



**Ms Violeta Bulc**  
Commissioner for Transport  
European Commission  
Rue de la Loi 200  
BE-1040 Brussels  
BELGIUM

8 June 2015

Dear Commissioner, *Dear Ms. Bulc,*

### **Towards a more competitive EU aviation sector**

Following our discussion in February, I am pleased to send you herewith BUSINESSEUROPE's position paper "*Improving the competitiveness of the EU aviation sector*".

We published this position paper in view of the aviation package that you have announced for the end of this year. BUSINESSEUROPE believes it is very timely to identify the challenges that the EU aviation sector is facing and to present measures for improving its competitiveness to the benefit of the EU economy as a whole.

At the moment, many Europe-based airlines are at a competitive disadvantage as their production costs are higher than those of international competitors. It is essential to reduce regulatory burden and to increase efficiency. BUSINESSEUROPE wants to see a swift agreement and sound implementation of the Single European Sky 2+ Package. This is essential to strengthen the coordination and management of European airspace.

Furthermore, there is a clear need for an international level-playing field. This entails better market access, fair competition and building on international standards. Progress towards this objective should be achieved through EU negotiated aviation agreements with the clear goal of improving air connectivity, focusing on market needs. At the same time, it is important to create an attractive investment climate to support European airlines.

BUSINESSEUROPE trusts that you will take our views into account and stand ready to discuss these important matters further you. We are also sending a similar letter to Director-General Aguiar Machado.

Yours sincerely,

  
Markus J. Beyrer