

Brussels, 15<sup>th</sup> September 2009

Dear Madame, Dear Sir,

Please, let us invite you to a Business breakfast titled "Late payments", which will be held in Czech House in Brussels (60, Rue du Trône) on September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009 from 9:30 to 11:00 am. The event is organized by CEBRE – Czech Business Representation to the EU in cooperation with the Czech Permanent Representation to the EU.

On 8<sup>th</sup> of April the European Commission unveiled its proposal how to combat late payments in commercial transactions between businesses or between businesses and public authorities. It specifies, inter alia, that compensation rights for recovery costs and statutory interest may be charged when payment is not made within the contractual or legal deadline (30 days). The proposal focuses namely on public authorities responsible for extremely long delays and sets up a compensation of 5% of the amount specified in the contract after the period of payment. Will the "discriminatory" rules motivate public authorities to pay on time? How to ensure that other stakeholder - businesses but also the consumers pay according to the contractual and legal deadline? Are there any other alternatives to ensure the payments such as better procedural provisions?

These are the questions following speakers will be addressed to:

- Jiří PLECITÝ, Member of vice-president Verheugen's Cabinet, European Commission
- Lucie ŠESTÁKOVÁ, Head of Internal Market Unit, Czech Permanent Representation
- Luc HENDRICKX, Director for Enterprise Policy, UEAPME
- Eric SONNTAG, Advisor for Entrepreneurship & SMEs BUSINESSEUROPE
- Representative of European Parliament

We kindly ask you to confirm your attendance at [brussels@cebre.cz](mailto:brussels@cebre.cz) by September 28<sup>th</sup>, 2009.

Yours faithfully,

CEBRE – Czech Business  
Representation to the EU  
[www.cebre.cz](http://www.cebre.cz)

Permanent Representation of the  
Czech Republic to the EU  
[www.czechrep.be](http://www.czechrep.be)