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Mr Andrzej Duda
President of the Republic of Poland
ul. Wiejska 10
00-902 Warszawa

Dear Mr President,

Re: Interference in the autonomy of the Social Dialogue Council/ independence of representative trade unions and employers' organisations

We would like to convey to you the words of our highest consideration. IOE plays a key role in International Labour Organization (ILO) as the Secretariat of the Employers in this unique tripartite International Organization. For more than 100 years, the IOE is the most extensive private sector network in the world, representing more than 50 million companies in over 150 countries, leading the business voice in other important international debates, and being an active partner of the G20. IOE is the only global organization that represents national business organizations in countries at all stages of development, including those most in need.

Currently, UN Members States are consulting and involving daily IOE member organizations as critical partners in the design and implementation of economic, fiscal and social measures and policies to meet the COVID-19 crisis.

The International Organisation of Employers (IOE) strongly supports the Employers of Poland and respectfully requests your Government to revoke the provisions of the Act of 28 March 2020, which authorize the Prime Minister to dismiss unilaterally the members of the Social Dialogue Council. These provisions are counterproductive to meet the COVID-19 crisis and represent a clear interference in the autonomy of the Council. They also jeopardize the independence of representative trade union and employers' organizations.

We also invite your Government to work with the Employers of Poland, the most representative employer organization in the country and other representative social partners in finding solutions to combat and mitigate the effects COVID-19.

We kindly inform you that we have also sought the immediate attention of ILO Director-General, Mr Guy Ryder, for his support on this matter, as we believe that the 2020 Act does not respect fundamental principles of the ILO.

We remain available and willing to support you and the Government of Poland to redress this situation and to effectively mitigate the negative effects of this emergency.

Yours faithfully,

Erol Kiresepi
President