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THE WORLD'S MAJOR BUSINESS ASSOCIATIONS UNITE IN COPENHAGEN

Business associations from Brazil, Canada, China, Europe, India, Japan, Kenya, the United States and South Africa, representing more than 30 million companies, met in Copenhagen on 17 and 18 February to share views on climate change and the upcoming international climate change conference (COP-15) in December 2009.

The roundtable was organised by BUSINESSEUROPE in cooperation with the Confederation of Danish Industry (DI) and provided the international business community with the opportunity to discuss a range of perspectives on international climate policy issues.

The Danish Prime Minister and host of COP-15, Anders Fogh Rasmussen, also joined part of the event to exchange views with business.

The participating business associations expressed their commitment to supporting a successful outcome at COP15 in December 2009, but are substantially concerned by the impact of the economic downturn. Without economic recovery, the global community's ability to take ambitious actions to address climate issues could be compromised.

While climate policies and implementation should contribute positively to economic recovery and growth, countries should avoid the tendency to protectionism and other counter-productive measures.