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NO DEAL ON WORKING TIME: AFTER FIVE YEARS BACK TO SQUARE ONE!

BUSINESSEUROPE is concerned that no agreement has been found on the revision of the working time directive, despite intensive discussions between the EU institutions.

The on-call time issue has not been solved. Inactive on-call time will continue to be regarded as working time, in line with the interpretation of the European Court. This will be costly for business and for public services, in particular healthcare.

We are pleased that the opt-out is retained. This is important in contributing to the competitiveness of the European economy. It also allows workers to work overtime in order to improve their earnings.

BUSINESSEUROPE President Ernest-Antoine Seillière said: *“After so many years of stalemate, the compromise found by the Council was unfortunately not backed by the European Parliament. BUSINESSEUROPE asks the Commission to come forward with a practical solution for on-call time.”*

NOTE TO THE EDITOR

BUSINESSEUROPE – the Confederation of European Business represents more than 20 million small, medium and large companies. Active in European affairs since 1958, BUSINESSEUROPE Members are 40 central industrial and employers’ federations from 34 countries, working together to achieve growth and competitiveness in Europe.

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