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THE COMMISSION'S ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT POINTS THE WAY TO NATIONAL REFORM

UNICE has put reforms for growth and jobs in Europe as a top priority. The European Commission in its Annual Progress Report has today for the first time evaluated progress in implementing these reforms, which must be considered an important assessment.

In particular the country-specific recommendations to those Member States which are lagging behind in the EU growth and jobs strategy have the potential to be a powerful tool for encouraging national reforms.

Ernest-Antoine Seillière, President of UNICE: *“UNICE and its national members will look in detail at the country-specific recommendations made by the Commission. We urge Member States to take these recommendations very seriously and take action in view of the Spring European Council 2007. The mistakes of the past when economic recovery resulted in reform complacency must not be repeated.”*

NOTE TO THE EDITOR

UNICE – The Confederation of European Business – represents more than 20 million small, medium and large companies. UNICE's members are 39 central industrial and employers' federations from 33 countries, working together to achieve growth and competitiveness in Europe.

For further information, please contact: Maria Fernanda Fau +32(0)2 237.65.62

www.unice.org