Innovation Organization  
CropLife America  
Distilled Spirits Council of the United States  
International Dairy Foods Association  
National Association of Manufacturers  
National Pork Producers Council  
Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers Association  
Plastics Industry Association  
Society of Chemical Manufacturers & Affiliates  
The Fertilizer Institute  
The Vinyl Institute

Cc: The Honorable Todd Young, Chairman, Subcommittee on Multilateral International Development, Multilateral Institutions, and International Economic, Energy, and Environmental Policy

Cc: The Honorable Jeff Merkley, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Multilateral International Development, Multilateral Institutions, and International Economic, Energy, and Environmental Policy

Cc: The Honorable Johnny Isakson, Chairman, Subcommittee on State Department and USAID Management, International Operations, and Bilateral International Development

Cc: The Honorable Jeanne Shaheen, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on State Department and USAID Management, International Operations, and Bilateral International Development