



## **UNICE Seminar – 19 October 2004 “European Company Statute: is it worth it?”**

### **Background:**

October 2004 is a key date for the European Company Statute as the relevant European legislation will enter into force and the deadline for transposition by Member States will pass.

### **Objectives:**

UNICE believes it timely to take stock of where we are at national level, in particular whether all Member States have implemented the directive, whether they have taken the necessary steps to implement the regulation and how companies assess the added value of the Statute.

The objective is to concentrate on the viewpoints of companies as to the attractiveness of the statute, listen to their views and ascertain whether they still have problems for which solutions need to be found (for instance social, fiscal aspects and alternative statute for SMEs).

Interventions shall be aimed at gaining the benefit from practical experience and assessing the reality of the potential use of the Statute, its advantages and drawbacks for European businesses.

The Seminar shall be organised around three consecutive sessions where the following themes will be presented and discussed:

- ***The European Company Statute: state of play***  
*(presentation by Mr Alexander Schaub, Director-General of the Directorate-General Internal Market on where we stand at national level, possible problems encountered, state of implementation of the relevant legislation)*
- ***Attractiveness of the European Company Statute: Company viewpoint***  
*(representatives from both large and small companies providing their views as to the attractiveness of the Statute)*
- ***European Company Statute: what is missing?***  
*(speakers will open discussion on the fiscal and social aspects of the Statute and a possible alternative Statute, more suitable to SMEs: European Private Company Statute)*

### **Speakers - Participants:**

- Speakers shall be high-level representatives from the EU Commission and companies, large and small.
- Participants shall be representatives of companies, business organisations, representatives, Member States and Members of the European Parliament. All will have the opportunity to ask questions to the panel of experts and provide their own views.

Your participation in this event will be important for all concerned to benefit from your views as [public authority – SME – a company operating in several EU States – legislator etc.] and contribute to the ‘Conclusions’ of the seminar.

### **Date – Time – Venue - Price:**

The Seminar is planned to take place on 19 October 2004, from 9.00 to 13.00 hours in the UNICE Conference Centre, 168 Av. de Cortenbergh, Brussels, followed by a buffet lunch. **The set price is € 90.**