

December 2009

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*BIAC Chairman Mr. Charles P. Heeter (L) and OECD Secretary General Mr. Angel Gurría in advance of BIAC's annual Consultation with OECD Ambassadors and Leadership.*

**Reminder** – The BIAC Secretariat offices will be closed from 25 December to 1 January inclusive. Our offices reopen on Monday 4 January 2010.

We wish you all the best for the holiday season, and for a prosperous new year.

## Green Growth and the role of the OECD

In response to June's OECD Ministerial Council Meeting Declaration, on 24 November BIAC dedicated its Annual Consultation with OECD Ambassadors to the OECD Green Growth Strategy, which will be an over-arching priority for the Organisation over the next two years.

Meeting during the early stages of the OECD's Green Growth initiative, this represented the first opportunity for BIAC to formally address at a high-level this strategic priority issue. Under the chairmanship of OECD Secretary General Angel Gurría, BIAC provided business perspectives on various aspects of Green Growth that will be important for economic recovery as well as for increasing the OECD's global relevance.

BIAC, led by Chairman Charles P. Heeter, told OECD Ambassadors and Leadership that creating the right investment framework for business to make its contribution to green growth is essential for the success of the OECD's Green Growth Strategy. Providing a sound and stable macro-economic framework under which the global business community can operate is vital in order for business to maximise its contribution to growth.

To highlight the practical challenges and opportunities that companies from different sectors face in developing and implementing a green growth strategy, BIAC invited four senior business experts from software, chemicals, renewable energy and traditional energy sectors to present their company's view of green growth and what it means to their business: Mr. Thomas Spiller, Senior Director, International Programs, SAS; Mr. Russel Mills, Global Director Energy & Climate, Dow Chemical; Dr. Emmanuelle Raoult, Director of Public Affairs, Government Relations, VESTAS; and Mr. Angus Gillespie, VP Strategy and Portfolio, CO2 and Future Fuels group, Shell.

The business case studies led to a dynamic and productive discussion with Ambassadors and OECD Directors on matters ranging from incentives for business to become involved in green initiatives, to benchmarks, and how to standardise and measure progress on green initiatives. Among others, BIAC highlighted the following key messages:

**ALL industrial sectors have the potential to develop green approaches:** For business, there should not be a separation between green and traditional industries, as all industrial sectors have the potential to develop green approaches.

**Green growth should be viewed broadly:** Green growth needs to consider the range of pressing environmental challenges and take into account other major global challenges, such as food security, water, health, energy, and poverty eradication.

(continued on page 2)

## Green Growth (continued from cover)

**Green Growth requires innovation, major investments and a long-term vision:** What is needed is a long-term global signal supported by predictable policy frameworks to encourage market-based solutions, enabling investors to allocate the scarce investment resources. At the same time measures to promote and unlock the potential of green growth should not constitute green protectionism that would distort trade and investment.

**Greening of growth is needed throughout the world:** The success of the OECD Green Growth Strategy will also depend very much on the active involvement of major emerging economies. BIAC strongly recommends involving key non-member countries on an “equal footing” in OECD discussions and policy recommendations.

The green growth strategy will provide the OECD with an excellent opportunity to establish a constructive working relationship with the emerging economies, and will greatly contribute to the G20's Framework for “Strong, Sustainable and Balanced Growth”.

The question is what must be done to make the green growth strategy a success, thereby strengthening the OECD's global relevance. BIAC believes that success will depend on how well the OECD manages to develop the Strategy in a truly cross-cutting way and to formulate a coherent working relation with Enhanced Engagement economies. In this regard, the OECD must consider eliminating obstacles that may disturb the active involvement of these emerging economies.

The creation of an International Green Growth Dialogue to be hosted by the OECD would also help promote involvement on a more equal footing. The Enhanced Engagement countries are all members of other international organisations such as the ILO, IMF, World Bank, WTO and United Nations. So, working closely with these international organisations in the green growth strategy would help to diminish barriers that exist due to the fact that these countries are not yet members of the OECD.

Green Growth will remain a top priority for BIAC for the coming two years. The OECD will deliver an interim report at the 2010 Meeting of the OECD Council at Ministerial Level (MCM) as well as its main synthesis report at the 2011 MCM. BIAC is planning to organise an event at the 2010 MCM to highlight its eleven Observer business organisations as valuable partners in engaging the non-OECD member countries. Green Growth will be prominent in the discussions.

BIAC will continue to develop its positions with Member and Observer input and has created an Ad Hoc group of experts on green growth to provide well-targeted and timely input. If you would like to get involved, please contact Hanni Rosenbaum at the BIAC Secretariat ([rosenbaum@biac.org](mailto:rosenbaum@biac.org)).

As background material for the consultation, the BIAC discussion paper on Green Growth highlights business views in the areas of investment policy, market openness, innovation, IPR, skills development, entrepreneurship and sustainable job creation, which in our view are indispensable factors for achieving global green growth (available online at [www.biac.org/policystatements.htm](http://www.biac.org/policystatements.htm)).



*The business case studies and messages evoked a dynamic discussion and series of questions highlighting that Green Growth will remain a top priority for BIAC for the coming two-years.*



*OECD Secretary General Gurría chairing the 24 November consultation.*

## BIAC to participate in OECD side-event in Copenhagen

BIAC strongly believes it is crucial to reach a balanced and effective agreement at the Copenhagen Climate Change conference that would provide business with an acceptable and predictable framework to stimulate investment and encourage technological development.

Recognising the importance of resolute and concerted international action to address climate change, BIAC has contributed the business perspective to OECD analysis, which provides essential analytical input to international climate change discussions.

On Thursday, 17 December, the OECD Secretary General Angel Gurría will deliver the official OECD statement to COP15 delegates, and then lead the OECD Side Event, a high-level panel discussion on cost-effective policies to mitigate and adapt to climate change based on the OECD analysis on the economics of climate change (For more information see: [www.oecd.org/env/cc/cop](http://www.oecd.org/env/cc/cop)).

Discussions at the COP-15 side event will focus on how to scale up and effectively deliver the financing needed to support climate change and how to successfully implement cost-effective policy mixes.

Invited participants include ministers from OECD and non-OECD countries, highlighting the importance of close co-operation between OECD and major emerging economies. One key focus area of the OECD analysis is the importance of building support and setting incentives for global action.

BIAC will be represented on the high-level panel by Russel Mills of Dow Chemicals, an active member of the BIAC Environment Committee. The BIAC Secretariat and numerous BIAC members will also be present in Copenhagen, including at the OECD side-event.

As an international organisation with economic focus, the OECD has played and should continue to play an important role in providing economic analysis of climate change policies underlining the importance of a mix of policy instruments, which is both environmentally efficient and cost-effective.

Policy makers from both OECD and non-OECD countries need fact-based information so that they can base their decisions on sound economic analysis.

BIAC encourages policy makers to work towards a successful and balanced agreement that will include action to address climate change by all major emitters and foster investment, innovation and open markets so that business can make its contribution most effectively to tackling this major global challenge.

For further information, please contact Hanni Rosenbaum ([rosenbaum@biac.org](mailto:rosenbaum@biac.org)).

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*“OECD findings can be summarised with a short sentence and an imperative: The window of opportunity is limited. We must put the right instruments in place quickly!”*

*Remarks by Angel Gurría, OECD Secretary-General, at the September launch of “The economics of climate change mitigation.”*

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## Global outreach – a top priority for the OECD and BIAC



*BIAC Secretary General and Secretariat, together with Mr. Ken Davies, OECD Senior Economist in the Investment Division meeting with Mr. Wang Wei, Chairman of the China Mergers & Acquisitions Association (CMAA), and his associates on 2 October in Paris to discuss future co-operation.*

In little less than three years since OECD decided to expand the organisation, four out of the five accession countries (Chile, Estonia, Israel and Slovenia) are expected to be invited to join the OECD as full members within the first half of 2010, with Chile most likely being the first to join. The fifth accession country, Russia, submitted its Initial Memorandum for accession in June 2009 and OECD accession reviews are now getting underway.

Meanwhile, the OECD enhanced engagement (EE) process has seen a deepening of co-operation between the OECD and the five EE countries (Brazil, China, India, Indonesia and South Africa). In addition to carrying out an increased number of policy activities specific to these countries, such as OECD policy reviews and national events, the EE countries have been participating as observers in a growing number of OECD committees.

The enlargement and global outreach of the OECD is increasingly important for the Organisation's policy relevance and credibility, particularly given the rise in prominence of the G20. BIAC has thus been an active supporter of OECD accession and EE processes, both in terms of providing BIAC input to the country-focused OECD policy analyses and meetings, as well as by reaching out to national business organisations in the 10 accession and EE countries and beyond.

BIAC continues to increase its global relevance by strengthening ties with business communities from non-OECD countries. Since 2005, BIAC has welcomed eleven business organisations from ten non-OECD countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, India, Israel, Latvia, Morocco, Russia, Slovenia, and South Africa) to join BIAC as observers, and is continuing its efforts to recruit additional observer organisations.

For more information, please contact Jonathan Greenhill ([greenhill@biac.org](mailto:greenhill@biac.org)).

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*BIAC continues to increase its global relevance by strengthening ties with business communities from non-OECD countries.*

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## Business calls on Ministers to improve the investment environment in the MENA region

In its Statement presented by BIAC ICCP Vice-Chair, Ms. Serena Romano, the business communities from OECD and Middle East and North Africa (MENA) countries called for tangible actions by governments to improve the investment environment in the region.

Delivered to Ministers at the 2009 MENA-OECD Ministerial Meeting on 22-23 November in Marrakech, Morocco, the Business Statement highlighted that opening up the region to trade and investment is essential for ensuring an enabling environment for sustainable economic growth.

Business commended MENA and OECD governments on the progress made in investment policy reforms, which has led to rising inflows of foreign direct investment, steady GDP growth, and job creation over the last decade.

However facing challenges due to changing economic environments and the global economic crisis, some countries in the region have adopted protectionist measures that have reduced freedom of investment and the movement of capital and goods. BIAC strongly opposes such measures, and pledged its commitment to support efforts to improve the business environment.

The BIAC delegation, composed of representatives from MEDEF and the USCIB in addition to Ms. Romano who participated through Confindustria, emphasised that business and governments from OECD and MENA countries must work closely together in order to counter the negative effects of the economic crisis and to achieve longer term objectives such as economic diversification, job creation and greater female participation in the labour market.

The Business Statement, jointly endorsed by BIAC and the Confédération Générale des Entreprises du Maroc (CGEM), BIAC's Moroccan Observer organisation, details the recommended government actions as well as areas where the MENA-OECD business community committed support (available online at [www.biac.org/policystatements.htm](http://www.biac.org/policystatements.htm)).

In addition, the just released publication OECD Observer contains an article by BIAC MENA Task Force Chair Gary Campkin entitled "Encouraging Investment", which is focused on economic growth and development in the MENA region ([www.oecdobserver.org](http://www.oecdobserver.org)).

For more information, please contact Jonathan Greenhill ([greenhill@biac.org](mailto:greenhill@biac.org)).

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*It is imperative that policymakers work to build an attractive investment environment in MENA region.*

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## Empowering E-consumers: Strengthening Consumer Protection in the Internet Economy

Over 200 business, consumer and government leaders gathered in Washington DC, on 8-10 December for an OECD conference organised on the 10th anniversary of the 1999 OECD Guidelines for Consumer Protection in the Context of E-Commerce.

Serving as an initial multi-stakeholder stocktaking of the Guidelines, the conference focused on identifying issues that should be taken under consideration for possible revision, as well as addressing opportunities and obstacles that have developed for consumers and industry alike in the global on-line marketplace.

Innovative on-line business models provide consumers with lower prices, easy price comparisons and product information, and a platform for consumer to consumer business (C2C) through business intermediaries. Sectors such as travel, banking and retail have flourished on-line and mobile e-commerce continues to grow. The interactive nature of e-commerce has served as an important means to build enhanced business customer relationships and extends customer services across online and offline retail environments.

(continued on page 6)



*Conference concluding panel session on Issues for Future Consideration.*

## Empowering E-consumers *(continued from page 5)*

In Keynote presentations, OECD Secretary-General Angel Gurría and US Secretary of Commerce Gary Locke emphasised the significant economic activity attributed to the Internet, its importance for small business, as well as the future of “green growth”.

FTC Chairman Jon Leibowitz and US Ambassador to the OECD Karen Kornbluh welcomed the many new developments in on-line commerce, including consumer to consumer (C2C) commerce, and the relevance of competition, choice and convenience in continued growth of commerce online.

eBay CEO, Mr. John Donahoe, the business key note speaker, illustrated how the Internet today is empowering consumers as entrepreneurs. The global nature of the Internet as a commercial platform makes it a key driver for small business globalisation, and a source of job creation.

Fifteen additional business speakers from across sectors presented their views on benefits and challenges facing business online, stressing the importance of consumer relationships in the Internet economy.

Ms. Ronnie Goldberg, Executive Vice President and head of policy for USCIB, represented BIAC in an opening panel, emphasising the dynamic and positive nature of today's business-consumer on-line engagement and the importance of policy frameworks that continue to allow e-commerce to grow.

Business, governments and consumers alike agreed to the importance of enhanced dialogue and co-operation to tackle issues such as fraudulent and misleading business, data protection concerns in new paradigms such as cloud computing and on-line security and digital piracy. Consumer education and enhanced enforcement online were also cited as important elements of improving confidence in e-commerce.

Looking ahead in spring 2010, BIAC will be engaged with the OECD Consumer Policy Committee as it reviews the outcomes of the conference and any potential needs for revision of the OECD Consumer Protection Guidelines, with the view to ensuring that they remain relevant for the next ten years.

For more information on this project and OECD work in the area of consumer policy please contact Nicole Primmer ([primmer@biac.org](mailto:primmer@biac.org)).



*Mr. John Donahoe, President and CEO, eBay, Inc. provided Keynote speech during the 9 December luncheon hosted by the Embassy of Canada and supported by USCIB, BIAC and company members.*

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*The global nature of the Internet as a commercial platform makes it a key driver for small business globalisation, and a source of job creation.*

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## International Tax in the 21st Century: The Role of the OECD

In an article originally appearing in the July-August 2009 issue of *The Tax Executive*, BIAC Tax Committee Chair Patrick Ellingsworth writes that with continued emphasis on building consensus among governments and other stakeholders in the various substantive projects, OECD Tax can continue to serve international trade and investment, and therefore world economic growth, effectively.

Mr. Ellingsworth describes the structure and activities of the OECD in the area of international tax as well as the challenges for the Organisation in continuing its mission of promoting international commerce through, among other measures, reducing and eliminating undue tax burdens on trade.

It covers not only the work on the financial crisis, but also describes and assesses the current ongoing OECD Tax projects, how they are organized and their potential effects on business.

Mr. Ellingsworth notes that the main driver of OECD Tax activities relative to business remains its work in building and maintaining the instruments, concepts, and procedures that are used by countries in designing their domestic laws and agreeing and administering treaties and other forms of cross-border agreements and practices.

Specifically, the article addresses ongoing OECD work that is important for business in the areas of

1. New Areas of Tax Work – VAT and Tradable Permits.
2. Government Examination Program Projects – Business Restructuring.
3. Traditional OECD Tax projects – pursuing contemporary methodological applications of time-proven concepts. (e.g. clarifications and applications of the Model Tax Convention or the Transfer Pricing Guidelines to contemporary commercial practices).

The full text of the article (Copyright 2009 by the author and Tax Executives Institute), is available online at:

[www.biac.org/news/90904\\_TTE\\_JA09\\_Ellingsworth\\_web.pdf](http://www.biac.org/news/90904_TTE_JA09_Ellingsworth_web.pdf).

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*For business this type of OECD work is critical for continued defense against double taxation.*

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## BIAC Health Task Force focused on 2010 OECD Ministerial

Improving efficiency and finding innovative solutions to address health challenges represents an area where business can make considerable societal contributions. With this in mind, throughout the first half of 2010 the BIAC Health Task Force will be actively preparing for the next meeting of OECD Health Ministers, to be held 7-8 October in Paris.

Focusing on how to make progress in delivering more effective and more efficient health services to OECD populations, Ministers will discuss priorities for their health systems in the aftermath of the crisis.

Ministers are also expected to promote "healthy choices" – helping individuals improve their lifestyles with a view to preventing the long-term disease consequences. The OECD Ministerial meeting will be preceded by a high-level Forum on the Quality of Care featuring stakeholder participation.

Contributing to the OECD Health Ministerial will be a major priority for the BIAC Task Force on Health Care Policy in 2010.

For further information, please contact Hanni Rosenbaum ([rosenbaum@biac.org](mailto:rosenbaum@biac.org)).

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*On average, about 9% of GDP is spent on health care in OECD countries.*

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## BIAC provides initial input on potential update of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises

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*BIAC emphasised the importance of increasing the number of adhering countries to create a more level-playing field in which companies can operate.*

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Presenting to the OECD Investment Committee during consultations in October and early-December, BIAC reiterated its support for the OECD Guidelines as voluntary recommendations on responsible business conduct. Business continues to support and use the Guidelines as a main cornerstone in understanding OECD expectations for multinational enterprises as well as guidance to these companies.

Given the changing landscape of our increasingly globalised economies over the nine years since the Guidelines were last reviewed in 2000, the OECD is working on assessing whether there is basis for a new update. BIAC believes that it is reasonable to consider an update to ensure that they keep pace with new ideas and developments.

During the Investment Committee meetings, BIAC highlighted that any changes to the Guidelines must start with a clear definition of the scope and intent of an update.

At the same time, the OECD should also take this opportunity to look beyond solely an update of the text and procedures of the Guidelines. It should consider how they can be best positioned to build partnerships to help address current challenges of responsible business conduct facing business in the context of international investment.

In addition, BIAC emphasised the importance of increasing the number of adhering countries to create a more level-playing field in which companies can operate. Currently, adhering countries comprise all 30 OECD member countries, and 12 non-member countries (Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Egypt, Estonia, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania, Morocco, Peru, Romania and Slovenia).

BIAC suggested the OECD adopt a proactive work programme. Activities must be undertaken so that non-adhering countries will be better engaged in the OECD's work on responsible business conduct. This could include fora for direct stakeholder dialogue, web-based guidance tools for companies as well as horizontal organisation of the project within the OECD.

The OECD has scheduled further consultation and dialogue with BIAC, TUAC and other stakeholders for March 2010. Subsequently the 42 adhering countries would discuss whether or not to recommend an update of the Guidelines, and a final decision on a potential launch of an update would be taken by the end of May 2010. The update process would be expected to be completed in 2011.

For further information see the BIAC written contribution (available online at [www.biac.org/policystatements.htm](http://www.biac.org/policystatements.htm)), or contact Peter Heller ([heller@biac.org](mailto:heller@biac.org)).



## BIAC welcomes WTO Ministers' call for speedy Doha Round deal

WTO Ministers ended their two-and-a-half-day Geneva conference on 2 December 2009 having declared that they want to try to conclude the Doha Round talks quickly.

BIAC applauds this statement as it has long called for a conclusion of the Doha Round trade negotiations. The Ministers' message sends a strong political signal on all important WTO issues, which should re-energise the negotiations. BIAC calls on governments to take action and conclude an ambitious and balanced agreement in 2010.

In response to the current financial and economic crisis, some countries have applied trade-restrictive measures, often in the form of non-tariff barriers such as procurement requirements and discriminating sectoral support schemes. Protectionism in any form is counterproductive and must therefore be avoided.

BIAC appreciates the important G20 mandated work that the OECD and the WTO, UNCTAD and IMF have done on monitoring and reporting periodically on countries' actions of raising new barriers to trade and investment. However, there are vast areas of trade distorting policy measures, e.g. non-tariff barriers, that are retarding economic recovery and that are beyond the policy of these monitoring efforts.

Governments need to address these issues and refrain from implementing such policy measures, as they tend to encourage retaliatory responses, which reduce economic integration and could easily spark a jump in protectionism. In the context of economic recovery, governments must not apply trade distorting measures in an attempt to protect domestic jobs.

Business looks forward to working with government leaders to achieve practical policy approaches across all issues necessary to support sustainable economic activity and enterprise growth. For further information, please contact Peter Heller ([heller@biac.org](mailto:heller@biac.org)).

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## BIAC joins in IEA Energy Business Council discussions

In March 2009, the International Energy Agency (IEA) convened an Energy Business Council to assess the impact of the financial crisis on energy markets and to share views on climate change and other pressing energy challenges. As an executive-level group, its members include leaders from a wide variety of companies involved in energy exploration, production and consumption, ranging from commodities companies to automobile manufacturers to wind and solar energy producers and industry associations.

BIAC is pleased to join the discussions of the Energy Business Council through the nomination of Professor Vahrenholt, CEO of RWE Innogy, Germany. As Chair of the BIAC Energy Committee, Mr. Holger Gassner, RWE Innogy, will act as the contact person, thus establishing a close link to the BIAC Energy Committee. For further information, please contact Hanni Rosenbaum ([rosenbaum@biac.org](mailto:rosenbaum@biac.org)) or Jonathan Greenhill ([greenhill@biac.org](mailto:greenhill@biac.org)).

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*International co-operation and co-ordination is critical – Concluding the Doha Round will bring positive stimulus to the world economy, as well as lower the risk of trade-distortive protectionism.*

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*Professor Vahrenholt, CEO of RWE Innogy, Germany joins IEA Energy Business Council discussions*

## BIAC Committee News

### BIAC Energy Committee

The Committee is pleased to count on the experience and expertise of two new leaders since September 2009.

#### Chair



Mr. Holger Gassner  
Head of Markets and Political  
Affairs  
RWE Innogy GmbH  
(Germany)

#### Vice Chair



Dr. Petr Štulc  
Head of Strategy  
ČEZ, a.s.  
(Czech Republic)

### BIAC Taxation and Fiscal Policy Committee

After having served as Chair of the Tax Committee since March 2006, Mr. Patrick Ellingsworth will formally step down from this position in Spring 2010. He will be replaced as follows:

#### Chair

(for a period of 2 years effective in spring 2010)



Mr. Chris Lenon  
Global Head of Tax  
Rio Tinto Plc  
(United Kingdom)

#### Chair Elect

(following the two year term of Mr. Chris Lenon)



Mr. William Morris  
Senior International Tax Counsel  
Director, European Tax Policy  
GE Corporate Tax Department  
(United Kingdom)

### BIAC Technology Committee

After four years of dedicated leadership, Dr. Andrew Dearing, Secretary General of EIRMA, has decided to step down as Chair of the Committee, and will be replaced by Dr. Botaro Hirosaki who has served as Committee Vice Chair since 2005. At the same time, the group welcomes two new Vice Chairs:

#### Chair



Dr. Botaro Hirosaki  
Senior Executive VP  
Member of the  
Board  
NEC Corporation  
(Japan)

#### Vice Chair



Mr. Roland Sommer  
Senior Policy  
Adviser  
Federation of  
Austrian Industry  
(Austria)

#### Vice Chair



Mr. Karel Šperlink  
Vice President  
Confederation of  
Industry of the  
Czech Republic  
(Czech Republic)

### BIAC Task Force on Health Care Policy

After the retirement of Mr. Charles Bouchard as vice chair of the Task Force, the group welcomes the nomination of two new Vice Chairs:

#### Vice Chair



Mr. James Anderson  
Director, European Industry and  
Business Partnerships  
Government Affairs  
GlaxoSmithKline (UK)

#### Vice Chair



Dr. Hasan Kuş  
CEO  
Anadolu Medical Center  
(Turkey)

## Recent OECD Publications

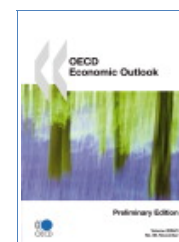
### World Energy Outlook 2009

This 2009 edition analyses what the economic crisis will mean for energy markets and how the transition to a clean global energy system can be financed. It focuses on three specific areas: financing energy investment under a post 2012 climate framework, prospects for natural gas markets, and energy trends in Southeast Asia.



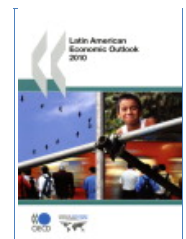
### OECD Economic Outlook

This November 2009 issue of OECD's twice-yearly *OECD Economic Outlook* provides analysis of recent economic developments and economic projections for OECD and major non-OECD countries through the end of 2011. Its comprehensive statistical annex is a useful reference tool for international economic comparisons. In addition to the themes featured regularly, this issue contains a special chapter entitled "The automobile industry in and beyond the crisis". It addresses the following questions: how closely related are the automobile and business cycles; how has the automobile industry been affected by the crisis; and what are the prospects for car sales.



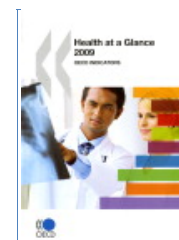
### Latin American Economic Outlook 2010

The *OECD Latin American Economic Outlook 2010* provides a fresh analysis of economic trends in the region with a particular focus on the role that international migration and remittances play in shaping the current context.



### Health at a Glance 2009: OECD Indicators

This fifth edition of Health at a Glance provides the latest comparable data on different aspects of the performance of health systems in OECD countries. It provides striking evidence of large variations across countries in the costs, activities and results of health systems. Key indicators provide information on health status, the determinants of health, health care activities and health expenditure and financing in OECD countries. This edition also contains new chapters on the health workforce and on access to care, an important policy objective in all OECD countries. The chapter on quality of care has been extended to include a set of indicators on the quality of care for chronic conditions.



### OECD Transfer Pricing Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and Tax Administrations 2009

The *OECD Transfer Pricing Guidelines* clarifies these issues and were originally approved by the OECD Council in 1995. In this 2009 edition, some amendments have been made to Chapter IV, primarily to reflect the adoption, in the 2008 update of the *Model Tax Convention*, of a new paragraph 5 of Article 25 dealing with arbitration, and of changes to the Commentary on Article 25 on mutual agreement procedures to resolve cross-border tax disputes. References to good practices identified in the online Manual for Effective Mutual Agreement Procedures ([www.oecd.org/ctp/memap](http://www.oecd.org/ctp/memap)) have also been included and the foreword and preface have been updated.



All are available online at: [www.oecdbookshop.org](http://www.oecdbookshop.org)

## Upcoming Events

|                 |           |  |
|-----------------|-----------|--|
| <b>January</b>  | 22        | Meeting of the OECD Counterfeiting and Piracy Informal Advisory Group  |
|                 | 25        | <b>BIAC Tax Bureau Meeting with OECD CFA Bureau</b>  |
|                 | 26        | <b>Meeting of the BIAC China Task Force and consultation with the OECD (TBC)</b>   |
|                 | 28        | OECD Global Forum on Development "Domestic Resource Mobilisation for Development: The Taxation Challenge"  |
| <b>February</b> | 8         | <b>Meeting of the BIAC Chemicals Committee</b>   |
|                 | 8         | OECD Task Force on Industrial Biotechnology (TFIB)   |
|                 | 9-10      | OECD Working Party on Biotechnology (WPB)  |
|                 | 9-11      | OECD 45 <sup>th</sup> Joint Meeting of the Chemicals Committee and Working Party on Chemicals, Pesticides and Biotechnology  |
|                 | 11-12     | Meeting of the Technical Advisory Group on International VAT/GST Guidelines  |
|                 | 15-17     | <b>BIAC Competition Committee meetings with OECD Competition Committee, Working Party No. 3 on Enforcement and Co-operation (WP3), Working Party No. 2 on Competition and Regulation (WP2)</b> |
|                 | 18        | <b>BIAC Tax Committee Leadership Meeting with OECD Council</b>   |
|                 | 18-19     | OECD Global Forum on Competition   |
|                 | 23-24     | OECD IUCLID User Group Expert Panel  |
|                 | 25-26     | <b>OECD Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture</b>   |
| <b>March</b>    | 8-9       | OECD Working Party on Information Security and Privacy (WPISP)   |
|                 | 10-11     | OECD Committee for Information, Computer and Communications Policy (ICCP)  |
|                 | 10-11     | <b>BIAC Economic Policy Committee consultation with the OECD Working Party 1 on Macro-Economic and Structural Policy Analysis (TBC)</b>  |
|                 | 17        | Workshop of the OECD Committee for Scientific and Technological Policy   |
|                 | 18-19     | OECD Committee for Scientific and Technological Policy (CSTP)  |
|                 | 22-26     | OECD Investment Committee and Subsidiary Bodies  |
|                 | 23-25     | OECD Working Group of National Co-ordinators of the Test Guidelines Programme  |
|                 | 25-26     | OECD Committee on Industry, Innovation and Entrepreneurship (CIIE)   |
| <b>April</b>    | 13-14     | <b>Meeting of the BIAC Education Committee (timing TBC)</b>  |
|                 | 14-16     | OECD Committee on Consumer Policy  |
|                 | 14-16     | OECD Environment Policy Committee  |
|                 | 20-21     | <b>G20 Labour Ministers Meeting (Washington, D.C.)</b>   |
|                 | 20-21     | OECD Steering Group on Corporate Governance  |
|                 | 20-23     | OECD 30 <sup>th</sup> SIDS Initial Assessment meeting (SIAM30)   |
|                 | 22-23     | OECD Working Group on Privatisation and Corporate Governance of SOEs   |
|                 | 26-27     | OECD Working Party on Indicators for the Information Society (WPIIS)   |
| <b>May</b>      | 17-18     | OECD Working Group on Pesticides   |
|                 | 17-18     | OECD EDTA Advisory Group Meeting   |
|                 | 19-21     | OECD Workshop and Meeting of the Working Party on Nanotechnology (WPN)   |
|                 | 19-21     | OECD Task Force on PRTRs   |
|                 | 24-25     | OECD Working Party on Manufactured Nanomaterials   |
|                 | 26-28     | <b>BIAC General Assembly / Consultation with OECD Ministers</b>  |
|                 | 31-1 June | OECD Working Party on Private Pensions   |

## 2010 BIAC General Assembly

### Consultation with the Bureau of the OECD Council Meeting at Ministerial Level

#### 2010 OECD Forum

26-28 May 2010

OECD Conference Centre  
2, rue André Pascal, Paris



BIAC is planning to hold its 2010 annual meeting of the BIAC General Assembly in Paris, in conjunction with the annual BIAC/TUAC Consultation with the Bureau of the OECD Council Ministerial.

#### Italy to Chair

#### 2010 Meeting of OECD Council at Ministerial level

While the exact timing is yet to be confirmed by OECD, it is expected that the MCM will take place around 27 May 2010, with a possibility of either beginning on the evening of 26 or pursuing on 28.

Both meetings will be held in the new OECD Conference Center located adjacent to the OECD Chateau, which allows for a greater inclusion and interaction with the OECD.

## BIAC Secretariat

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