



Mr. Andreas Carlgren
Swedish Environment Minister
Swedish Government Offices
SE-103 33 Stockholm
Sweden

14 September 2009

Dear Minister,

BUSINESSEUROPE strongly supports the global development, deployment and dissemination of environmentally sound technologies and products, which have the potential to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, as well as Europe's continued objective to deliver growth and jobs built on sustainability, innovation and a dynamic knowledge-based economy to benefit Europe's citizens.

In this context, intellectual property rights (IPRs) are a key driver of private sector investment in environmentally-sound technologies, innovation and competitiveness. Proposals for compulsory licensing and other forms of IP weakening, concessionary technology pricing, and centralized purchasing on non-market terms put at risk European competitiveness and jobs, to the benefit of our competitors in China, India, Brazil and elsewhere.

It has come to our attention that the draft Council conclusions of the EU position for the Copenhagen Climate Conference might not sufficiently take this into account by not addressing the role of IPR protection for innovation in this area and not taking a firm stance against proposals aimed at weakening IPR protection. We would therefore, respectfully, urge the Swedish Presidency to take this issue into consideration before finalising the EU position and ensure that the critical role of the European clean technology sector as a driver for sustainable, knowledge-driven growth and jobs is duly recognised.

In this context, you will find attached a detailed BUSINESSEUROPE position on technology deployment for combating climate change.

We remain at your disposal to discuss our position further.

Yours sincerely,

Philippe de Buck