

French presidency of the Council of the European Union

CONSOLIDATING RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FOR EUROPEAN SMES *How to do more and better?*

MONDAY 15 AND TUESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2008

Paris (France) • Ministry of the Economy, Industry and Employment

• Centre de conférences Pierre Mendès France •

An event organised by OSEO, the French agency for innovation, with the support of the European Commission and the Ministry of the Economy, Industry and Employment

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMM

MONDAY 15 SEPTEMBER 2008

From 8.30 • Registering / coffee

9:30/10:00 • OFFICIAL OPENING SPEECHES

- Hervé NOVELLI, Junior Minister for Trade, Crafts, Small and Medium Enterprises, Tourism and Services
- Janez POTOČNIK, European Commissioner for Science and Research
- François DROUIN, President of OSEO

10:00/10:45 • CONFERENCE

Situation with regard to research and innovation in Europe in relation to the United States, Japan, China,...
Share of Private RD, Role of SMEs...Strengths and weaknesses, key figures, the stakes

Prospective speaker

- Esko AHO, President of Sitra, former Prime Minister of Finland

10:45/12:45 • DEBATE

How to do more and better? Towards streamlining: coordination and complementarity of European, national and regional systems.

*How to optimise mechanisms for a better co-ordinated approach of national Research Development and Innovation DI policies: links with the EC FP, CIP and regional policy? What developments for mechanisms such as ERANET, Eurostars,...? The impact of Community policies in relation to lead markets
What are the challenges for SMEs : which SMEs and what types of projects and research?*

1 • Accounts from SMEs

2. Discussion

Prospective contributors

- Angelika NIEBLER, President of the ITRE committee (industry, research and energy) in the European Parliament (Germany)
- Hervé NOVELLI, Junior Minister for Trade, Crafts, Small and Medium Enterprises, Tourism and Services (France)
- Janez POTOČNIK, European Commissioner for Science and Research
- Martin RIMAN, Minister for Trade and Industry in the Czech Republic
- Luc VAN DEN BRANDE, President of the Committee of the Regions (Belgium)

13:00/14:15 • Buffet lunch

14:30/16:30 • DEBATE

How to do more and better? Focusing on Networking of public and private research:

Which developments in the public and private Research Development and innovation economic system: large companies, SMEs? What links and mechanisms should be established to create more economic value for SMEs? Which technology transfer and valorisation schemes to put forward? What is the impact of the new governance and organisation structures (JTI, article 169, technology clusters...)?

1 • Four accounts from SMEs

2 • Discussion

Prospective contributors

- Prof Dr Hans Jorg BULLINGER, President of the Fraunhofer Gesellschaft (Germany)
- Jerzy BUZEK, Member of the European Parliament (Poland)
- Theodius LENNON, a director in the Research DG, European Commission
- Dominique VERNAY, President of the SYSTEM@TIC PARIS-REGION centre, Technical Director Thalès Group (France)

16:30/17:00 • **Break**

17:00/17:25 • **CONFERENCE**

How to reinforce SMEs growth and competitiveness through a European SBA?

Prospective speaker

Françoise LE BAIL, deputy director, Enterprise and Industry DG, European Commission

17:25/17:50 • **CONFÉRENCE**

New financial risk-sharing initiatives for SMEs

Prospective speaker

Philippe MAYSTADT, President of the EIB

20:00/23:00 • **Gala dinner**

TUESDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2008

09:15/11:15 • **DEBATE**

How to do more and better? How to adapt support for SMEs within a strengthened networking approach

What new mechanisms and services should be strengthened? Best European practices (public and private initiatives) and pathways to progress: networks, consultant initiatives, financial support mechanisms, ...

Expectations of SMEs and areas for development in Europe

1 • Four accounts from SMEs

2. Discussion

Prospective contributors

• Pia Elda LOCATELLI, Member of the European Parliament (Italy)

• Bernd REICHERT, Head of the SMEs unit, Research DG, European Commission

• Maive RUTE, Director, Enterprise and Industry DG, European Commission

• Marcel SHATON, Iserd (Israël), representative of the NCP network

• Christopher John HULL, Secretary general, European association for Research and Technology Organisations (EARTO) (Belgium)

11:15/11:45 • **Break**

11:45/12:15 • **SUMMARY OF WORK AND AREAS OF ACTION**

ReinHilde VEUGELERS, Professor, Université Catholique of Louvain

12:15/13:00 • **OFFICIAL CLOSING SPEECHES**

• José Manuel SYLVA RODRIGUEZ, Director General of the Research DG, European Commission

• Luc ROUSSEAU, Director General of the Enterprises DG, Ministry of the Economy, Industry and Employment

13:00/14:30 • **Déjeuner buffet**

(Afternoon : meeting of the NPC European)

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