



## **Twelve concrete measures to offset the effects of the crisis**

Employment Summit, Prague, 7 May 2009

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BUSINESSEUROPE attaches the greatest importance to the European Employment Summit on 7 May 2009. The success of this meeting will be measured by the ability to agree on concrete measures addressing both the economic and social aspects of the crisis.

In addition to the joint contributions made together with the trade unions in the European Social Dialogue, the four-pillar strategy we advocate to find the way back to the recovery and the 16 recommendations in our report on companies' access to finances, BUSINESSEUROPE has identified 12 concrete measures to offset the effects of the crisis.

**“** *BUSINESSEUROPE calls on the European Council and on the Commission to include these 12 proposals in the conclusions drawn from the Employment Summit on 7 May 2009* **”**

# TWELVE CONCRETE MEASURES TO OFFSET THE EFFECTS OF THE CRISIS

## EMPLOYMENT

The Commission forecasts the destruction of 5.5 million jobs in 2009. Yet, some 3.5 million jobs could be created or saved through the combined effects of

- 1 conclusion of the Doha Round of negotiations on world trade, which could create more than 120,000 new jobs in the EU,
- 2 reviewing telecom rules and broadband development in the EU, which could create up to 2 million jobs by 2015,
- 3 full and timely implementation of the services directive, which could increase employment by up to 600,000 jobs,
- 4 ensuring that public authorities pay their bills within 30 days, which could make it possible to prevent some 450,000 jobs from disappearing due to late payments.

## GROWTH

The Commission forecasts a decrease in EU GDP by 4% in 2009. This decline could be largely counterbalanced by

- 5 successful implementation of the regulation on mutual recognition in the non-harmonised field of goods in the internal market, which could increase EU GDP by 1.8%,
- 6 fighting “legal protectionism”, which could increase per capita income by 3%,
- 7 reaching the R&D target of 3% of EU GDP, which could increase the EU’s GDP level by 5%.

## FINANCES

Companies are faced with life-threatening financial difficulties and are being forced to postpone investment and trade which is indispensable for their future. The economy could be given a boost of more than €80 billion through the combined effect of

- 8 trade credit support schemes by the EIB and together with national authorities, which could restore an estimated €45 billion in EU exports lost as a result of trade financing difficulties,
- 9 spreading over several years the payment of fees for registering a substance under REACH, which could save around €200 million for producers and users of chemical substances in the first years of implementation,
- 10 simplifying the publishing, translation or disclosure requirements in company law directives 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7 and 11, which could save €1 billion per year, and exempting micro-enterprises from certain accounting requirements of company law directives 4 and 7, which could save €6.3 billion per year,
- 11 immediate removal of specific requirements for e-invoicing (rather than waiting for implementation of the agreed principle of equal treatment between paper and e-invoicing in 2013), which could save up to €30 billion,
- 12 reaching agreement on a European patent court system, which could allow companies to save €148 to 289 million.