



The Honorable Shelley Berkley  
U.S. House of Representatives  
405 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515-4708

Mr. Jonathan Evans  
European Parliament  
Bât. Altiero Spinelli  
14E205  
60, rue Wiertz / Wiertzstraat 60  
B-1047 Brussels

5 December 2008

Dear Ms. Berkley, Mr. Evans,

On the eve of the meeting of the Transatlantic Legislator's Dialogue (TLD) meeting in Miami on 6-8 December, we write to encourage your continued support for the work of the Transatlantic Economic Council (TEC) and ask that your Miami meeting focus on ways the TLD could become more engaged and play a more prominent role going forward.

BUSINESSEUROPE and the U.S. Chamber have led calls for the TEC to work with the TLD to find a more appropriate role for the U.S. and EU legislative bodies within the structure of the Transatlantic Economic Council, as we believe that many issues of concern to the transatlantic business community can only be resolved with the help and support of the U.S. Congress and the European Parliament. We are very pleased to have learned about and read the reports of the Congressional Research Service on transatlantic regulatory cooperation. The reports serve as an excellent primer on the efforts to date, but more importantly identifies a path forward for greater engagement by the U.S. Congress. Similar thinking needs to be undertaken by the European Parliament.

When reviewing the role of the U.S. Congress and the European Parliament in the TEC, BUSINESSEUROPE and the U.S. Chamber believe that the participation of the TLD must be considerably broadened to involve the leaders of the committees that are relevant to the TEC agenda. For example, the issue of 100% cargo scanning, which the U.S. members of the TLD recognized as a challenge in its letter to the TEC earlier this year, could not be effectively addressed without getting the leadership and staff of the House and Senate committees that oversee homeland security involved. Similarly, we believe that the European Parliament's leadership of key committees outside of those responsible for relations with the United States must be involved in the TEC.

BUSINESSEUROPE and the U.S. Chamber wish the TLD the very best for its upcoming meeting and stand prepared to support you in any way needed towards finding a more robust legislative role in the Transatlantic Economic Council in 2009. We would very much like to discuss this further with you, perhaps in bilateral meetings in Brussels and Washington early next year.

Yours sincerely,



Sean Heather  
Executive Director  
Global Regulatory Cooperation  
U.S. Chamber of Commerce



Adrian Van Den Hoven  
Director, International Relations  
BUSINESSEUROPE