LSMA calls for a proportionate approach to PFAS restriction following SEAC opinion

19 November, Brussels

The Life Science Manufacturers Association (LSMA) welcomes the adoption of SEAC's opinion on the proposed universal PFAS restriction, in particular the recognition that restrictions must be proportionate and take into account the availability of viable alternatives.

LSMA calls on the European Commission to ensure that derogations for end products, such as medicines, medical devices, or diagnostics, extend throughout the full value chain, including the specialised materials and manufacturing equipment required to produce them. Where no technically and economically viable alternative exists, essential manufacturing uses should be appropriately protected. Where substitution is possible, realistic transition periods will be needed to allow manufacturers to make the change safely.

Where alternatives exist, life sciences manufacturers are committed to transitioning towards safer and more sustainable solutions. However, substitution is not always immediately possible. Alternative materials must be technically feasible and compatible with strict pharmaceutical quality and safety requirements, and changes may require extensive testing, qualification and regulatory approval.

"Europe should not find itself in a situation where a medicine, medical devices, and diagnostic benefit from a derogation, but the essential equipment needed to produce them. We need a PFAS framework that protects the environment while safeguarding patients, medicine supply and Europe's life sciences manufacturing base." Adrien Samson, Secretary General of LSMA.

LSMA supports European action to address PFAS pollution and protect human health and the environment. LSMA will continue supporting the process and sharing scientific expertise and practical use cases from the life sciences sector. We are convinced that a balanced approach can protect the environment while safeguarding essential medical uses, European competitiveness and resilient value chains.

About LSMA

The Life Science Manufacturers Association (LSMA) is the trade association representing companies that develop and supply the materials, consumables, equipment, technologies, and specialised services that enable the research, development, and industrial production of

medicines, vaccines, diagnostics, and advanced therapies. LSMA advocates at the EU level to ensure that life sciences manufacturers are recognised as the innovation actors and strategic enablers they are. For further information, please visit www.lsma.org.