



*** Check against delivery ***

10.06.2015

“ON THE ROAD TO PARIS – HOW EU COMPANIES ARE LEADING ON ENERGY EFFICIENCY”

16 JUNE 2015

RENAISSANCE HOTEL, RUE DU PARNASSE 19, 1050 BRUSSELS

WELCOME SPEECH BY MARKUS J. BEYRER, DIRECTOR GENERAL OF BUSINESSEUROPE

Ladies and gentleman,

Good morning. I would like to welcome you at our event COP21 “On the Road to Paris” in the framework of the EU Sustainable Energy Week. With the number of parallel events going on in Brussels this week, I would like to thank you for deciding to attend this one.

The reason BUSINESSEUROPE decided to convene this event is twofold.

First, we would like to highlight our role as business in the fight against climate change. European companies have taken up the challenge of climate change and turned it into business opportunities. The companies we have here today are great examples of this. But as part of the solution, business is also a key actor in the development of policies that affect investments, therefore working in close partnership with decision-makers is essential for a successful implementation of those policies.

Second, we would like to give you concrete examples of what our companies are already doing in Europe and across the globe. Going beyond the traditional policy approach, the debate of ideas and principles, we are as business already providing the society with concrete services and products to improve their carbon footprint. Energy efficiency is one of the fields where our industry has done the most. The business sector alone has made more efforts to decrease its energy intensity than any other sector of the economy. With an improvement of 19% between 2001 and 2011, we have turned Europe into the most energy efficient region in the world.

Today we will look into the different solutions European industry has put forward to achieve this: which are the best energy efficiency technologies and how are they being used to decarbonise different industrial sectors along the value chain, which technologies are being exported to help reduce emissions in other parts of the world? By the end of the day you will have a good picture of what is happening inside the EU and abroad.



Delivering products, providing solutions, that is what business do. And we are very quick reacting to markets and economy's needs. If only things worked like this when it comes to decision-making to fight global climate change. We are only 6 months and 10 days of negotiations away from the Paris climate conference, the clock is ticking fast but the pace of the negotiations isn't. We are concerned that the discussions at international level are not progressing in a timely manner.

Negotiators spent most of last two-weeks in Bonn playing with commas, brackets and footnotes in the draft text. This is not giving us as business a very good signal. The G7 outcome was more promising, but it is crucial not to lose this political momentum on the way to Paris. There is no time to waste! We understand the United Nations 196 countries need to reach a consensus but the sense of urgency is there. We cannot afford a Copenhagen sequel. All countries in the world must rise up to the challenge of delivering an ambitious new global agreement. **We already have as European business!**

We have for instance recently published a joint letter with the European Trade Unions urging the European External Action Service and the European Commission to mobilize their network of diplomats around the world to convince other countries to come forward as quick as possible with their pledges, making sure they are as detailed and comparable as possible. Apart from the EU, so far we have only seen the commitments from a limited number of countries. Amongst the major emitters, only the US, Canada, and recently Japan have presented theirs. But none of them compare to what we are already doing. We need more if we want to seriously develop a global playing field for European industry.

So, what do we want? In view of COP21 we have published a set of recommendations on what we believe are the most important elements the new agreement should contain. The global market for low-carbon goods and services is projected to grow to over 4.8 trillion euros by the end of this year. This shows the size of the investment that needs to be encouraged and facilitated around the world. Therefore we believe a legally-binding agreement is the best way to stimulate investment and provide opportunities for companies to deploy their new technologies.

This agreement should also be transparent, comparable, fair and ambitious when it comes to committing to reducing emissions. To be effective, it should also be as broad as possible. We need wide geographical coverage, which means emerging economies should be doing their share too. We must acknowledge that since the Kyoto Protocol was agreed in 1997, the geo-economic landscape of the world has changed. We realise that some emerging economies still face challenges but their capabilities have also evolved. This is why we believe we must bring down the firewall between developed and developing countries, major economies should also contribute with their fair share to climate change. If you look at Europe, we are currently only responsible for 9% of the world's emissions and this keeps falling. Today China is responsible for a quarter of global emissions, the US accounts for 11%. These figures speak for themselves and I cannot stress enough the need to



achieve this collectively. Besides providing European companies with the global playing field they need, it would also have obvious benefits for the global climate.

In order to make it truly comparable the new agreement must also include rules on transparency and accountability. This is essential to ensure that all parties are using the same reference, not only to measure emissions but also to assess how they are on track to meet their respective commitments. This is even more necessary if we wish to link markets in the future. We believe the development of a carbon market is the best tool to stimulate investments while delivering the best climate benefits at the lowest cost. Policy-makers should make every effort to ensure that carbon markets are attractive for all participants and can become compatible and linkable.

Last but not the least, one of our major recommendations is the recognition of business engagement within the United Nations process. Decision-makers should take advantage of the business expertise as we are key to implementing what will be agreed in the agreement. The French Presidency of COP21 has given momentum to this pledge by presenting their solutions agenda as one of the priorities of their mandate. Business are part of this agenda by offering the solutions to the climate problem. We are the ones that materialize the changes that need to happen to combat climate change. Energy efficiency is one way and today is a good example of business engagement and how we can contribute.

Before we engage in the discussions, I would like to thank all of our speakers today. They come from a different mix: from technology providers, to power, transport and manufacturing sectors. We will have a Belgian SME and a Brazilian colleague who flew from Rio to tell us how European technology is helping her country improve energy efficiency. I would like to address a special thank you to Jurgen Fischer, the President of Danfoss Cooling for their contribution to sponsoring today's event, as well as Enrique Merono, for Iberdrola, Philippe Schulz for Renault-Nissan and Arndt Neuhaus, RWE's CEO in Germany for their financial support. We are also very grateful to all other speakers who joined us for this debate. You will find more details about the technologies they will be presenting today in the leaflet given to you with the program. There are more leaflets available at the main entrance. I would also like to thank our two moderators that will have the challenge of keeping the discussions smooth and interesting.

Finally, as you know, having an event in Brussels without policy-makers is not an option. This is why we have invited two distinguished representatives from the EU institutions. Mr Jos Delbeke, Director General of DG Climate Action and Energy, and Mr La Via, Chairman of the ENVI Committee in the European Parliament. They will give us their take on the negotiations towards COP21 and the role of European companies in delivering solutions, notably on energy efficiency.

Mr La Via will join us for the afternoon session and I now welcome Mr Delbeke to the stage. Jos, the floor is yours!

* * *