



**Mr Evaldas Gustas**

Minister of Economy of the Republic of Lithuania  
Gedimino ave. 38  
LT-01104 Vilnius

19 June 2013

Dear Minister,

I write to you regarding the Informal Competitiveness Council on 22 and 23 July 2013 that you will chair.

We are pleased to see that this meeting is dedicated to the **modernisation of public administration**, one of the priorities of your Presidency and an important issue for us.

With increased pressures on public budgets, societal challenges, and demands for more efficient and cost-effective public services, national governments need to modernise public administration and rethink the provision of public and e-government services in Europe. This is key for the competitiveness of European companies as users of these services.

BUSINESSEUROPE is convinced that better use of ICT and digital tools can drive the necessary modernisation of the public sector. It will unleash efficiencies and drive down costs, both for public authorities and users of public services. Fully bringing the public sector into the digital world is essential for the completion of the digital single market and will contribute to a stronger digital economy.

You will find more detailed remarks on the above issues in the position paper at annex and we hope these will be useful for the further preparation of the Informal Competitiveness Council.

We wish you a very successful meeting and would be happy to discuss these issues further with you.

Yours sincerely,

Markus J. Beyrer