



# EU Consultation: EU–Gulf relations – authorising negotiations with Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates

European Association of Chemical Distributors (Fecc)

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Fecc acknowledges the consultation on **EU-Gulf relations – authorising negotiations with Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates** ([link](#)) and welcomes the opportunity to provide input. In this consultation we would like to raise the following points:

- 1. Strengthened Bilateral Cooperation:** Fecc endorses the initiative to enhance relations between the EU and Gulf countries, especially in the areas of trade, investment, and sustainable development. By fostering deeper cooperation in green transitions, renewable energy, and digital innovations, the agreement can create new business opportunities and improve market access.
- 2. Market Access and Business Environment:** The proposed advanced trade provisions are crucial in improving access for European companies in the Gulf region. Fecc encourages the EU to ensure that these provisions facilitate a more favorable business environment, reducing barriers and promoting smoother trade and investment relations, which will boost the competitiveness of EU-based companies.
- 3. Environmental and Safety Standards:** Fecc appreciates the EU's focus on promoting sustainable development and safeguarding human rights in the agreement. We urge the EU to ensure that environmental regulations, especially around chemicals, are harmonized with global standards. This will help chemical distributors align with international practices while contributing to sustainability and safety.

Fecc represents chemical, food, and active pharmaceutical ingredients distributors, most of which are SMEs. The objectives of this initiative are commendable, and we support efforts to enhance relations between the EU and Gulf countries. Fecc looks forward to continuing its engagement with the Commission to ensure that the agreement benefits both the industry and the broader EU-Gulf partnership, promoting economic growth, environmental protection, and a fair regulatory framework.

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To access the Fecc's response on EU Commission's website, please [click here](#).