



Mr. Achim Halpaap  
Chemicals and Waste Branch  
United Nations Environment Programme  
11-13, Chemin des Anémones  
1219 Châtelaine, Geneva  
Switzerland

Verband der deutschen  
Lack- und Druckfarbenindustrie e. V.  
Mainzer Landstraße 55  
60329 Frankfurt am Main

Telefon: +49 69 2556-1411  
Telefax: +49 69 2556-1358

2016-10-25

Ms. Maria Neira  
Department of Public Health, Environmental  
and Social Determinants of Health  
World Health Organization  
20, Avenue Appia  
1211, Geneva 27  
Switzerland

**Subject: Request for Consideration as a Partner in the Lead Paint Alliance (LPA)**

Dear Ms. Neira,  
Dear Mr. Halpaap,

The German Paint and Printing Ink Association (VdL) as a member of the International Paint and Printing Ink Council (IPPIC) endorses the goal and objectives of the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint and wishes to be considered a Partner in the work of the Lead Paint Alliance.

The German Paint and Printing Ink Association acknowledge that the specific objectives of the Alliance are to prevent children's exposure to decorative paints containing lead and to minimize occupational exposures to lead arising from coatings.

The German Paint and Printing Ink Association, as an active member of IPPIC, supports the following IPPIC policy statement from 2009 that aligns with the goals and objectives of the Lead Paint Alliance:

*"IPPIC supports the long-standing effectiveness of lead-use restrictions that are already in place in certain jurisdictions and recommends their widespread adoption by authorities not currently regulating the use of lead in paint and printing ink. Such restrictions may be accomplished through specific legislation or regulation, formal voluntary agreements, or by other means that ensure widespread and verifiable compliance."*

We would like to engage in the work of the Alliance as described below:

1. *Support* specific efforts by the paint industry to reduce or eliminate the conditions that give rise to environmental lead exposure through the phase-out of the manufacture and sale of decorative paints containing lead.

By supporting industry activities to voluntarily stop the manufacture and sale of lead paint, focusing on residential and decorative paints containing lead in countries where legal limits are not currently in place;

By promoting and supporting government restrictions and prohibitions on the sale of residential and decorative paints containing lead;

By advocating for binding restrictions in countries where legal limits relating to the manufacture and sale of residential and decorative paints containing lead are not currently in place;

By raising awareness and educating the paint value chain partners about the negative effects of lead in residential and decorative paints and to assist in the understanding and transition to alternatives; and

By increasing awareness of the health and environmental risks arising from the manufacture, sale and use of residential and decorative paints containing lead.

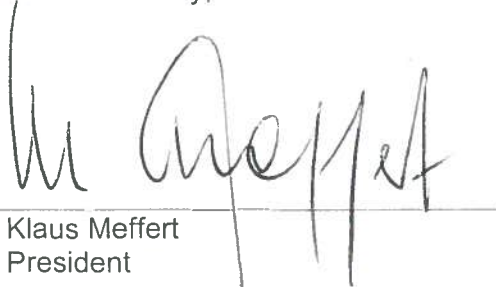
2. *Pledge* our 182 paint and printing ink manufacturing member companies support for the work of the Alliance and hereby affirm:

All member companies of the VdL, in their conduct of their business, do not add lead to residential paint, thereby complying with the complete ban of lead compounds in decorative paints in Germany. In 1984, VdL had already publicly signed a voluntary agreement on the reduction of lead pigments in all coatings.

Members of the German Paint and Printing Ink Association will not export decorative paint containing lead to countries where there is no legislative control on such.

We understand that this letter of intent is not legally binding, and that a copy of this letter requesting to become an Alliance partner and the name of the German Paint and Printing Ink Association will be listed on the Lead Paint Alliance web site ([www.unep.org/noleadpaint](http://www.unep.org/noleadpaint)).

Yours sincerely,



Klaus Meffert  
President



Dr. Martin Engelmann  
Director General