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*Brussels,  
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*Dear Sirs,*

*I refer to your "Open letter on the move of medicinal products and health technologies to the portfolio of the Commissioner for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs".*

*Following discussions with all political groups, I included "A Deeper and Fairer Internal Market with a Strengthened Industrial Base" as a priority in my Political Guidelines which I presented to the European Parliament on 15 July. To implement this objective, I have decided to establish a new Portfolio and a new Directorate-General which will be responsible for the whole legislation governing the internal market of products and services (apart from financial services). Health technology products, cosmetics and medicinal products will be part of this new Portfolio. I have entrusted this Portfolio to Elzbieta Bieńkowska, for whose appointment I had to struggle during the whole summer in order to enhance the participation of strong, experienced women in my Commission, as requested by the European Parliament.*

*Public health related issues will be under the responsibility of the Commissioner for Health and Food Safety – the very competent Vytenis Andriukaitis, a former Minister of Health – and the Directorate-General responsible for Health, where two Directorates will be responsible for public health, health systems, health strategy and health technology assessment. In addition, I have transferred the competence for dealing with food waste and biocides to this Portfolio.*

*The Commissioner for Health and Food Safety will also be responsible for ensuring within my Commission, in a horizontal and cross-cutting manner, that all policies,*



*decisions and initiatives respect and apply the Treaty provisions on public health, in line with Article 168 TFEU.*

*The two Directorates-General, the Internal Market one and the one responsible for Health and Food Safety, will work closely together both in the relations with the European Medicines Agency and in the implementation of the EU legislation applied to medicinal products. The representation on the Management Board of the European Medicines Agency will, as in the past, be in the hands of the two Directorates-General. All decisions taken in relation to medicinal products will be taken by the Commission on the basis of proposals prepared jointly by the Commissioner for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs and the Commissioner for Health and Food Safety.*

*As President of the Commission, I will make sure that public health will be at least as important in our policies as internal market considerations.*

*Yours sincerely,*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a long horizontal stroke with a small loop at the end and a vertical stroke crossing it near the start.