



## ***PRESS RELEASE***

# **BUSINESS LEADERS CALL ON G8 COUNTRIES TO PROMOTE EMPLOYMENT SECURITY**

***Geneva, 6 May 2007 – The International Organisation of Employers<sup>1</sup> and the Business and Industry Advisory Committee (BIAC) to the OECD, along with the German Employers' Organization (Bundesvereinigung der Deutschen Arbeitgeberverbände) at its annual meeting with G8 Labour and Employment Ministers, called on G8 countries to implement the recommendations of the OECD Jobs Strategy and to consider a modern “flexicurity” approach in which employment security is emphasised over jobs security.***

The business community emphasized that the potential presented by globalization can only be realized through establishing competitive business environments that encourage innovation and investment, and through policies that provide for flexible labour markets that can adapt to the dynamic nature of today's global markets.

Renate Hornung-Draus, BDA Director, European and International Affairs called upon G8 countries to recognize the positive role of business in contributing to society through voluntary corporate social responsibility initiatives. She added that private CSR initiatives on supply chains can be supported by helping developing countries improve their capacity to effectively implement and enforce national labour and environmental laws.

Ronnie Goldberg Executive Vice President of the United States Council for International Business and Regional Vice President of the International Organisation of Employers, underlined the vital role that effective and sustainable social protection policies play in enabling countries maximise the gains presented by globalization.

Ms Goldberg noted that by 2050, the world population will likely increase by some 2.5 billion people, mostly in the less developed regions, while in contrast the population of the more developed regions is expected to remain largely unchanged. These differing demographic situations will sharply underpin and shape policy responses.

The business community underlined its support for G8 countries, in conjunction with international organizations and financial institutions, to assist developing countries in building sound social sustainable protection systems.

The full joint IOE-BIAC statement is available at the following link [www.ioe-emp.org](http://www.ioe-emp.org)

***Contact: Gary Rynhart, Adviser***

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<sup>1</sup> The IOE is an international member-based organization founded in 1920 representing the business community in all areas of social and labour policy. Its membership numbers 144 national employer federations in 138 countries.