

Statement

Freedom of Investment and Structural Reforms: Priorities for Business at the BIAC General Assembly

Paris, 30 May 2016—On the occasion of its annual General Assembly, BIAC celebrated the 40th anniversary of the OECD Declaration on International Investment and Multinational Enterprises (MNEs), a policy commitment by adhering governments to promote an open and transparent environment for international investment and encourage the positive contribution multinational enterprises can make to economic and social progress.

“The Declaration is a key instrument for business as it commits adhering countries to improve the investment climate, while companies are encouraged to apply the standards of responsible business conduct as set out in the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises,” said Bernhard Welschke, BIAC Secretary General.

Structural reforms are urgently needed to enhance the competitiveness and productivity of our economies. This is the conclusion of a BIAC Economic Policy Survey released during the BIAC General Assembly. The survey identifies regulatory burdens, weak infrastructure, inadequate skills, and aspects of tax systems as the leading factors hindering productivity across economies. Over 25 national business and employer organizations from OECD and non-OECD countries took part in the survey, and highlights can be accessed here: <http://bit.ly/1TBKMKN>

The BIAC General Assembly gathers the Heads of BIAC Member and Observer Organizations, its Executive Board, and its Policy Group Leadership to discuss the strategic orientations of business dialogue and collaboration with the OECD going forward.

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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