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## ***Pressemitteilung***

### **REACH - Importers of consumer goods relieved**

“Finally the European Parliament has found a pragmatic solution for the registration of substances in articles”, said Jan A. Eggert, Managing Director of the Foreign Trade Association of German Retailers (AVE), in reaction to the plenary vote on REACH last Thursday in Strasbourg. “It is vital that REACH provisions comply with WTO-rules. Impediments of international agreements must be avoided by all means. The European economy cannot afford trade wars with other WTO-countries that lead to retaliatory measures as a consequence of WTO-rulings.”

The AVE had been supporting a WTO-compliant solution for REACH-provisions dealing with the obligation to register substances in imported articles (Art. 6). The goal was a risk-based approach and the implementation of the OSOR-principle (One Substance, One Registration). Both aspects are indispensable to bring REACH into compliance with the TBT-Agreement (Technical Barriers to Trade) of the WTO. Both aspects have been respected in the first plenary reading.

“The INTA (International Trade Committee of the European Parliament) – equipped with relevant know-how on WTO questions – paved the way for the compromise package on Art. 6”, Jan Eggert stated after the votes. “We are very pleased that a majority of the European Parliamentarians was sensible enough to support these principles and provide legal certainty whilst respecting the needs of consumers and of importers. A VE members would welcome the European Council’s support of Art. 6 REACH in this respect.”

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*Die Außenhandelsvereinigung des Deutschen Einzelhandels vertritt seit über 50 Jahren die außenwirtschaftlichen Interessen des deutschen Einzelhandels, der im Rahmen seiner weltweiten Einkaufspolitik auf eine reibungslose Einfuhr von Konsumgütern aller Art angewiesen ist. Mit der stetig zunehmenden Internationalisierung des Einzelhandels wächst für die AVE jedoch auch die Bedeutung des Marktzugangs in Ländern außerhalb der Europäischen Union. Darüber hinaus engagiert sich die AVE für eine strikte Einhaltung von Sozialstandards in den Lieferländern.*

## **IMPRESSUM / KONTAKT**

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