

INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR COOPERATION AND INVESTMENT (ICCI)

**Moscow
April 7, 2014**

1. We, members of the International Council for Cooperation and Investment and other companies and business associations concerned, met to discuss recent political developments related to the Ukrainian crisis. The current tensions affect activities of foreign companies working in Russia and Ukraine, including those that have invested consistently into competitiveness and economic growth.
2. We call on all governments involved to commit to diplomatic means and constructive dialogue in order to grant stability and welfare in Europe and the stabilization of Ukraine, thereby restoring confidence of businesses and markets.
3. We believe that threats and imposition of sanctions are counterproductive and contradict our goals of achieving economic growth and increasing employment. They also send wrong investment signals for companies, hampering their future plans and restricting competitiveness.
4. Governments should act in the interest of businesses and employees and should not hold them hostage to the geopolitical situation.
5. Economic relations must continue and business plans should be allowed to proceed and an atmosphere of confidence needs to be re-established. Normal business relations will also help to stabilize the economic, social and political situation in Ukraine.
6. We appeal to the Russian Government to accelerate structural reforms leading to an improvement of the business and investment climate.

Note: ICCI is an advisory body established by the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs in 2008 to provide a platform for a dialogue of foreign business and Russian state authorities. ICCI brings together leading foreign investors in Russia, business associations and chambers of commerce.