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FOR UNICE: THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT HAS TAKEN AN IMPORTANT STEP TOWARDS COMPLETING THE INTERNAL MARKET FOR SERVICES

In the aftermath of the vote by the Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee of the European Parliament on 22 November, UNICE welcomes the overall outcome of the vote which underpins the proposed directive's main objectives of facilitating freedom of establishment and freedom to provide services.

This result shows the serious commitment of the lead Parliamentary Committee to make sure that the directive is able to attain the objectives pursued and offer legal clarity. It is also in line with the opinion delivered by other Committees of the European Parliament such as the Economic Affairs, Legal Affairs or Industry Committees.

Ernest-Antoine Seillière, President of UNICE: *"The directive must have the necessary means to create a well-functioning European market for services. This should translate into economic growth, increased competition, employment, wider choice and dynamism in the services market which does not yet really exist in Europe.*

"It is vital that, in the upcoming vote in plenary, Members of the Parliament support the thrust of the report just adopted by this Committee and make sure that the services directive remains neutral with respect to the posting of workers directive. The European Parliament has taken an important step towards completing the internal market for services".

NOTE TO THE EDITOR

UNICE is the voice of more than 20 million small, medium and large companies. Active in European affairs since 1958, UNICE's members are 39 central industrial and employers' federations from 33 countries, working together to achieve growth and competitiveness in Europe.

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