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### **FLEXICURITY WORKS IN GOOD AND BAD ECONOMIC WEATHER**

On 31 March and 1 April, the European social partners BUSINESSEUROPE, ETUC, CEEP and UEAPME organised a conference to conclude a joint project on flexicurity.

Gathering more than one hundred trade union and employer representatives, the conference has allowed for two days of constructive debates on flexicurity and the role social partners play in this respect. BUSINESSEUROPE emphasized the need to look at the practical application of the flexicurity and its usefulness to limit unemployment in times of crisis. For flexicurity to deliver its full potential, flexible labour law, active labour market policies, modern social security systems and a sound macroeconomic environment are essential. Translated at the company level, this means a sound business strategy, active competence management, flexible work organization and labour costs in line with productivity.

BUSINESSEUROPE managing director Thérèse de Liedekerke said that *“there is no alternative to reforms if we are to create sustainable employment. Flexicurity is crucial in this respect. The joint project has gathered a wealth of examples of how flexicurity works in practice which can serve as inspiration for policy makers and social partners alike”*.

The final project report summarizing the main conclusions of this project will be made available shortly on BUSINESSEUROPE’s website.

*BUSINESSEUROPE represents small, medium and large companies. Active in European affairs since 1958, BUSINESSEUROPE’s members are 40 leading industrial and employers’ federations from 34 European countries, working together to achieve growth and competitiveness in Europe. For the full list of our members, please visit our website.*

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