

14 June 2010

**BUSINESS CONCERNS OVER THE CONCLUSIONS  
OF THE G20 LABOUR MINISTERS' CONSULTATIONS**

The exchange of views between Ministers of Labour, Employers and Trade Unions that took place in Washington in April was appreciated by the global business community.

The International Organisation of Employers (IOE) and the Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD (BIAC), the world's peak business organisations representing enterprises throughout the world, are committed to working with governments on policies to exit the global economic and jobs crisis through approaches that support sustainable economic recovery and private sector job creation.

The IOE and BIAC welcomed the outcome of the first of what we hope will be many such consultations. However, our reaction was somewhat tempered by the omission from the labour ministers' recommendations to the G20 leaders of several key measures essential to get millions of people back into work.

In the exit from the crisis, it is necessary to review stimulus measures with an aim to balancing public finances and supporting a path for private sector led growth and investment, which is the only sustainable path to recovery. More and better jobs in recovery will only result from policies that stimulate innovation, raise productivity and the development of higher value added goods and services.

We call on governments to ensure that recovery from the jobs crisis is seen as an important part of the overall economic recovery. This requires that labor market policies are comprehensively addressed within the context of the necessary fiscal consolidation, structural reform, and open markets for trade and investment, as we recover from the recession.

Government policies which promote a sustainable business environment for enterprise growth are key. For these reasons, we reiterate the policy priorities outlined by G20 employers in Washington in April calling on G20 governments to:

- ▶ Review and reform regulation affecting business operations to better support a return to sustainable, private sector growth, investment and productive employment.
- ▶ Focus on employability for all groups including those at the margins of the labour market as a key priority, including ensuring social protection schemes support and incentivize job seekers and the unemployed to move into employment.
- ▶ Ensure that policy frameworks support working options that act as a facilitator for employers to be able to bring more people into the workforce.
- ▶ Improve education and vocational training, and lifelong learning structures and programmes, which underpin employability of all groups, enable innovation, green growth and economic transition to new growth industries.

The G20 leaders are invited to pay due regard to these critical priorities for a global, economic recovery that will result in the creation of more and productive jobs into the future, and we call on the G20 host governments to support the business community worldwide in delivering this message.

Yours sincerely,



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