



The Secretary General

Mr. Janez Potočnik
European Commissioner for
Science and Research
European Commission
200, rue de la Loi
B-1049 Brussels

Brussels, 5 September 2006

Orgalime Position Paper on Framework Programme 7: The role of production technologies in the research theme "NMP" of the specific programme "Cooperation" - COM (2006) 364 final

Dear Commissioner,

We have the pleasure of sending you our position paper on Framework Programme 7 in which we concentrate only on the research theme "Nanosciences, Nanotechnologies, Materials and new Production Technologies (NMP)" of the specific programme "Cooperation".

As you may know, Orgalime represents the interests of the European mechanical, electrical, electronic and metalworking industries at the level of the EU. Our membership includes 35 national trade federations representing some 130,000 companies in 24 European countries. These industries, which include mainly SMEs, employ some 10 million people and account for around €1,598 billion of output.

The engineering industries, as provider of enabling technologies for most other sectors, play a key role in the competitiveness of the European economy as a whole. Research, technological development and innovation are essential to maintaining the worldwide technological leadership that our industry has acquired in many areas and European Research Policy plays a significant role in underpinning this position.

We therefore urge the Commission to establish a healthy balance between the different sub-themes of NMP. Considering the importance Production Technologies have for the European industry, it is essential that sufficient funding be reserved in advance specifically for this sub-theme. Furthermore we ask the Commission to concentrate such key enabling technologies under one distinct heading.

We hope that the Commission will take due account of our position.

A similar letter has been sent to you colleague Commissioner Verheugen.

Yours sincerely,



Adrian Harris

Cc DG Research: Messrs Rodriguez, Stančič, Hartley, Tokamanis, Tomellini, Saragossi, Arnold, Gentili, Pedersen, Suominen

Cc Cabinet: Mr Messrs Dröll, Vandenberghe

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