



International Chamber of Commerce

The world business organization

Communications and Media Relations

ICC launches G20 Advisory Group for CEO input to Heads of State

Paris, 24 May 2011

Business leaders and CEOs from major global corporations convened at the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) in Paris today for the inaugural meeting of the ICC G20 Advisory Group, a global business initiative aimed at delivering policy input to the G20 process.

The ICC G20 Advisory Group is channelling its efforts ahead of the G20 Summit – being held in Cannes, France, on 3-4 November 2011 – to introduce a set of policy views representing the priorities of businesses worldwide, both large and small.

“The G20’s expanding policy agenda directly impacts business’s core goals for trade, economic growth and job creation. We must establish an ongoing public-private partnership to ensure that the input and priorities of companies driving the world economy are better reflected in government resolutions”, said ICC Vice-Chairman Harold McGraw III, who is also Chairman, President and CEO, The McGraw-Hill Companies.

ICC has established the G20 Advisory Group, comprised of CEOs, to effectively target G20 policy development on a global scale. The group aims to establish an enduring, legitimate voice of global business – eventually recognized by the G20 governments as the primary source of business expertise on the global policy agenda.

“We want to press for the inclusion of business views in deliberations by G20 Heads of State and to introduce fresh ideas and innovative programmes to support open trade, economic growth and employment,” said ICC Secretary General Jean-Guy Carrier.

ICC has a long history of providing business views into forums like the G20. Starting in 1990 at the Houston G8 Summit, ICC’s Chairman has met annually with G8 host Heads of State – enabling ICC to input the voice of world business. Ahead of the 2009 London G20 Summit, then-Prime Minister Gordon Brown invited ICC to take a lead role representing global business to the G20, a role that expanded in the lead-up to the G20 Summit in Seoul in 2010, when ICC contributed policy recommendations and led working sessions at the G20 Business Summit.

“As the world business organization, ICC is well placed to provide concrete feedback to governments, encouraging them to take into account business objectives such as promoting trade liberalization and cross border investment,” said Gerard Worms, ICC Chairman and Vice Chairman of Rothschild Europe.

To this end, ICC is mobilizing its policymaking expertise, drawn from companies of all sizes and business organizations around the world. The G20 Advisory Group is able to leverage ICC’s vast business network in more than 120 countries, as well as the diverse wealth of experience and insight the CEOs bring.

“This is an exciting and powerful new opportunity for business. The issues on the agenda are crucial to ICC, and the time has come for business to play a much stronger role in the G20 process,” Mr Worms said.

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ICC is building an enduring platform aimed at generating solid policy work before, during and after the G20 Summit events – from France to Mexico and beyond. The ICC G20 initiative is a consultative process on a truly global scale.

CEOs on the ICC G20 Advisory Group include:

- Corporacion America – Eduardo Eurnekian, Chairman and CEO
- Daesung – Young Tae Kim, Chairman
- GDF Suez – Gerard Mestrallet, CEO
- Great Eastern Energy – Yogendra Kr. (YK) Modi, Chairman and CEO
- Hanwha – Seung Youn Kim, CEO
- Infosys – S. Gopalakrishnan, CEO and Managing Director
- Li & Fung – Victor K. Fung, Chairman
- The McGraw-Hill Companies – Harold McGraw III, President and CEO
- MK Sanghi Group – Mahendra Sanghi, Chairman
- Nestle – Paul Bulcke, CEO/Peter Brabeck, Chairman
- Qatar Chamber of Commerce and Industry – Sheikh Khalifa Bin Jassim Al-Thani, Chairman
- Rothschild Europe – Gerard Worms, Vice Chairman
- Royal Dutch Shell – Peter Voser, CEO
- SEB – Marcus Wallenberg, Chairman and CEO
- Telefonica – Cesar Alierta Izuel, Executive Chairman
- Zurich Financial – Martin Senn, CEO

The G20 Advisory Group policy work has been shaped to concentrate on the 2011 agenda of G20 issues as set by the host country France, as well as on priorities the Advisory Group wishes to see addressed. These are:

- Trade, investment and development
- Strengthening financial regulation
- Fighting corruption
- Reforming the international monetary system
- Reducing commodity price volatility
- Green growth

Global business input on these issues will be delivered to G20 leaders starting at the government “Sherpa” level in the lead-up to Cannes. ICC will unveil these policy positions as the meetings unfold.

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About the International Chamber of Commerce

ICC is the world business organization, a representative body that speaks with authority on behalf of enterprises from all sectors in every part of the world.

The fundamental mission of ICC is to promote cross-border trade and investment and the multilateral trading system, and to help business corporations meet the challenges and opportunities of globalization.

Business leaders and experts drawn from ICC's global membership establish the business stance on broad issues of trade and investment policy as well as on vital technical subjects.

ICC enjoys a close working relationship with the United Nations and other intergovernmental organizations, including the World Trade Organization and the G20.

ICC was founded in 1919. Today it groups hundreds of thousands of member companies and associations from 120 countries.

For more information please visit: www.iccwbo.org