

Mr Charlie McCreevy  
Commissioner responsible for the  
internal market and services

European Commission  
200, rue de la Loi  
B-1049 Bruxelles

13 February 2006

THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Dear Commissioner,

This is an important week for the completion of the internal market in Europe. The plenary vote by the European Parliament on the services directive will take place on 16 February and UNICE and its members are very eager to see that the result brings European citizens and companies a meaningful directive that is able to deliver its promises for growth and jobs.

In our letter of 10 February, we already informed you about our worries about the latest compromises proposed by the main political parties in the European Parliament. We understand that you will be making a public statement on the Commission's stance tomorrow before the plenary debate.

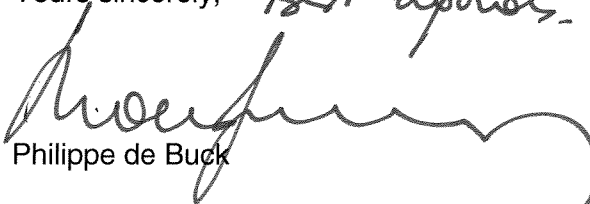
UNICE appreciates your constant support for this proposal and its importance for achieving the Lisbon objectives and improve European competitiveness. We hope that in your address tomorrow, you will reaffirm Commission's total commitment for the internal market and to carry out the necessary reforms to achieve a better Europe.

We also urge the Commission to assess carefully the outcome of the plenary vote and the impact of the changes proposed on the internal market. In particular, amendments which open the way for new restrictions to the freedom to provide services should not be given the Commission's support.

Important decisions for the internal market and the future of Europe will have to be taken this week and in the coming days. UNICE is ready to continue to play its active role in the debate and offers any assistance you may need in preparation of the modified proposal.

We thank you in advance for taking account of our views and look forward to a positive outcome on 16 February.

Yours sincerely,

*Best regards,*  
  
Philippe de Buck