

*Antonio Tajani*  
Vice-President of the European Commission

Brussels, 14 03 2013  
Cab 7/MB - Ares 339498

Dear Mr. Thumann,

Following a successful series of visits to foster industrial cooperation in Morocco, Tunisia, Egypt and Latin America (most recently Peru and Chile in January 2013), I now intend to visit the Russian Federation on 17-18 June 2013.

I am writing to tell you what I want to achieve there and explain the arrangements for enabling industry representatives to accompany me during this official visit.

My intention is to arrive in Moscow Sunday 16 June. We could have a full working day in Moscow on Monday 17 June including political meetings and business opportunities events.

Then on Tuesday 18 a series of B2B events will take place in Moscow while I will be in St Petersburg with companies from the tourism and high-end industry. *Tajani*

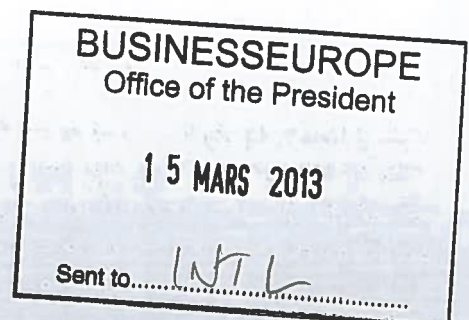
I believe that the opportunities which Russia's improved integration in the world economy and its rules will bring to European companies will be significant.

My visit will, therefore, have notably three objectives: (1) to promote innovation and sustainable and inclusive growth on both sides (2) help our companies and in particular our SMEs to operate in the Russian Federation: (3) promote our industry in targeted sectors by participating in matchmaking events with local entrepreneurs. In this respect, I am also in contact with my Russian counterparts to ask for Ministers to join the events and to explore their interest in signing a number of agreements on our industrial and regulatory dialogue, tourism and possibly others.

In order to ensure the success of this initiative, it is important to tailor the programme according to the specific interests of European and Russian industry. Following contacts with government and business representatives in Russia and European industrial stakeholders I would suggest the following preliminary industrial focus of the business delegation:

- Machine tools/industrial machinery
- Key enabling technologies: nanotechnology, micro- and nano-electronics, semiconductors, advanced materials, biotechnology and optics/photonics
- Construction and engineering
- Forest based industries
- Raw materials
- Consumer goods
- Food and drinks industry
- Textile
- Pharmaceuticals
- Medical devices

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For the business events in Moscow, we also have the intention to put a strong emphasis on the participation of SME's. Our intention would be to meet high level political representatives, key industry leaders, representatives of Russian regions and entrepreneurs.

We are also exploring the possibility to organize a visit for the companies, to a second Russian city in the vicinity of Moscow on 19 June, which would then be a useful "bridge day" for companies who wish to visit the St Petersburg Economic Forum on 20-22 June. This latter event is however not part of the overall programme and companies are requested to make their own arrangements

As regards the exact schedule of events my services will soon provide you with a more precise proposal and we will soon invite you for a first discussion on the Mission.

I am pleased to invite you to join me personally in Russia, together with presidents of national federations which you would wish to invite. I believe the presence of individual CEOs/entrepreneurs interested in cooperation with Russia in the delegation that I shall lead makes a major contribution to the success of these Missions for Growth. I hope that I can rely on your full support, and on the help of your organization to ensure that the delegation represents a broad spectrum of EU industry and has sufficient weight to achieve our purpose.

If there is a higher than expected level of interest for this particular Mission, the Commission reserves the right to select companies from amongst the expressions of interest. In doing so, it will apply the following criteria and considerations:

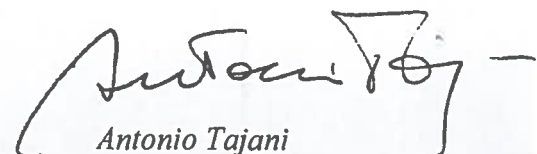
- The overall geographical and industrial balance of the business delegation
- The level of representation of the company – preference for CEO's/General Managers
- High presence of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises

Expressions of interest for the Mission can be made on a dedicated website of which the link will be sent to your organization before the Easter break or in writing to Edward Tersmette and Elena Lazzarotto (copy to Massimo Baldinato).

I would be grateful if you could confirm by 2 April 2013 if you intend to accompany me to Russia. I also ask that you provide me with your suggestions on the targeted business sectors relevant for your members and information about the actions you have undertaken to encourage participation of members of your respective organizations in this mission.

A courtesy translation in other languages of this letter will be sent to you as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,



Antonio Tajani

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Forward the invitation to members \*