



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

November 29, 2012

OFFICE OF
INTERNATIONAL AND TRIBAL
AFFAIRS

Mr. Tim Kasten
Head, Chemicals Branch
Division of Technology, Industry and Economics
United Nations Environment Program
11-13, Chemin des Anémones
CH-1219 Châtelaine, Geneva, Switzerland

Dr. Maria Neira
Director, Department of Public Health and Environment
World Health Organization
20 Avenue Appia
CH-1211 Geneva 27, Switzerland

RE: Letter to join the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead in Paints

Dear Mr. Kasten and Dr. Neira:

On behalf of the United States Environmental Protection Agency, I am writing to inform you that the EPA affirms its endorsement of the goals and objectives of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (Global Alliance) and is pleased to join as an official contributor to the Global Alliance.

EPA currently leads the Global Alliance's "Environmental Aspects" focal area, and we expect to also support other focal areas through contributions of in-kind expertise. We see this as an opportunity for synergies between EPA's domestic work to prevent exposure to lead from paint and the coordinated efforts of the Global Alliance. Through this voluntary alliance we can jointly achieve a greater positive impact on global health, particularly the health of children, through our shared technical expertise and knowledge.

EPA looks forward to continuing our collaboration as the Global Alliance moves forward to implement actions to reduce exposure to lead from paint around the globe.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Walker B. Smith".

Walker B. Smith, Director
Office of Global Affairs and Policy