



Mr Siim Kallas
Member of the European Commission
European Commission
200, rue de la Loi
1049 Brussels

29 April 2010

Dear Commissioner,

The recent volcanic eruption in Iceland has resulted in significant economic losses for airlines and the wider economy, and has affected millions of people. Whilst we believe that safety must be paramount, as an organisation representing the private sector, the way in which the economic impact is assessed is of key concern to us.

In this context, we welcome the fact that you are working together with your two colleagues, Vice-President Almunia and Commissioner Rehn, to assess the full impact of this crisis and hope that rapid and appropriate solutions will be found. We are prepared to work with you to provide further evidence.

We believe that two main lessons can be drawn from the volcanic crisis. Firstly, we would like to highlight the importance of the implementation of the Single European Sky package which would have enabled a faster and better coordinated European response. Secondly, the crisis has reminded us how important it is for the EU to invest in all forms of transport and to create a well-connected multi-modal network in the EU.

We would appreciate it if you could keep BUSINESSEUROPE informed about your ongoing work and remain at your disposal should you wish to discuss these comments further.

For your information, a copy of this letter will be sent to Vice-President Almunia and Commissioner Rehn.

Yours sincerely,

Best regards,


Philippe de Buck