



4 September 2013

## OPEN LETTER TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, EU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND EUROPEAN COMMISSION

European citizens, the business community and political leaders anxiously await a return to sustainable economic growth and job creation in Europe. EU leaders recognise that further actions are needed to put Europe back on the track of sustained growth and jobs<sup>1</sup>. The proposed EU directive on Intra-Corporate Transferees (ICT) is one such measure.

The ICT directive is a welcome initiative which addresses a number of issues that impinge upon economic growth in Europe. The directive seeks to:

- facilitate the entry into the EU of skilled and highly skilled employees for temporary periods of time;
- reduce existing barriers to the intra-EU mobility of qualified intra-corporate transferees within the EU;
- enhance the competitiveness of enterprises in the EU by facilitating their access to the most qualified and competent workers;
- reduce compliance costs through the convergence of Member State procedures and information requirements for processing visa applications for intra-corporate transferees;
- accelerate procedures to ensure timely and consistent decision making with respect to pending visa applications.

The Council and European Parliament should act quickly to adopt the proposed ICT directive. The directive is a much needed initiative to encourage growth and dynamism in the European economy without placing additional burdens on the public purse. The directive will increase the attractiveness of the EU for foreign investors who will be able to more rapidly move their highly-skilled personnel from one location to another within the EU. Furthermore,

<sup>1</sup>Conclusions of the European Council (27/28 June 2013).

by facilitating and simplifying various procedures, the directive will assist in the streamlining of public administrations responsible for migration matters.

Three years have passed since the Commission proposal was presented to the Council of Ministers and European Parliament. The undersigned organisations believe that it is now time to complete the triilogue process and adopt a proposal which meets the needs of businesses, transferees and our customers. Timely action is needed.

Yours Sincerely,

**Hendrik Bourgeois**  
Chair  
American Chamber of Commerce to the EU

**Dean C. Garfield**  
President and CEO  
Information Technology Industry Council

**Lynn Shotwell**  
Executive Director  
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