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MEMBER OF THE EUROPEN
COMMISSION
CLIMATE ACTION AND ENERGY

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Mr Markus J Beyrer Director General BUSINESSEUROPE

Ms Bernadette Ségol General Secretary ETUC

Dear Mr Beyrer, Ms Ségol,

Thank you for your letter on behalf of BusinessEurope and ETUC. Your organisations have made a valuable contribution to the climate change agenda in recent years.

The European Union is committed to securing a new legally binding agreement, applicable to all Parties, and has shown leadership and determination to tackle climate change.

We share your desire to see countries come forward with their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs) as soon as possible. The EU and its 28 Member States submitted their INDC on 6 March 2014, committing to a binding target of an at least 40% reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 compared to 1990.

It is indeed crucial that INDCs, particularly those from major and emerging economies, contain clear, upfront information about mitigation commitments. This was our top priority ahead of the Lima COP and the EU INDC has been prepared in line with the information requirements set out in paragraph 14 of the "Lima call for climate action".

We have been clear that we expect all countries with the capacity to do so to submit INDCs which are consistent with the information requirements agreed in Lima by the end of the first quarter of this year. We are working closely with partners around the world to ensure that targets are transparent, quantifiable and comparable.

Your letter rightly urges the EU to mobilise its network of diplomats, in partnership with the Member States, to discuss INDCs with other governments. As you may be aware we have already made climate action and climate diplomacy central priorities for this year. In January, EU Foreign Ministers endorsed a specific climate diplomacy action plan developed jointly by the European External Action Service and the European Commission, and we work actively with the Member States to step up efforts in this regard.

We thank you once again for your support on these matters: it is vital that all sectors of the economy work together in the transition to a successful low carbon economy in Europe and globally.

Yours sincerely,

Federica Mogherini

Maroš Šefčovič

Mignel Arias Cañete