



To: Members of the European Parliament
Committee on Transport
Members of the European Parliament
Committee on Budget

25 May 2012

Dear Member of the European Parliament,

BUSINESSEUROPE would like to draw your attention to the letter sent to you by several European transport organizations where the EU Member States and the European Parliament were urged to safeguard the 32 billion EUR budget that has been allocated to EU transport infrastructure within the Connecting Europe Facility (CEF).

We would like to express our support for this message, underlining at the same time the importance of safeguarding the CEF budget as a whole. The CEF is a facility which covers transport, energy and digital infrastructure and which will co-fund investments in these networks with 50 billion EUR from the EU's 2014-2020 budget. There is now pressure to cut the overall CEF budget drastically.

In the present economic situation, where Member States face budgetary constraints, it is even more urgent that the European Union supports economically relevant infrastructure of general public interest. Not only could this potentially boost cross-border transport, energy and ICT links, but it can ultimately improve the functioning of the Single Market, enhance competitiveness and create growth.

We would like to urge Member States and the European Parliament to do their utmost to safeguard the Connecting Europe Facility budget and corresponding national investments in infrastructure that Europe needs.

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

Yours sincerely,

Jérôme P. Chauvin
Director
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