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DOHA CLIMATE CONFERENCE: ABSENCE OF LEVEL PLAYING FIELD REQUIRES EU CLIMATE AND ENERGY POLICY RETHINK

“We need more ambition from all major economies to reach a comprehensive climate agreement and create a level playing field for business across the globe. We remain committed to the fight against climate change but in light of the lacklustre results from UN climate negotiations, the EU must rethink its own energy and climate policies. Technology should be the driving force to deliver on energy cost-competitiveness, security of supply and climate action with the ambition of maintaining a strong industrial base in Europe”, said BUSINESSEUROPE Director General Markus Beyrer

Although incremental progress was made by COP 18 in Doha, advancement towards a comprehensive agreement remains slow and inefficient. The EU's commitment to a second period of the Kyoto Protocol until 2020, together with countries including Australia, Norway and Switzerland, remains unmatched by pledges from the major economies of the world. Ever more costly EU climate policies have not had the “leadership by example” role that the European Commission had promised and a rethink of these policies is needed.

BUSINESSEUROPE also notes that positive developments have been reached on the new market mechanism and on implementation of the technology mechanism. These must help build the right framework for achieving cost-efficient emission reductions and allowing technology transfer while ensuring the protection of intellectual property rights in the future.

NOTE TO THE EDITOR

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