



**AeroSpace and Defence
Industries Association of Europe**

Mrs Elżbieta Bieńkowska
Commissioner for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs
European Commission
200 rue de la Loi,
B-1049 Brussels

Brussels, January 6th, 2015

Invitation to ASD Board Meeting on 31st March 2015, Brussels

Dear Commissioner Bieńkowska,

First of all, congratulations on your recent nomination as Commissioner for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs at the European Commission and our very best wishes for success in your new mission.

The Aerospace and Defence sector is a major generator of European economic value, with over 1 million highly skilled jobs based in Europe. It is a significant net contributor to Europe's balance of payments with a long track record of export success and a stunning example of how successful Europe can be when it works together.

ASD represents over 3000 companies with an annual turnover of almost 200 billion euros. We are a very active player on the EU scene.

On 31st March 2015, ASD will hold its next Board meeting in Brussels. This will bring together CEOs of the most important companies and heads of national industry associations.

In the run-up to the European Council of June 2015, we believe this Board meeting would be an excellent opportunity to exchange views on the European Commission's policies and initiatives related to the Defence part of our sectors and consider how to ensure their enduring success.

Therefore we would like to invite you to a high level and informal dialogue with the ASD Board Members on the defence industrial issues which should be addressed at the European Council.

The Board meeting will start at 10:00 and end at 13:00, followed by a buffet lunch. We would be delighted if you were able to join us for an hour at the time that is most convenient to you.

We thank you in advance for the attention you will give to this initiative and look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully,

Jean-Paul Herteman
President

Jan Pie
Secretary General