

I Press Release

Brussels, 27 June 2014

Juncker must be a change agent

Jean-Claude Juncker, the designated President of the European Commission, must be willing and able to oversee key reforms to ensure that the administration is fit to guide the EU's economic recovery and growth.

EUROCHAMBRES President, Richard Weber, commented: "The Commission's initiatives can prove the difference between success or failure for the millions of businesses that are so crucial to Europe's competitiveness and prosperity. That is why the new President needs to oversee significant improvements and changes. Commission policies must be developed in a coherent way and systematically contribute to the Europe 2020 strategy for growth and jobs. Proposals must be based on sound arguments and robust evidence and implementation by member states must be monitored according to a genuine zero tolerance approach."

For a pro-business/changing Europe

To achieve more tangible progress than in the previous administration, EUROCHAMBRES stresses the need for a 2014-19 Commission that is:

- **Bigger on the big things** driving the completion of the internal market, proving a strong player on the global stage and overseeing the effective delivery of a revitalised Europe 2020 growth strategy;
- **Smaller on the small things** refraining from legislating if other policy tools are preferable, minimising regulatory burdens and respecting the principle of subsidiarity;
- **Transparent, coherent and effective –** with better coordination between Directorates-General and a joined up approach that reflects the overarching objective of sustainable economic growth, a stronger focus on evidence-based policy making and the enhanced involvement of stakeholders.

President Weber highlighted Chambers' own commitment: "We're not just making demands, we're also pledging our active contribution to Europe's recovery and growth. EUROCHAMBRES will press to ensure that the entire economy – from micro businesses to corporations, from manufacturers to service providers – is factored into the Commission's work over the next five years. And Chambers will continue to provide practical, hands-on services to facilitate the creation, growth and continuity of Europe's businesses."

EUROCHAMBRES' Growth and Jobs Agenda for 2014-2019 is available here

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Connecting business to Europe

EUROCHAMBRES – The Association of European Chambers of Commerce and Industry represents over 20 million enterprises in Europe – 93% of which are SMEs – through members in 44 countries and a European network of 2000 regional and local Chambers.