



Mr. José Manuel Barroso
European Commission
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Dear President!

I am writing to support strong EU engagement in the G20 Summit on 18-19 June 2012 to advance global cooperation to encourage growth and jobs. I will participate in the B20 Conference organised on 17-18 June 2012 to press for a stronger G20 growth agenda.

On the **economic crisis**, BUSINESSEUROPE fully supports efforts to safeguard the euro, and it will be important that leaders give urgent consideration to proposals on deepening monetary union such as those set out in the Commission's communication on 'action for stability, growth and jobs'. At the same time, Member States need to continue the process of fiscal consolidation as agreed in the European Fiscal Compact to restore confidence. This needs to be accompanied by broader measures to support growth, details of which we intend to set out later this month, ahead of the European Council.

Trade is a strong lever for growth and the G20 should do much more on the trade agenda. As a recent Commission report has shown, protectionist measures targeting EU companies are increasing in numerous G20 countries such as Argentina. To demonstrate the negative impact of protectionism, the G20 should mandate the WTO and the OECD to evaluate the economic cost of these measures.

On the other hand, the G20 should take more concrete steps to advance multilateral trade negotiations. Russian President Vladimir Putin should be encouraged to make the conclusion of a Trade Facilitation Agreement one of his country's priorities for the next G20 Summit in Russia. With the support of the EU and other countries, Russian political leadership could drive this negotiation to an ambitious conclusion. Finally, in light of your meeting with Prime Minister Noda of Japan, the future launch of free trade negotiations should be based on a clear Council mandate which addresses all the priorities identified by business, including the commitment given in the context of the



scoping exercise that Japan would effectively remove a limited number of barriers before negotiations start.

On **financial market reform**, the G20 should encourage cooperation on regulation to stabilise the financial sector – notably related to the harmonised implementation of Basel III capital requirements to ensure a level playing field and to the necessity to ensure access to finance for companies. Key concerns for business include the impact of Basel III rules on trade finance and export credit, on medium and long term companies financing and on access to finance for small and medium sized companies.

We count on you president to strongly promote the EU's interests at the G20 Summit.

With my best regards.

Jürgen Thumann

Jürgen R. Thumann