

Paolo Gentiloni, Commissioner for the Economy European Commission 200, rue de la Loi 1049, Brussels Belgium

Amsterdam, 18 December 2019

Dear Commissioner Gentiloni,

We would like to convey our warm congratulations on your appointment as Commissioner for the Economy and express our strong support for the agenda you have outlined, ensuring that future growth is sustainable on the environmental and social levels.

A Dutch start-up turned scale-up and now a global tech leader, Booking.com is fully vested in Europe's success. We would welcome a strong European framework to harness digital's potential for the wider economy and society. Sustainability is very high on our agenda at Booking.com, and we are proud to be one of the founding members of a sustainable travel initiative - Travalyst.

Established in 1996, Booking.com calls Amsterdam its home port with more than 17,000 talented staff designing new products, pushing the frontier of innovation, and supporting our customers in over 43 languages. Worldwide, we operate from 198 offices in 70 countries. At Booking.com, we create value for our customers with more transparency, choice and lower prices. And on the backend, we empower accommodations, especially many small & medium sized businesses, to compete globally and stay digitally relevant.

As you and your team begin to design and implement policies that will strengthen Europe's competitiveness, promote innovation, and bolster inclusiveness, we would welcome an opportunity to discuss those topics with you in the coming months. Perhaps, we could take advantage of the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting and plan a meeting in Davos where we met already in 2018. If that is not possible, we would be pleased to meet with you in Brussels.

Wishing you a successful mandate in the new European Commission.

Sincerely,



