Muenster VI Ministerial Declaration

In their final declaration, Ministers participating in the Muenster VI Ministerial this week sent a clear message that it is investment that drives sustained growth in their countries. Ministers welcomed the progress achieved over the past eight years of the Muenster process and committed to take concrete actions to further improve the investment climate and accelerate economic growth. They agreed to develop economic partnerships with the private sector in order to achieve their goals. The Ministers invited OECD to pursue the objectives of the Muenster process, through its Programme of Co-operation with non-Members, and to review progress made by countries in the region.

The meeting was opened by Russian Prime Minister Kasyanov and co-chaired by Mr. German Gref, Minister for Economic Development and Trade of the Russian Federation, Miss Maria Livanof Cattaui, Secretary-General of the International Chamber of Commerce, and OECD Secretary-General Donald Johnston.

In his concluding statement, Mr. Johnston said that in “the eight years since the first Muenster meeting, we can conclude that most transition countries have passed the point of no return on the journey towards democracy and the market economy.” He added that he is “therefore confident that the objectives of the Muenster Process can continue to be achieved efficiently and successfully within the framework of OECD’s dialogue and co-operation with non-members, in close interaction with all partners assembled here, including other international organisations, the business community, and civil society.”

The full text of the Ministerial Declaration can be found at http://www.oecd.org/media/release/muensterfinal.htm, as well as the closing statement by Donald Johnston at http://www.oecd.org/media/release/johnstonmuenster5dec2000.htm.

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