

G20 Executive Brief

CEOs to carry business messages from Cannes to Los Cabos



photo credit: Ludovic Rea

CEOs from ICC's G20 Advisory Group posed for a photo alongside other global business leaders at the B20 Summit in Cannes, France

A word from the Secretary General

Dear readers,

ICC's G20 Advisory Group recently concluded an intensive series of meetings with G20 leaders and other CEOs at the B20 Summit in Cannes, France. Despite the G20's concentration on Greece and the precariousness of the European debt crisis, our CEO group was able to get across many of the business priorities we had prepared for the Summit.

Notably, President Nicolas Sarkozy received CEOs from the Advisory Group at the Elysee Palace in Paris just ahead of the B20 Summit, 2-3 November. This meeting underlined the importance G20 leaders are now affording the business community and bodes well for our ongoing effort to convey messages directly to G20 heads of state.

While the B20 Summit represented the culmination of our work, the development of our policy input into the G20 started in June and included consultations with businesses – large and small – throughout the ICC network, along with CEOs from the World Economic Forum. This process provided our CEO group with a solid base for their statements to media and for their discussions in Cannes.

Looking forward, we initiated discussions with Mexican officials at the close of the B20, to map out plans for the next Summit in Los Cabos, Mexico in June 2012. Alejandro Ramirez – who has been designated by Mexican President Felipe Calderon to coordinate the B20 in Mexico – led a delegation of officials from Mexican ministries. Mr Ramirez invited ICC to participate in the first meeting of the organizing committee in January 2012 in Mexico City.

Despite the 'crisis' nature of the Cannes Summit period, the relatively strong final G20 Declaration indicates that Sherpas are undertaking good work before and after Summits. The G20 is evolving as an institution to widen its policy reach and extend its mid- to long-term agenda.

These trends suggest that our forward-looking approach remains valid. Our efforts are showing solid progress and I am confident that the process we have put in place will yield even more fruitful results in the future. I would like to thank you for all your help in making the B20 Summit a success, and we count on your continued input in the months leading up to Los Cabos.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J. Carrier'.

Jean-Guy Carrier

Key dates ahead of the G20 summit

January TBA
B20 Organizing Committee meets Mexico City

17-18 June 2012
B20 Summit
Los Cabos, Mexico

18-19 June 2012
G20 Summit
Los Cabos, Mexico



Jean-Guy Carrier, ICC Secretary General



President Sarkozy hosts CEOs at Elysee Palace

French President Nicolas Sarkozy invited CEO members from ICC's G20 Advisory Group, the World Economic Forum and the French business confederation MEDEF to the Elysee Palace for a meeting on the morning the B20 Summit opened. The three organizations submitted their joint proposals to Mr Sarkozy for further consideration by G20 leaders during their discussions at the Cannes Summit.

photo credit: Presidence de la Republique \ L Blevennec



Bloomberg TV's Maryam Nemazee interviewed ICC G20 Advisory Group members Peter Voser, Marcus Wallenberg and Martin Senn

Advisory Group members in the media

ICC's G20 activities generated significant attention from international media over the past few months. CEO members of our Advisory Group appeared in televised interviews that aired on BBC World News, Bloomberg TV, France 24 and French channels LCI/TF1. The Group's activities were also covered in articles published by the Financial Times, The Wall Street Journal, Reuters, Le Figaro, Les Echos and Handelsblatt.

Summit outcomes reveal policy priority overlap

G20 leaders issued a final communiqué following the Cannes Summit, indicating their priorities reflect many of those put forward by the business community, including:

A global strategy for growth and jobs

To address the immediate challenges faced by the global economy, we commit to coordinate our actions and policies. We have agreed on an Action plan for Growth and Jobs.

Avoiding Protectionism and Reinforcing the Multilateral Trading System

At this critical time for the global economy, it is important to underscore the merits of the multilateral trading system as a way to avoid protectionism and not turn inward. We reaffirm our standstill commitments until the end of 2013, as agreed in Toronto, commit to roll back any new protectionist measure that may have risen,...

We stand by the Doha Development Agenda (DDA) mandate. However, it is clear that we will not complete the DDA if we continue to conduct negotiations as we have in the past. We recognize the progress achieved so far. To contribute to confidence, we need to pursue in 2012 fresh, credible approaches to furthering negotiations, including the issues of concern for Least Developed Countries and, where they can bear fruit, the remaining elements of the DDA mandate.

Intensifying Our Fight against Corruption

Corruption is a major impediment to economic growth and development. We have made significant progress to implement the G20 Anti-Corruption Action Plan. We endorse our experts' report...which outlines the major steps taken both by individual countries and the G20 collectively, and sets out further actions required to ensure that G20 countries continue to make positive progress against the Action Plan.