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UNICE STRENGTHENS ITS COMMUNICATIONS ACTIVITIES

With effect from 1 January 2003, UNICE's communications activities will be reorganised, in order to improve and upgrade communications towards its membership as well as externally.

The communications department will be in charge of the internal and external communications of the organisation as well as relations with the European Parliament, events, publications, translations, the engagements of the President and the Secretary General as well as website and extranet projects.

Maria Fernanda Fau has been appointed communications director. She will supervise the reinforced communications team. Philippe de Buck, Secretary General of UNICE: *strengthening communications is an important priority designated by the UNICE Council of Presidents. I congratulate Maria Fernanda on her new position and welcome her into UNICE's management committee. Her presence there will remind us that what we do in our organisation has to be communicated to internal and external audiences".*

A Spanish national, Maria Fernanda Fau, has long been committed to European business. She practised as a food law and trade lawyer in Brussels for EU companies, and has been active since 1997 in the communications/public affairs fields with *EuroCommerce* and the international food group Royal Ahold. In 2001, she helped establish the communications department for Ahold Spain, as communications director based in Madrid.

Note to the Editor

UNICE is the official voice of more than 16 million small, medium and large companies active in Europe, employing over 106 million people. Active in European affairs since 1958, UNICE's members are 34 central industrial and employers' federations from 27 countries, working together to achieve growth and competitiveness in Europe.

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