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BUSINESSEUROPE AND US CHAMBER WELCOME US, EU NOD FOR TRADE AGREEMENT

BRUSSELS — BUSINESSEUROPE President Jürgen R. Thumann and the President and CEO of the US Chamber Thomas J. Donohue today welcomed the release of the final report of the U.S.-EU High Level Working Group on Jobs and Growth, which calls for negotiation of a comprehensive bilateral trade, investment and regulatory cooperation agreement.

“The world’s two largest trading partners are ready to launch negotiations for an unprecedented trade deal that will benefit us all,” said Jürgen R. Thumann. *“An EU-US agreement presents an unmatched opportunity to boost competitiveness, jobs and growth that are needed in our economies. This report is a first big step by the EU and US authorities to bring our economies closer together and I would like to thank Karel De Gucht and Ron Kirk for the great work done so far. Now a new challenge is at hand and we are ready to assist our governments to get this deal done quickly.”*

“For the sake of jobs and growth, it’s time to forge a bold, new trade pact with Europe,” added Thomas J. Donohue. *“The Chamber applauds the US and European officials who worked tirelessly to clear a path forward for an ambitious and comprehensive agreement. The stars are finally aligned, and we urge the US and EU governments to move forward swiftly to negotiate a high-standard agreement that will foster economic growth and job creation for all our citizens.”*

BUSINESSEUROPE and the Chamber have long called jointly for a transatlantic agreement to eliminate tariffs, ensure compatible regulatory regimes, and address investment, services, and procurement. Eliminating tariffs only would boost US-EU trade by more than \$120 billion within five years.

NOTE TO THE EDITOR

BUSINESSEUROPE represents small, medium and large companies. Active in European affairs since 1958, BUSINESSEUROPE’s members are 41 leading industrial and employers’ federations from 35 European countries, working together to achieve growth and competitiveness in Europe. For the full list of our members, please visit our website.

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