



International Chamber of Commerce
The world business organization

G20 Executive Brief

The road to Cannes



The French resort town of Cannes will host the G20 Summit in November

A word from the Secretary General

Dear readers,

Preparations for the G20 Summit in France are well underway at the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), which has launched an accelerated policy development process to ensure that the voice of global business is heard at the November meeting in Cannes. I am very pleased to introduce you to the first issue of our G20 Executive Brief newsletter, a resource designed to guide business and the international ICC network through this complex process, as well as to update you on important developments in the G20.

While we are excited that the G20 Summit is being held in France this year, our vision reaches further than Cannes, to encompass ministerial meetings and Summits in the years to follow. Our intention is to give constant input to the G20 process, as part of our historic mission to foster peace and prosperity through trade. We will be carrying our message on the positive effect of trade liberalization to the G20 “Sherpas”, as well as addressing six policy themes outlined for this year’s Summit.

The voice of business will be better heard if it is a united one. We are building and strengthening partnerships with future and existing partners, including the World Economic Forum, the International Organisation of Employers (IOE), and the World Business Council on Sustainable Development (WBCSD). We will also work this year with the Medef – France’s main association of employers – which will lead organization of the B20 Summit, set to take place in Nice in parallel to the G20 Summit in Cannes.

ICC is developing its policies around the six main themes which are, or should be, on the G20 agenda. We will keep you informed of this process on a regular basis, including on the occasion of major ministerial meetings where possible or pertinent. This is above all an inclusive process, and we look forward to consultations with the ICC network and partners to provide us with feedback along the way. Let’s continue to have a lasting impact on the G20 in 2011 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Jean-Guy Carrier

Key dates ahead of the G20 summit

14-15 April

G20 Finance Ministers meeting, Washington, DC

June

Series of “Sherpa” meetings in Paris or Geneva

23 September

G20 Finance Ministers meeting, Washington, DC

13-14 October

G20 Finance Ministers meeting, Paris

early November

(date to be announced)
B20 Summit, Nice, France

3-4 November

G20 Summit, Cannes, France



Jean-Guy Carrier, ICC Secretary General



Gerard Worms, ICC Chairman

G20 must address trade and investment, says new ICC Chairman Gerard Worms

“The G20 Summit is being held at our doorstep this year, giving us an unprecedented opportunity to ensure ICC’s messages on trade and investment are heard. Trade and investment have the potential to revive ailing economies, and contribute significantly to sustainable global prosperity. This is why trade and investment policy cannot be ignored at this year’s Summit in Cannes, or subsequent meetings. Businesses, large and small, want to see these critical issues on the agenda, and especially a successful conclusion of the Doha Round. Together with our partners, we will bring the message of trade liberalization and cross-border investment to the table.”

Tracing ICC’s G20 policy process

ICC is developing policy to deliver global business input on an ongoing basis to the senior G20 government officials, or “Sherpas”, who carry forward each government’s agenda from one Summit to the next. The G20 Executive Brief will keep you abreast of steps in this process, as ICC:

- Develops draft policy papers on the six themes
- Gets input on these papers from ICC commission experts and national committees
- Creates a G20 CEO Advisory Group that will meet in May
- Assembles an expert group, also set to meet in May, to provide input
- Consults with the World Economic Forum and Medef to make initial policy submissions to the French “Sherpas” to compare initial policy positions
- Organizes a series of regional consultations, starting in Mexico, including CEOs of small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs)
- Takes part in the B20 Summit, around 2-3 November in Nice, back-to-back with the G20 Summit taking place in Cannes on 3-4 November.

Influencing the G20 agenda

ICC is addressing six main themes that are, or should be, on the G20 agenda. The “should be” is Trade, investment and development, which ICC will insist must be a concern for G20 leaders in order to curb rising protectionism and to conclude the Doha Round.

The six themes are:

- Trade, investment and development
- Strengthening financial regulation
- Fighting corruption
- Reforming the international monetary system
- Reducing commodity price volatility
- Green growth

France targets monetary system and commodity prices

France, as chair of the G20 for 2011, is highlighting the reform of the international monetary system and the volatility of commodity prices as issues it wants to see addressed at the Summit in Cannes. French Finance Minister Christine Lagarde has been calling for new multilateral disciplines to foster greater global monetary stability and to take into account the growth of emerging economies. The French presidency is also urging that commodity trading be more tightly regulated to avoid increasingly unstable pricing for a host of commodities from oil and natural gas, to food.



French President Nicolas Sarkozy delivers speech in Nanjing, China on 31 March 2011

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