Commissioner Miguel Arias Cañete  
European Commission  
Rue de la Loi / Wetstraat 200  
B-1049 Brussels  
Belgium

Congratulations on reaching a promising global climate deal!

Dear Commissioner Cañete,

The European heat pump industry is delighted to see that Europe has been an active promoter and coalition-builder of ambition at COP21. Thank you for your ongoing personal engagement towards a historical global climate deal!

Now Europe needs to create an energy system that demonstrates its willingness to remain a frontrunner on climate issues to the world. 2016 will be crucial for this. Since the current policy measures may not be enough to limit global warming to 1.5°C, the Commission must use the “COP21 momentum” to introduce further ambition into the EU’s energy policy.

The heating and cooling sector provides huge, yet largely unused, potential to turn ambition into reality. We would like to re-state that heat pump technologies are ready to decarbonise residential and commercial buildings, as well as industrial processes, based on renewable energy and efficiency. Heat pumps can reduce CO₂-equ emissions of the European building stock by more than 700 Mt. The potential for industry processes and commercial buildings is of similar magnitude.

We are convinced that the following is needed from the European Commission for the EU to remain the leader in a global energy transition:

- raise EU’s climate and energy targets, especially addressing building renovation
- design a post-COP21 electricity and thermal market with incentives for future proof green techs and without subsidies to inefficient fossil fuel use
- promote smart and green heating & cooling techs in EU policies to strengthen investors’ confidence and trigger market uptakes.

We would be honoured to discuss our ideas in detail with you and your team in the beginning of 2016. We send you also our best wishes for the ‘year of delivery’!

Yours sincerely,

Thomas Nowak  
Secretary General

Martin Forsén  
President

About EHPA: The European Heat Pump Association (EHPA, www.ehpa.org) promotes awareness and proper deployment of heat pump technology in the European market place for residential, commercial and industrial applications. EHPA has 109 members from 22 European countries representing the majority of actors in the European heat pump industry. The association aims to provide technical and economic input to European, national and local authorities in legislative, regulatory and energy efficiency matters. All activities are aimed at overcoming market barriers and dissemination of information in order to speed up market development of heat pumps for heating, cooling and hot water production. It is the declared aim of the association to make heat pumps a core technology in the development towards a more energy efficient, RES-based, sustainable energy system.