

## ANNEX

### **Questions to Member States on companies with staff headcount 250-499**

1. How many autonomous companies with a staff headcount 250-499 have their registered office in your Member State? What is the proportion of these companies within the group of all companies that do not meet the criteria of the SME definition in accordance with Commission Recommendation of 6 May 2003 concerning the definition of micro, small and medium-sized enterprises?
2. Are there any specific support measures for autonomous companies with a staff headcount between 250 and 499, or a similar category of companies (in any sector) in your Member State? If yes, please describe them briefly.
3. Are you aware of any specific difficulties these companies are having in fulfilling REACH obligations in your Member State? Are these difficulties unique for this group of companies or are they shared also with companies which migrate between categories inside the SME definition? Have these problems a transitional character or are they persistent?
4. Would you consider it appropriate to define a category of autonomous companies with staff headcount between 250 and 499 on the ground that these companies have a different economic position as opposed to other (large) companies?
5. Would you consider it appropriate to define a particular category of companies, benefiting from REACH fee rebates, based solely on the staff headcount and not taking into consideration financial criteria, such as those in the SME definition in Commission Recommendation of 6 May 2003?