

## Media Release

### ***BIAC in support of the Open Flow of Data across Borders***

**Paris, 22 March 2016** –The Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD (BIAC) points to the crucial role of cross-border data flows for the recovery and future of the global economy. In a [paper released today](#) BIAC calls on the OECD and governments to develop policies and regulatory frameworks that address concerns for security and privacy in the least trade distorting way.

*“Governments must avoid restricting trade through data localization measures”,* said Clifford Sosnow, Chair of the BIAC Trade Committee and Partner with the law firm Fasken Martineau LLP. *“Considering the importance of this issue for competitive markets, this paper offers recommendations to address the impact of data localization and at the same time deal with privacy and security concerns.”*

BIAC recognizes the OECD's unique capacity to gather and develop evidence on trade restrictive measures on data flows, and accordingly requests the Organization to:

- Highlight to governments the impact of data localization on trade and investment;
- Raise awareness among all industries on the importance of data flows for business operations and participation in global trade;
- Promote policies that enable open flow of data to support the rapidly growing number of business models that rely on data flows.

BIAC will work with the OECD to promote best practices in the field of cross border data flows and encourage governments to refrain from measures that compromise the benefits of open markets and investment for growth.

#### **About BIAC:**

*BIAC speaks for business at the OECD. Established in 1962, we stand for policies that enable businesses of all sizes to contribute to growth, economic development, and prosperity. Through BIAC, national business and employers federations and their members provide expertise to the OECD and governments for competitive economies, better business, and better lives.*

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