

3 AOUT 2011



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The Director  
Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs  
Le Directeur  
Direction des affaires financières et des entreprises

**H.E. Mr. Karel Dyba**  
Ambassador  
Head of the Delegation of  
the Czech Republic to the OECD

Paris, 1 August 2011

**Re: Ministerial Conference of the OECD Eastern Europe and South Caucasus Initiative,  
15-17 June 2011**

Dear Ambassador,

I would like to express my most sincere appreciation to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic for hosting the Eastern Europe and South Caucasus (EESC) Ministerial Conference held on 15-17 June, in Prague. I believe that the conference was a true milestone for the OECD EESC Initiative.

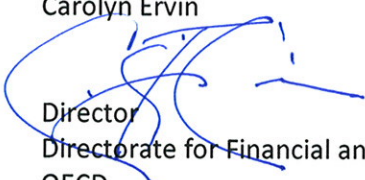
I would also like to thank you personally for your participation in the Ministerial Roundtable. Your presence, along with that of high-level representatives from economies of the region and OECD member countries, enabled the adoption of the OECD EESC Initiative Work Programme 2011-2012.

This Work Programme will focus on improving the business climate, supporting the development of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), and facilitating the exchange of best practices in enterprise and competitiveness policies in the region. Conclusions from this work will be included in the first *Eastern Partnership SME Policy Performance Assessment* publication, to be issued in June 2012.

The support of the Czech Republic also helped to ensure the adoption of the Ministerial Declaration on *Fostering SMEs, Entrepreneurship and Competitiveness*. This declaration lays the ground work for ongoing collaboration between the OECD and countries from the region on the implementation of policy reform.

This achievement would not have been possible without your strong involvement and the invaluable support and contributions of Mr. Vlastimil Tesař. I look forward to our continued partnership in support of economic development in this dynamic region.

Yours sincerely,  
Carolyn Ervin

  
Director  
Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs  
OECD

C.C: Mr. Anthony O'Sullivan, Mr. Fadi Farra, Mr. Daniel Quadbeck