

From Recovery to Sustained Growth

BIAC Submission to the OECD Council Meeting at Ministerial Level (MCM)

Paris, 27-28 May 2010

Introduction

1. The Business and Industry Advisory Committee to the OECD (BIAC) offers the following views and recommendations to the OECD Council Meeting at Ministerial Level (MCM) on 27-28 May 2010 in Paris.
2. MCM 2010 occurs against the backdrop of a still fragile recovery from the most severe financial and economic crisis in decades, one that had its origin in OECD countries. Because of this and the substantial expertise of the Organisation in relevant policy areas, the OECD has an important role in contributing to policies that help to provide for sustainable economic recovery and to avoid future crisis.
3. In the following paragraphs, BIAC will provide the business priorities for OECD initiatives that will assist Ministers during a period of economic recovery, as well as contribute to sustainable growth towards a stronger, cleaner and fairer world economy.
4. In line with the issues to be discussed by Ministers at the MCM 2010, we focus on the following key areas for attention by governments:
 - Fiscal Consolidation
 - Employment
 - Global Economic Co-operation
 - Propriety, Integrity and Transparency
 - Sources of Growth – Innovation, Green Growth, and Trade
5. BIAC calls on OECD Ministers to provide the Organisation with a strong mandate for future work which adequately reflects the business priorities.

Fiscal Consolidation

6. Evidence shows that the global economy has been recovering from the worst recession to have occurred in the post-war period. However, the global economic recovery, in particular in the OECD area, is still fragile with unprecedented high levels of unemployment, fiscal deficits and weak financial markets.
7. It is critical for many governments in the OECD area to unwind and exit, most probably in 2010-2011, from the extraordinary fiscal, financial and monetary measures introduced during the crisis period. Such measures are not compatible with sustainable long-run economic growth. Business highly values the successful co-operation and collaboration among governments, particularly exhibited through G20 summit meetings held three times since the meeting in Washington in November 2008, where broad consensus was reached on the importance of concerted economic stimulus measures. It was these concerted efforts that have lifted the global economy from the unprecedented recession.
8. A new concerted effort among economies is now required in unwinding these extraordinary measures. If government action is not taken, continued public deficits would lead to accumulated debt-taking, higher interest rates, decreases in private and public investment and negative impacts on the future provision of public services. In addition, large budget deficits in many OECD countries may negatively impact the availability of corporate financing; increasing regulations of the financial sector and higher capital requirements for bank and financial institutions may also impact the cost of capital for investments. It is therefore important to consolidate public finances in a timely manner.
9. The recent financial package, agreed between Greece, the Euro-zone governments and the IMF, as well as other financial arrangements, will contribute to the stabilisation of the sovereign debt situation. Fiscal consolidation and adjustment, as well as structural reforms, are important, not only for Greece, but also for the global economic recovery.
10. The fiscal position of each economy differs significantly due to differences in economic structure, and today countries are economically interlinked. Thus, global co-operation is critically important as governments implement exit strategies and address fiscal consolidation towards economic recovery – the OECD is an ideal international forum to assist in these concerted efforts. Engagement of non-OECD members as well as co-operation with other international organisations is particularly important.
11. In view of the economic recovery where unemployment remains a critical issue, governments must keep a delicate balance between the continued, temporary use of stimulus measures directed towards labour markets and the introduction of exit strategies. Since exit policies will largely shift the financial burden to the private sector, governments should carefully examine whether the private sector has become strong enough to shoulder the economic burden of public consolidation

measures. Also the question of synchronicity or sequencing between countries has to be taken into account.

12. The different structural characteristics and fiscal positions of the individual economies require that the concrete design of the exit strategies and the degree of fiscal consolidation should allow for targeted approaches, since no one size fits all. The OECD would be well suited to recommend in which domestic areas expenditure and tax adjustments should take place on the basis of cost-benefit analysis, taking into account the effect on economic growth and employment. Policies should be predictable and credible, and promote competition – important elements for business in reaching sustainable economic recovery.

Employment

Return to Growth

13. The latest OECD figures show OECD unemployment rates broadly stable compared to previous months, but while some countries are faring better, the unemployment rates in some countries remain very high. OECD analysis has shown that to emerge from the economic crisis we need a return to strong GDP growth, combined with targeted employment policies to jump start job creation in the short term, and to ensure sustainable recovery over the long term.
14. The 2010 OECD report Going for Growth emphasises that governments will need to work on phasing out some of the exceptional policy measures that they took on in a crisis context, while at the same time reinforcing other measures -- launching new reforms and resisting protectionist measures in international trade and labour markets. Business welcomes the results of this report. Reforms that boost competition and innovation are essential to stimulate economic activity and job creation. Improving productivity is also more important than ever.
15. Although unemployment is likely to remain high in the near term, governments must avoid prolonging those emergency measures which will permanently depress labour market utilisation. Governments need to effectively balance the adoption of exit policies with focused support of labour markets tailored to specific country needs and systems. While many short term measures taken have been effective, the focus must now be on ensuring a return to private sector led growth and job creation for a sustainable recovery.
16. Tax on labour, especially in the form of withholding and social insurance, is very high in some countries. Such non-wage labour costs must also be taken into account in thinking about how to influence employment growth at the margin when encouraging new economic activity, especially in context of tight fiscal circumstances – if too high, they can create an obstacle to employment creation.
17. This critical situation requires effective and affordable policy action by governments to ensure productive and rewarding jobs for all groups. Maintaining labour market attachment is also a critical issue for companies, which have benefited from policies that allow for adaptation to the crisis circumstances by both employers and employees. Frameworks that provide for labour market flexibility, quality education and encourage entrepreneurship will enhance employability, productivity and transition into new jobs, including into innovative sectors and green growth industries. This “flexicurity” approach is especially important for SMEs.
18. In this context, OECD studies of labour market participation are critical to get an accurate picture of the labour market situation, particularly to reach those individuals who are attached marginally to the labour market and who are at risk of falling into long term unemployment and poverty. Persistent structural unemployment is a scar

that can result from the economic crisis, and which can remain for years unless governments take decisive action to address this grave situation.

19. Safety nets must simultaneously support individuals in need and encourage jobs growth. Policies must continue to address the effectiveness and sustainability of social benefit systems. Adequate investment in benefits and public services, such as health, education, transportation and housing, and more effective interaction between social benefit systems that provide the right incentives for all who can work to work will also support employment of all groups, in particular those most vulnerable such as youth, older workers, women and the disabled.

Key Recommendations

20. **Actions must support sustainable job creation:** While jobs may be created by short term stimulus and emergency measures, policies must above all encourage sustainable economic growth driven by innovation and enterprise creation, trade and investment activity. Governments should ensure that regulation, including tax policy, does not restrict the capacity of enterprises to retain their workforce and take on new employees.
21. **Policies should focus on employment, not just job security:** Government action must focus on employment and employability, supported by labour market policies that activate the labour force into work, make work pay, and provide for labour market mobility. These policies must be underpinned by effective social benefits, and strongly supported by opportunities for education and training.
22. Income supports should be treated as any other type of incentive – they should be temporary, well targeted to those in need, and timely. Actions must continue to target vulnerable groups, to ensure that those most disadvantaged when facing unemployment can return to jobs as quickly as possible, and that they do not slip into poverty.
23. **Invest in skills, education and training:** An important element of comprehensive employment policy is to provide budget support for training and education including lifelong learning, to improve quality and access for all, and for governments to effectively engage with employers in this area. Governments should seek to make education systems more effective and where possible increase investment responding to the need for constant updating of skills in today's knowledge economy, with particular focus on lifelong learning and Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). BIAC welcomes the consideration to launch an OECD Skills Strategy and will be pleased to contribute to its development,
24. **Global Co-ordination is Necessary:** Effective global co-ordination of governments, international organisations and social partners is essential to forming practical solutions for the economic recovery. Developing economies must be meaningfully engaged in this international dialogue. OECD and ILO in particular have important and complementary roles to play with respect to employment and social policy.

Global Economic Co-operation

Strengthening OECD Relevance

25. At the time of its creation, the OECD area represented a strong majority of global GDP, but that figure has been falling significantly as new centres of economic wealth have emerged in the world. Reaching out and expanding its relevance should reinforce the OECD's strength as an open and inclusive organisation that seeks to generate evidence-based policy guidance and instruments for global economic co-operation and development. In this context, the OECD must continue to demonstrate its relevance and the value of its instruments to all countries and to other international organisations and fora, such as G20. The risk of not enhancing relations with major OECD non-member countries would likely lead to an undesirable scenario in which the OECD becomes excluded from contributing to important policy discussions that will instead be led by other international fora.
26. The OECD should concentrate on two approaches: [1] deepening bilateral links with emerging economies through the OECD enhanced engagement process; and [2] promoting and sharing common values more broadly by increasing non-member adherence to OECD instruments and involvement in major OECD activities. This latter approach will require strong efforts by the OECD to promote its instruments and encourage adherence among non-member countries, as well as greater involvement of these countries in OECD committees. In both of these approaches, the OECD should focus on increasing non-members' sense of participation, ownership and equal standing with members in certain OECD activities where appropriate.
27. First and foremost, the OECD should consider ways to promote and share its common values with enhanced engagement countries and other non-member countries more broadly. For example, the OECD Investment Committee could work to more closely include non-adhering observers in the update process of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises. OECD non-member countries should generally be given opportunities to participate on a more equal basis in certain OECD fora. All of these factors together will be important for increasing non-member adherence to OECD legal instruments and for instilling a greater sense of ownership among non-member countries.
28. At the same time, the OECD should outline a path towards eventual membership starting with the enhanced engagement countries (Brazil, China, India, Indonesia and South Africa), all of which are also G20 members. This would be important for creating a shared vision of engagement with enhanced engagement countries, so that the OECD should in the future be seen to represent developed and emerging economies with common values. The OECD should also strengthen its bilateral dialogues with enhanced engagement countries in order to create a shared, more flexible and tailored country-specific approach, leading to more country-focused OECD analyses as well as more participation by these countries in OECD committees.

-
29. Some good examples of improving non-member countries' sense of participation, ownership and equity already exist, such as OECD global forums. The OECD Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes illustrates a case where OECD standards are extended beyond its members, and where OECD non-members can participate as full members, including in the governance of the Forum: China, for example, participates as Vice-Chair in the Forum's Steering Group, which also includes Brazil, India, South Africa and other non-member countries. The OECD should put these good examples into practice in other policy areas where it makes sense to do so, such as the OECD Green Growth Strategy, which relies on broad international co-operation.

Business Support for OECD

30. In parallel with OECD outreach efforts, BIAC has over the past several years been reaching out to national business communities in OECD non-member countries. Currently 12 business and employers' organisations from 11 non-OECD countries participate actively in BIAC activities as "BIAC observers".
31. BIAC member and observer organisations continue to support the relevance of OECD at both national and international levels. OECD input to policy discussions taking place in other fora, such as in the G20 and WTO, is important and useful, and OECD involvement and co-operation with other international organisations should be encouraged. There should be no monopoly on ideas or analysis, either at the national level or the international level. The OECD can contribute path-breaking and innovative insights based on hard evidence, which is essential for making informed policy decisions.
32. BIAC is currently carrying out a survey of its member and observer organisations with respect to OECD relevance and effectiveness, and intends to deliver a synthesis report of results to the OECD in mid-2010 following discussion at the BIAC General Assembly on 27 May. This would provide helpful information to the OECD about business priorities in OECD and non-OECD countries, as well as examples where the business community can assist OECD efforts.
33. BIAC is a willing and important partner in the effort to strengthen the Organisation's global relevance with respect to OECD non-member governments and other international organisations. Early and regular consultation with BIAC on such matters will be important in order to boost OECD relevance and thus improve global economic co-operation.

Propriety, Integrity and Transparency

34. Propriety, integrity and transparency are basic concepts for the proper functioning of market economies in any circumstances, and are not limited to the recent financial crisis. BIAC therefore welcomes the work of the OECD towards a set of voluntary principles that would serve as a guide for international business in this area. The OECD is well placed to carry out this work, since a number of underlying OECD instruments already have implementation mechanisms that address the principles in the Declaration. Among these, for example, are the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, which enjoy strong business support.
35. A Declaration on propriety, integrity, and transparency should encourage innovation, and support the sound development of competitive market-based open economies. Business encourages the OECD to give attention to the points stated below for further refinement of a Declaration.

General comments

36. BIAC believes that the current draft should be improved in several ways. Firstly, the draft would be strengthened by more clarity on its rationale and objective, as well as its relationship to existing OECD instruments in the area of business behaviour. The specific language of the text describing the principles could also benefit from more clarity.
37. Secondly, the Declaration should avoid creating additional regulatory burdens that in practice would do little to encourage the improvement of business behaviour. It is also important to include a clearer separation between legally binding instruments, non-binding and value-based recommendations referenced in the draft Declaration, and it should be stated that the Declaration itself represents a set of voluntary principles. Given this context, we would suggest that the recommendation to governments and private actors in the Declaration should not refer to compliance and implementation, since voluntary principle can be respected, but not complied with or implemented.
38. At the same time more explanation of the relationship between the principles in the draft Declaration and the instruments in Annex II would be beneficial. For example business would support increasing the prominence given to the OECD MNE Guidelines, since the launch of their update would be regarded as a flagship project of the OECD in the near future.
39. Thirdly, the draft Declaration is currently directed towards business in member countries. Yet, and in order to secure a level playing field, there will be a need for inclusion of non-OECD countries regarding the instruments already in place.
40. Fourthly, given the diversity among companies and the sectors and countries in which they operate, the Declaration should explicitly recognise that any “one size fits all” approach is unworkable.

Specific comments

41. Regarding Principle 3 on Corporate Governance, businesses should still keep the right to provide remuneration to employees at any level they see fit. It would be helpful to include a clear distinction between compensation and risk management.
42. BIAC has specific concerns with the language in Principles 4 and 5. In Principle 4 on Corporate Disclosure, we believe that the recommendation on disclosure of particularly ethical risks will be difficult to observe, since ethical risks are not easily defined. Regarding Principle 5 on Corporate Responsibility and Taxation, we find the statement that “*Companies should comply with both the letter and the spirit of the tax law*” to be problematic. Compliance with the letter of the law is defined by regulation. Compliance with the spirit of the law is a matter of interpretation.
43. BIAC would therefore suggest to delete the words “*both the letter and the spirit*” and to replace this with the following words: “*the clearly expressed intent of the tax law*”, with the aim to have clarity of intention in the text.
44. Alternatively, we suggest replacing the full sentence with the following language from the OECD MNE Guidelines Chapter on taxation: “*(In particular,) enterprises should comply with the tax laws and regulations in all countries in which they operate and should exert every effort to act in accordance with both the letter and the spirit of those laws and regulations.*”
45. Principle 8 on interaction between governments and business conducted under transparency, integrity and fairness, should take into account the fact that some interactions may hinder transparency from occurring throughout the whole process. In addition, “fairness to all parties” of any interaction cannot be guaranteed.
46. Regarding Principle 10 on financial regulation and education, BIAC believes that although financial information should be provided, even full information to consumers might make little difference to their decisions due to a lack of understanding. Instead, more focus should go towards financial literacy at a schooling level so that future generations have the capability to understand the financial decisions they make.

Sources of Growth – Innovation

47. Innovation offers a powerful platform for post-crisis recovery provided that OECD countries embrace the new innovation paradigm, which is characterised by the shifting geography of innovation in major non-OECD countries as well as the growing importance of green growth and other global challenges in policy thinking. Through the Innovation Strategy, the OECD has played a major role in proposing coherent policy recommendations for fostering innovation.
48. Building on the outcome of the Strategy, we encourage Ministers to keep innovation as an overarching priority on the OECD's agenda, recognising that this requires a whole-of-government approach, high-level political leadership as well as co-operation at the national and international levels and with the private sector.

Key Recommendations

49. **Foster an overall innovation-friendly policy framework:** Vast amounts of financing will be necessary to encourage the development and deployment of technology, which is a particular challenge coming out of the crisis. The provision of a coherent policy framework that facilitates the necessary financial flows for innovation and encourages entrepreneurship and the diffusion of technology is essential.
50. This calls for a comprehensive policy approach, including a clear and stable legal, fiscal and regulatory framework, sustainable policies for investment and capital formation, an effective intellectual property rights (IPR) regime, sound trade, investment and competition policies as well as infrastructure tailored to the needs of innovation, including information and communication technologies (ICT). The OECD should continue its work on understanding the linkages among policies, which needs to be underpinned by a co-ordinated policy approach.
51. **Unleash the power of entrepreneurship:** Entrepreneurial policies make a critical difference for innovation and provide new comparative advantages for growth. Obstacles to entrepreneurship, such as legal and administrative barriers to company entry and exit, lack of risk capital, and limitations on universities and public research organisations as the hubs of entrepreneurial ecosystems, need to be addressed. We encourage the OECD to help improve our understanding of the role of public policy in enabling entrepreneurship and the role of entrepreneurial firms in providing new sources of innovation and growth.
52. **Foster education and skills for innovation:** Without the right mix of skills, we cannot reap the full benefits of innovation. Therefore, education and training are not only necessary to ensure against shortages of highly-skilled workers in key economic sectors, but also to help individuals' adaptability to the changing nature of jobs across all sectors. We call upon the OECD to help establish high-quality education systems and to encourage sufficient international mobility as well as close co-operation between the public and private sectors.

-
- 53. Foster innovation for green growth and addressing global challenges:** BIAC welcomed the launch of the Green Growth Strategy, underlining that innovation is a “must” to work effectively towards this major policy goal. Green growth requires innovation in a wide range of technological and non-technological areas, major progress in the development and deployment of key technologies, better use of existing knowledge and technologies across sectors and geographical boundaries as well as a holistic approach with due consideration to value chains. We encourage the OECD to incorporate innovation and entrepreneurship as key pillars in implementing the Ministerial mandate on Green Growth.
- 54. Realise the potential of intellectual assets for new types of value creation:** Intellectual assets, such as IPRs, software, designs, brands and reputational capital, are becoming increasingly important elements for value creation. Our economies have to develop new mixes of resources and skills within new innovation ecosystems to adapt to this changing context. BIAC believes that work on intellectual assets and their contribution to growth should remain high on the agenda to further improve the understanding of their contribution to value creation in the context of a rapidly changing environment.
- 55. Promote the benefits from co-operation in globally-connected societies:** Firms increasingly rely on knowledge developed by global centres of expertise. It is therefore essential that policy measures take into account the global and more open nature of the innovation process. At the same time, major non-member economies are becoming increasingly involved in global developments towards knowledge-based growth. There is a common interest in identifying and implementing those policy approaches that can benefit local economies and encourage international co-operation in order to deliver sustainable economic development on a global scale.
- 56. Take a whole-of-government approach:** Policymaking for innovation needs to shift from discrete issues with relatively narrow constituencies in individual Ministries to co-ordinated innovation strategies that engage broader constituencies. Looking forward, the priority should be to implement and establish effective and comprehensive framework conditions as suggested by the Innovation Strategy, requiring new ways of policy co-ordination. We call upon Ministers to support these efforts and to keep the implementation of the OECD Innovation Strategy as an overarching strategic objective on the OECD agenda.

Sources of Growth – Green Growth

57. BIAC welcomed the launch of the OECD Green Growth Strategy, which was timely in light of the major challenges we are currently facing. We therefore call upon Ministers to offer their support for OECD work on green growth, underlining that the OECD should address “green” and “growth” in a balanced and mutually reinforcing way.
58. BIAC encourages the OECD to focus on the areas where it has a clear added value, including its economic strength and multi-disciplinary nature. We underline the importance of looking for win-win situations across the entire economy where sustainability and growth can be achieved.
59. Governments have a key role to play by creating the policy framework and partnerships that can transform the global economy. At the same time, given its central role, business must be an integral part of the discussions to identify the most effective ways to work towards green growth in a realistic and pragmatic manner. BIAC stands ready to work closely with the OECD towards this objective as the Green Growth Strategy is being further developed.

Key Recommendations

60. **No separation between so-called “green” and “traditional” industries:** All business sectors have the potential to develop green growth approaches. Green growth policies should therefore not just try to support specific “green” industries, but aim at fostering innovation, entrepreneurship, competitiveness and green growth across sectors, focusing on where improvements that are both economically efficient and environmentally effective can best be achieved. All industry sectors need to be enabled to work towards green growth if long-term progress is to be achieved.
61. **Green growth requires a comprehensive strategy:** What is needed is a long-term global strategy supported by predictable and enabling policy frameworks to encourage cost-effective market-based solutions, enabling investors to allocate scarce investment resources most effectively. Green growth strategies therefore need to foster investment, market openness, innovation, skills development, entrepreneurship, and market-based job creation. At the same time, it should be considered how green growth challenges relate to sustainable development and other global challenges, such as those facing energy, food and water and sanitation, which require urgent attention.
62. **Foster innovation-led growth:** Innovation is a “must” for green growth and requires high-level political commitment and the co-ordination of different government policies. Business has been calling for greater coherence in policies aimed at fostering innovation and entrepreneurship and strongly supports using the OECD Innovation Strategy as a major input to the Green Growth Strategy. At the same time, while breakthrough technologies are important, there are energy efficiency potentials in many areas, which should be an integral part of OECD work on green growth.

-
63. **Fostering a sound investment framework for “greening” the economy:** The changes needed will call for huge investments in low-carbon technologies, advanced power plants of all types, smart grids, energy efficient manufacturing, equipment, appliances, buildings, transport, logistics and infrastructure, including ICT. Hurdles to business investment need to be addressed, taking into account the often long investment cycles. Having the right policy framework in place to ensure that the necessary investments come forward should therefore be an overarching priority for the Green Growth Strategy.
64. **Greening of growth is needed throughout the world:** The success of the OECD Green Growth Strategy will depend on the active involvement of all parts of society, including governments, business broadly, consumers and stakeholders as well as close co-operation with major emerging economies. BIAC strongly recommends involving key non-member countries in OECD work on green growth on an equal footing and to aim for broad international support.

Sources of Growth – Trade

65. In view of the fragile economic recovery, particularly in the OECD area with the highest level of unemployment in decades and deteriorating fiscal positions, business regards trade and open markets as one of the most important driving forces for the medium- and long-run economic growth. Therefore, governments should exert every effort to promote free trade and open market policy.
66. Additional trade flows will be created by opening up markets further, which will contribute to making economic growth sustainable, contribute to securing job creation, poverty alleviation, stimulate innovation and generate green growth, as mentioned in the previous chapters. Governments should at the same time recognise the strong linkages between international trade and international investment which avoid all forms of investment protectionism. Foreign direct investment is the most important vehicle by which companies bring goods and services to foreign markets, with global sales of foreign-owned affiliates almost double the value of global trade. The OECD should be commended for the work it has done on investment issues, for leading the fight against investment barriers, and for the contribution these efforts are making to economic recovery.
67. **Concluding the WTO Doha Development Round** is central in this endeavour, and consensus among governments and other leading WTO members on the details for trade in agricultural and industrial products must be sought. Governments should enable a breakthrough in the negotiations before the end of 2010 by providing the political will and flexibility to achieve an ambitious agreement balancing the interests of members.
68. **Avoiding protectionism** is indispensable in order to promote freedom of trade and to keep markets open. Business welcomes the crucial work by the OECD/WTO/UNCTAD, mandated by the G20, to monitor and report periodically on countries' actions of raising new barriers to trade and investment. Their March 2010 report has shown that most G20 members are holding to their commitments on not to raise barriers, but warns that protectionist measures may continue to gather force in the face of job losses and high unemployment. In the view of business government efforts must be kept sharply focused on avoiding such measures from being introduced.
69. Among the various trade-related issues influencing open markets the work on measures reducing regulatory non-tariff barriers (NTBs) to trade is a priority to BIAC. Due to the increased globalisation of production, trade along supply chains has become increasingly important. Policy measures reducing NTBs will therefore support efficient operation of global supply chains.
70. Protectionism often takes the form of economic nationalism which furthermore should be avoided. Governments should not adopt policies that unfairly protect their domestic industries, including strategic sectors, national champions, and jobs. Protective actions in the form of behind-the-border measures will act as a critical

brake on intentions to encourage trade. These include subsidies to domestic environmental industries, thereby introducing increasingly seen “green protectionism”, requirements on local contents in goods purchases and shielding of national security sectors. Governments must also show discipline in construction of national subsidy schemes and avoid competition in subsidies.

71. **Supporting the deployment and diffusion of new technologies** by opening up markets is also important in developed as well as in developing countries. At the same time a well-functioning high-quality IPR system and effective implementation must be in place. Strong co-operation in the discussions of how best to support IPR and protect trade secrecy will thereby increase trade flows across borders.
72. BIAC would urge governments to consider trade as an overarching key priority issue and to take up these trade-related recommendations. Business continues to encourage the OECD to give higher profiles to the OECD analytical work supporting liberalisation of trade in order to secure a strong recovery and obtain sustainable long-run economic growth.