

Mrs Federica Mogherini
High Representative of the Union for
Foreign Affairs and Security Policy

Mr Maroš Šefčovič
Vice-President for Energy Union

Mr Miguel Arias Cañete
Commissioner for Climate Action and
Energy

23 February 2015

Dear Mrs Mogherini
Dear Mr Šefčovič
Dear Mr Arias Cañete

The United Nations climate conference in Paris in December 2015 has to deliver an ambitious legally-binding agreement, which reflects the long-term objective of limiting global warming below 2°C. This agreement should accelerate a transition towards a low-carbon economy at a global scale, which will create quality jobs while paying attention to those negatively impacted by the changes. It should also enable an international level playing field by committing all major economies to the monitoring, verification and reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

The months ahead will be crucial to prepare the ground for a successful round of negotiations in Paris. However, we are concerned that, at present, many crucial elements of the architecture of the new global deal remain unclear, in particular with the Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs).

We therefore urge the EU to mobilize its network of diplomats, in partnership with the Member States, in order to discuss the scope and content of INDCs with other governments through bilateral contacts. It is of utmost importance that INDCs, which can leverage opportunities to growth and investments, include the following minimum information:

- quantifiable information on the reference point (including, as appropriate, a base year)
- time frames and/or periods for implementation
- scope and coverage for mitigation as well as, where appropriate, for adaptation and provisions of finance
- planning processes
- assumptions and methodological approaches including those for estimating and accounting for anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions and, as appropriate, removals.

Only through achieving transparent and comparable pledges from all major economies, will we be in a position to build a meaningful agreement in Paris. We count on the EU to play a strong role in this process.

Yours sincerely,



Markus J. Beyrer
Director General
BUSINESSEUROPE



Bernadette Ségol
General Secretary
ETUC