

8 October 2003

**UNICE MEETS PAT COX AND POLITICAL LEADERS  
OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT**

**UNICE today met President Pat Cox and the major political leaders of the European Parliament. A reception followed that brought together a large number of key MEPs, observers from the accession countries and European business representatives. UNICE President Dr Jürgen Strube, EP President Pat Cox and EPP leader Hans-Gert Pöttering made statements and outlined their views on the state of the EU economy and the upcoming EP elections.**

Prior to the crucial year 2004, with elections at the European Parliament, ten new members joining the EU, a Constitutional treaty to be discussed and ratified, and a new Commission, Dr Jürgen Strube, President of UNICE, said *"the European Parliament must remain a strong key player in the institutional process and UNICE urges MEPs to fulfil their role as a control mechanism vis-à-vis the Commission, and to amend legislation which is not workable for European industry."*

In his meetings with the EP political leaders, Dr Jürgen Strube raised topics such as the state of European economies, the EP elections and a number of other important legislative dossiers on the parliament's agenda.

At the event, UNICE launched its new *"Enterprise Brochure"* with contains ten key recommendations on how to re-launch the EU's economy, addressed to MEPs to equip them with additional short and catchy arguments for their electoral campaigns.

The brochure is enclosed.

Note to the editor:

*UNICE is the official voice of more than 16 million small, medium and large companies in Europe. Active in European affairs since 1958, UNICE's members are 35 central industrial and employers' federations from 28 countries, working together to achieve growth and competitiveness in Europe.*