

9 November 2011

PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

KEY MESSAGES



- 1** Public procurement is an essential component of the economy and has a significant impact on competitiveness, growth and jobs. A major overhaul of the 2004 public procurement Directives is not needed. Instead better enforcement of legislation and training of those who award contracts is needed.
- 2** Ensuring that the public procurement legal framework safeguards transparency, market openness and competitive tendering is also key for the quality of public services and for innovation.
- 3** From the international standpoint, the EU should put in place a proactive and ambitious market access policy to restore a level playing field by triggering the opening of third-country markets.

WHAT DOES BUSINESSEUROPE AIM FOR?



- Strong and fair competition, where public authorities in each member states are open and aim to do business with the best of industry ensuring quality and value for money.
- Compliance with the fundamental principles of equal treatment, non-discrimination and transparency.
- Efficient procurement processes that keep tendering costs and timescales under control.
- The creation of a real level playing field between the EU's public procurement markets and those of third countries.

KEY FACTS AND FIGURES

Public procurement represents 17% of GDP, amounting to EUR 1,500 billion

The EU has offered access to 85% of its public contracts to companies from outside the EU in the framework of the WTO's Agreement on Government Procurement (GPA) and bilateral and regional free-trade agreements.