Statement by the GLOBE EU Bee Group on the need to maintain focus on resource and energy efficiency measures as a driver for competitiveness and growth

We, the undersigned, a group of European and international companies active in diverse sectors of the economy and representing various segments of the manufacturing and services industry, ask that the European Commission, members of the European Parliament, and EU Member States do not allow the current crises facing the European Union to distract from the implementation of systemic changes necessary to a fuel a sustainable and competitive EU economy.

Given that unemployment amongst young Europeans remains high at 18.6% and EU economic growth until 2020 is expected to be 1.3% at best, we ask that the European Commission, the European Parliament, and EU Member States pay particular attention to developing policy and regulatory initiatives that will contribute to a more resource and energy efficient EU economy and have the potential to create significant additional growth and employment.

Achieving the objectives stated in the 2030 Climate and Energy Framework provides an opportunity, albeit one that requires a dynamic and holistic policy framework that encompasses regulatory pushes as well as "demand pull" by recognizing the opportunities in every point in the value chain.

For instance, the integration of circular economy principles in public procurement practices across the EU could form an effective policy tool to deliver on pledges that can make a real difference in the lives of European citizens and inject fresh dynamism and opportunities in the EU single market.

We therefore call on the European Parliament, the European Commission, and Member States to continue to support measures to achieve an effective, sustainable, competitive, and resource efficient circular economy in the EU.

For the GLOBE EU Bee Group:

CEMEX
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LafargeHolcim
Michelin
ROCKWOOL International
Saint-Gobain
SUEZ
Tetra Pak
Umicore
Unilever