

Juncker plan is an important step forward

(26 November 2014, Brussels) Following the announcement of an investment plan by European Commission President Juncker today, BUSINESSEUROPE President Emma Marcegaglia said:

"The investment plan is a first important step forward which many businesses across Europe will welcome, but its success will depend on more ambitious steps to follow.

The real challenge for the new European Commission starts now, in turning words into action and breaking down investment barriers across the EU.

The Commission has correctly identified many of the key obstacles to long-term private investment.

Europe needs to improve the predictability and quality of EU business regulation, ensure more efficient public expenditure and enhance long-term financing options."

On the proposal for a new European Fund for Strategic Investment, Director General Markus J. Beyrer added:

"Using a small amount of public funds to leverage private-sector provision can be a successful way to ensure that we choose projects that drive productivity and growth.

"We hope the leverage ratios set out in the investment plan can be achievable. But we must ensure that projects taken forward are genuinely ones that would not have taken place without the new fund".

BUSINESSEUROPE yesterday presented its "<u>Expectations from an EU Investment Plan</u>"

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