

**REMARKS BY AMBASSADOR LEE A. FEINSTEIN**

**BOEING LOT 20<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF COOPERATION  
CELEBRATION on SEPTEMBER 22, 2010**

Mr. Mikosz, thank you. It is great to be here with James Albaugh and Henryka Bochniarz. They are a model of the good things that happen when Poles and Americans team up.

Congratulations to LOT employees who will be honored here today.

We're here today to mark 20 years of cooperation between Boeing and LOT. It's been an incredibly productive 20 years, and I know everyone in the room is looking forward to 20 more.

Boeing showed a lot foresight to get in on the ground floor of Poland's economic transition. They were part of a wave of Americans and Europeans who came to Poland from the private sector, from the NGO world, and from governments to play a supporting role in Poland's bold and skillful transition to a free-market economy. In the mid 90s, U.S. investment in Poland was about 15 percent of the total. The early intensity of U.S. investment is today reflected in the broad range of U.S. and Polish business cooperation, from

high tech to manufacturing to energy. These investments are creating opportunity on both sides of the Atlantic.

In the past 20 years, U.S. companies have invested more than \$20 Billion in Poland. American companies employ more than 180,000 people in Poland. And that number grows to more than 360,000 if you count the jobs added as a result of U.S. partnerships. To put this number in perspective, about 750,000 Germans work today for U.S. owned companies, a presence that was built up slowly over more than 60 years. In Poland these changes have taken place in just 20.

Boeing is in good company in Poland. IBM, last week officially opened a new service delivery center in Wrocław; United Technologies and Sikorsky are in Poland's aviation valley.

Over the summer, I traveled to Google's office in Wrocław, where half of the employees are Polish and the other half come from around the world. Google's operations in Wrocław are a template for others. They chose the location because of the talent of the work force, and because of Poland's position as the sixth largest EU nation, with a growing domestic economy, situated in central Europe. Investors did not consider location as a factor in making their investments.

In a global market, the Polish government and its local leaders continue to work hard to attract investments throughout the country. Earlier this month, for example, Pittsburgh Glass Works announced an \$80 million investment in a new factory in the suburbs of Wrocław; and investment that was made possible because of investment incentives by the EU and Poland. For Poland, as for states in the United States, these incentives remain important to be competitive in the global market.

My job description as U.S. ambassador is to advance U.S. interests and deepen the strong ties between Poland and the United States. Our security relationship is fundamental. And Boeing plays a role in a security relationship this has never been closer. In the past year that relationship has deepened and broadened. We are in the midst of a major multinational military here in Poland. We have concluded a number of important security agreements. We have established new government-to-government talks. We meet routinely at cabinet levels. I was with Secretary Clinton and the Foreign Minister when they met in Krakow in July and Washington in the spring. These meetings are part of the regular rhythm of our relationship.

But, it is also true that there is no greater area where we can do more advance our partnership than in the area I like to call the three Es:

Education, Energy Security, and trade and Economics – where all of you play such an important role.

Not only is economics at the heart of the bilateral relationship, but U.S. businesses have shown Poland America's heart. ; with IBM's support for Europride 2010; Proctor and Gamble's support of women's groups; Philip Morris and Citibank's support for Fundacja 10 April; and UPS's impressive matching of U.S. support for Polish flood victims.

I hope tonight will inspire you to pursue out new opportunities in Poland to the benefit of both of our countries. Congratulations once again on the first twenty years of your cooperation.