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UNICE WELCOMES EP VOTE ON EUROPEAN COMPANY STATUTE

Brussels, 04 September 2001. By adopting its report on the European Company Statute today, the European Parliament (EP) has taken a further, and most important, step on the way to creating a single statute for companies operating in different EU countries. The Union of Industrial and Employers' Confederations of Europe, UNICE, welcomes today's vote as a milestone after thirty years of struggle to obtain an EU-wide regime for companies. Most important for UNICE is the political will to include fiscal matters and accounting in the statute. The adopted EP amendments call on the European Commission to propose "standard rules on taxation".

Prior to today's vote, UNICE's president, Baron Jacobs, had addressed all MEPs, calling for appropriate fiscal measures to accompany this statute. UNICE is pleased to see that MEPs have recognised the importance of removing tax obstacles for companies operating in the Single Market.

UNICE now looks forward to the Commission's proposal.

Note to the editor:

UNICE is the official voice of more than 16 million small, medium and large companies active in Europe, employing over 106 million people. Active in European affairs since 1958, UNICE's members are 33 central industrial and employers' federations from 26 countries, working together to achieve growth and competitiveness in Europe.

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