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## PRESS RELEASE

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### **HOTREC\* : Multiple hotel room reservations out of the Timeshare Directive - a great lobby success for HOTREC!**

Today the European Parliament overwhelmingly adopted its report on the new Timeshare Directive. MEPs decided to keep multiple hotel room reservations out of the Directive by voting in favour of a compromise text which includes a specific amendment corresponding almost word by word to the amendment suggested by HOTREC.

**Bernd Geyer**, President of HOTREC (Hotels, Restaurants and Cafés in Europe), underlined: *“This is a great victory for both the European hospitality industry and its guests. By supporting the amendment we proposed, MEPs demonstrated their understanding of the challenges hotels are facing in terms of flexibility, without compromising on consumer protection”*.

The text adopted today will ensure, for example, that the booking of the same apartment at a children-friendly resort in the Austrian Alps by a family with two children for Christmas 2008 and 2009 would not be subject to the new Timeshare Directive when *“the multiple reservations do not imply rights and obligations beyond those arising from separate reservations”*.

As this version of the text was already discussed with the Council and the Commission, its final adoption should take place soon.

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\* HOTREC represents the hotel, restaurant and café industry at European level. It counts 1.6 million businesses, with 92% of them being micro enterprises employing less than 10 people. The micro and small enterprises (having less than 50 employees) in the hospitality industry representing 99% of businesses make up some 62% of value added. The industry provides some 9 million jobs in the EU alone. HOTREC brings together 40 National Associations representing the interest of the industry in 25 different European countries.