

EU summit: Chambers greet commitment to tackle high energy prices

EUROCHAMBRES welcomed today's commitment of the Heads of State and Government to foster the EU's competitiveness by challenging high energy prices.

Energy prices have been one of the main factors impeding the reindustrialisation of Europe. For many entrepreneurs, high energy prices carry the greatest risk for the development of their companies and let them fall behind their global competitors, especially from the U.S. This inevitably has a knock-on effect on the wider economy and threatens the confidence in Europe as a business location.

"It was high time to declare this issue a top priority and to discuss it at the highest level," said Arnaldo Abruzzini, Secretary General of EUROCHAMBRES

EUROCHAMBRES now calls on EU leaders to turn their commitment into concrete actions:

- Besides completing the internal energy market we need a more cost-effective strategy to move towards renewable energy.
- We also need to put every effort in the conclusion of an international climate change agreement. Without similar emission costs for companies in third countries, European businesses will permanently face a competitive disadvantage.

"Competitiveness and sustainability are not mutually exclusive objectives if they are both approached from a global perspective," concluded Mr Abruzzini.

Further information: Mr Michael Steurer, Tel. +32 2 282 08 77, steuerer@eurochambres.eu
Press contact: Ms Guendalina Cominotti, Tel. +32 2 282 08 66, cominotti@eurochambres.eu
All EUROCHAMBRES' press releases can be downloaded from
www.eurochambres.eu/content/default.asp?PageID=153