

Ms Brigitte Zypries Ministry of Justice Mohrenstrasse 37 10117 Berlin Germany

2 July 2007

Dear Minister.

In the context of the German Presidency, I would like to thank you for your support in the debate on Company Law and Corporate Governance. Your strong argument in favour of the European Private Company Statute on the occasion of the 5<sup>th</sup> Company Law and Corporate Governance Conference held on 27-28 June in Berlin was much appreciated by business representatives.

As you may know, BUSINESSEUROPE has supported this project since its inception. We believe that there is a real need for such an instrument which should provide companies with a European label, reinforce their presence in international markets, allow flexibility and reduce the administrative and financial burdens currently faced by European companies. BUSINESSEUROPE reiterated its views during the above conference and once again called on the Commission to put forward a proposal for a regulation.

When you hand on the Presidency dossiers, we would be very grateful if you could urge your Portuguese and Slovenian counterparts to give the same priority to this issue, demonstrating to the Commission strong political support for this dossier, so that substantial progress can be made rapidly. This will help European companies to improve their competitiveness and to fully benefit from the advantages of the Internal Market.

I remain at your disposal should you wish to discuss this issue further.

Yours sincerely,

Philippe de Buq