



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

PRESS RELEASE

Brussels, 24 February 2014

EU Brazil Summit - Joint Action Plan on investments and competitiveness

At the EU Brazil summit, European Commission Vice-President Antonio Tajani signed together with President Marcegaglia of Business Europe and with Brazil's Foreign Affairs Minister Figueredo the Action Plan on Competitiveness and Investment. Tajani signed on behalf of the European Union whereas Figueredo signed on behalf of Brazil. The Action plan has then been handed to President Marcegaglia of Business Europe, President Weber of Eurochambres and President Andrade of CNI. This Ad-hoc Group is a bilateral exercise intended to be mutually beneficial for Brazil and the EU.

The sectors of Infrastructure and Logistics, Oil & Gas and Offshore Industry, Renewable Energy, Agribusiness and Innovation are of high priority under the action plan. They offer huge opportunities for intensifying reciprocal investment and technology flows, stimulating business cooperation, promoting the integration of productive chains, strengthening the presence of European companies in Brazil and fostering the internationalization of Brazilian companies in EU Member States.

In particular, the Working Group seeks to:

- **Strengthening contacts between business communities** to promote investment. Cooperation will focus on infrastructure and logistics, oil & gas and offshore industry, renewable energy.
- **Exploring industrial cooperation**, especially in the innovative and hi-tech sectors and enhancing exchanges in industrial innovation, research and development. Cooperation on industrial innovation and research will focus on bioeconomy, building capacity and standards laboratories, networking between companies and research centres, information and communication technologies, space, linking students to employees, exchange of entrepreneurs, tourism, intellectual property.
- **Simplifying the administrative environment** in order to facilitate business.
- **Supporting micro, small and medium sized enterprises.** An open consultation will be launched to identify the top ten burdensome procedures between Brazil and the European Union. Second an on line problem-solving mechanism will be developed to help with handling complaints from businesses which, when exporting in the European Union or in Brazil face disproportionate requirements or delays.

Contacts :

[Carlo Corazza](#) (+32 2 295 17 52) Twitter: [@ECspokesCorazza](#)

[Sara Tironi](#) (+32 2 299 04 03)

For the public: **Europe Direct** by phone **00 800 6 7 8 9 10 11** or by [e-mail](#)

Despite the crisis there is still enormous potential in the EU's relationship with Brazil, which is the 6th largest economy in the world, and its 9th trade partner and a major destination of EU investment.

The EU has strong interest in further deepening our relations with Brazil pending the negotiations with Mercosur. The economies are mostly complementary.

At the EU Brazil Summit, the EU has been represented by the President of the European Council, Herman Van Rompuy, and the President of the European Commission, Jose Manuel Barroso. Brazil has been represented by the President, Dilma Rousseff; accompanied by Foreign Minister Figueiredo.