

Western Balkans Digital Summit 2019 – 2nd DS Steering Committee Meeting

14 December 2018, Berlin

Venue: Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy, hall 3,
G 3.011 Scharnhorststraße 35, 10115 Berlin, Germany

14.00 – 14.15 Welcome Address and presentation of the objective of the Meeting

- Helge TOLKSDORF, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy
- David RINGROSE, DG CONNECT, European Commission
- Maja HANDJISKA-TRENDAFILOVA, Regional Cooperation Council

14.15 - 16.00 Proposed panels for the Digital Summit - *discussion on the panel content and focus*

Moderated by *Regional Cooperation Council*

This session aims to present the views and proposals of Western Balkan economies on the panels' content and scope as well as the preliminary list of proposed speakers based on their expressed interest to lead and/or co-lead the preparation of relevant panels. The discussions under this session will follow as per the four sub-components of Digital Integration Component of the Multi annual Action Plan for a Regional Economic Area (MAP REA) proposed in the concept note for the Digital Summit and presented by the Host during the last meeting.

Different partners have expressed the interest to participate in the preparations of the panels following the proposal to have Interest Groups along the four panels of the Digital Summit. Their inputs in each panel are valuable and welcomed.

1. Networks and connectivity

Representatives of Albania will present the proposed content of the panel elaborating on concrete and specific topics to be addressed at the panel. All WB economies are kindly invited to contribute with their views and suggestions. The discussion will benefit from inputs provided by partners that expressed interest to participate in the preparations of this panel.

2. Trust and Security

Representatives of Montenegro will present the proposed content of the panel elaborating on concrete and specific topics to be addressed at the panel. All WB economies are kindly invited to contribute with their views and suggestions. The discussion will benefit from inputs provided by partners that expressed interest to participate in the preparations of this panel.

3. Digital skills

Representatives of Serbia will present the proposed content of the panel elaborating on concrete and specific topics to be addressed at the panel. All WB economies are kindly invited to contribute with their views and suggestions. The discussion will benefit from inputs provided by partners that expressed interest to participate in the preparations of this panel.

4. Digital economy and society

Representatives of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia will present the proposed content of the panel elaborating on concrete and specific topics to be addressed at the panel. All WB economies are kindly invited to contribute with their views and suggestions. The discussion will benefit from inputs provided by partners that expressed interest to participate in the preparations of this panel.

16.00 – 16.15 Coffee break

16.15 – 17.00 Administrative and other aspects of Digital Summit - *Informed discussion from all participants*

Moderated by *German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy (tbc)*

This part intends to elaborate on several administrative and logistical aspects of the Digital Summit namely next steps and timing to finalize the agenda and list of speakers, appropriate timing for sending invitations, etc.

Representatives of Serbia are kindly invited to share their views on the above in their capacity of the Host of DS 2019. This part of the meeting will also discuss on the next Host of Digital Summit – already expressed interest and new proposal will be tabled aiming at a joint agreement on the DS 2020 Host.

Discussions from all participants

17.00 – 17.45 Digital Summit side events – state of play in preparation and next steps

Moderated by *the Host of 2019 DS (tbc)*

This session aims to elaborate on the preparations of the side events as presented during the last meeting as well as EXPO, B2B events, any steps taken to reach out Chambers and CSOs to promote and inform on the upcoming Digital Summit with a view to ensuring participation of private companies, in particular those from Western Balkans and EU Member States.

Representatives from Serbia will inform on steps taken by the Host while all participants are kindly asked to contribute with their inputs. Moreover, WB CIF may also provide valuable inputs in this session.

Discussions from all participants

17.45 – 18.00 Conclusions of the Meeting and next steps

Moderated by *Helge Toksdorf, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy*

The European Commission, German Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy and Regional Cooperation Council

19.00 Dinner

More detailed information will follow.