



Mr Karel Cada
President of Czech Industrial Property Office
Antonína Čermáka 2a
160 68 Prague
CZECH REPUBLIC

31 March 2009

Dear Mr Cada,

BUSINESSEUROPE welcomes the recent adoption by the Commission of a recommendation to the Council to open negotiations for an agreement to create a unified patent litigation system.

We have continuously voiced the need for a common patent jurisdiction system for Europe. This is urgently needed to do away with the current patchwork of national litigation systems that produce divergent decisions, higher costs for companies and legal uncertainty. As a recent economic cost-benefit study has highlighted, a common patent litigation system should deliver the highest quality, cost-effectiveness, legal certainty and reliability for users.

We have appreciated the significant efforts of the French and previous presidencies to progress on this and we hope that the Czech and the upcoming Swedish presidency will build on the work done to reach a breakthrough.

We ask EU Member States to proceed swiftly to the adoption of the mandate to open the above-mentioned negotiations so that Europe can rapidly make headway on this issue, which is essential for its innovation and competitiveness.

We would appreciate it if you could share this message with EU Member States as part of your ongoing discussions on the patent dossier. BUSINESSEUROPE is ready to contribute to the finalisation of the work.

Yours sincerely,

Philippe de Buck