**Western Balkans and Europe 2020 – Towards Convergence and Growth**

**Agenda of the Regional Coordination Meeting**

**Brussels, 30-31 March 2011**

**Wednesday, March 30, 2011**

**Venue: European Parliament, Espace Leopold, Brussels**

18.30 – 20.00 **Conference Opening and Reception**

Participant Registration

Conference Opening

Hido Biščević, Secretary General, Regional Cooperation Council Secretariat

_Eduard Kukan_, MEP, Chairman of the Delegation for relations with Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo

_Michael Leigh_, Director-General for Enlargement, European Commission

Cocktail reception hosted by Mr. _Eduard Kukan_, MEP, Chairman of the Delegation for relations with Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo

**Thursday, March 31, 2011**

**Venue: RCC Liaison Office, EFTA building, rue Joseph II, 12-16**

09.00 - 09.15 **Welcome Address: Europe 2020 and the Role of the RCC Secretariat**

Jelica Minić, Deputy Secretary General, Regional Cooperation Council Secretariat

09.15-09.45 **Keynote Address: Does the Western Balkans Need a New Growth Model?**

_Peter Sanfey_, Lead Economist, EBRD

_Bernard Snoy_, Senior Expert, IFI Coordination Office

09.45-11.30 **Panel 1: Smart Growth – Unleashing Competitiveness in the Western Balkans**

*Europe 2020 sets ambitious headline targets for the Member States. Translating these targets into the Western Balkans context will be a delicate endeavour, balancing investments in growth with the sustainability of public finances. Developing a framework for action that is relevant, realistic and compatible with Europe 2020 policy goals and governance mechanisms will require complementary efforts on both the national and regional level.*

Moderated by: _Kori Udovički_, Assistant Secretary-General, Assistant Administrator of UNDP and Director of the Regional Bureau for Europe and Commonwealth of Independent States, UNDP

Panellists:

_Renata Vitez_, Director, Central Europe Free Trade Agreement (CEFTA) Secretariat

_Vesna Arsić_, Co-Chair, South East Europe Investment Committee (SEEIC)

_Sandra Rončević_, Project Manager, Southeast Europe Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning

_Diana Šimić_, Chairperson, e-SEE Initiative

_Remus Pricopie_, Chair, RCC Task Force on Building Human Capital

Discussion and Q&A

11.30 - 11.45 **Coffee break**
11.45 – 13.15  |  **Panel 2: Infrastructure and Sustainable Growth**

Appropriate infrastructure planning, development and utilization will greatly impact the overall development, stability and prosperity of the region. There is a need for an integrated planning model for strategic infrastructure - one that optimizes current resources and provides a framework to encourage private sector finance and enterprise.

**Moderated by:** Jane Armitage, Country Director, World Bank

**Panellists:**
- Mate Gjorgjievski, Transport Law Expert, Southeast Europe Transport Observatory Secretariat
- Dejan Komatina, Secretary, International Sava River Basin Commission (ISRBC)
- Kamilo Vrana, Southeast Europe Public-Private Partnership Network (SEEPN)
- Marta Szügőti Bonifert, Executive Director, Regional Environmental Center
- Boban Ilić, Secretary General, Standing Working Group for Regional Rural Development

Discussion and Q&A

13.15 – 14.15  |  Lunch

14.15 - 15.45  |  **Panel 3: Governance for Growth**

Good governance is a considerable challenge for the Western Balkans. Given its profound impact on all other aspects of society, the Western Balkans’ take on the EU2020 would be incomplete without giving due attention to the governance dimension.

**Moderated by:** Virgil Ivan Cucu, Head of Justice and Home Affairs Unit, RCC Secretariat

**Panellists:**
- Blerta Selenica, Chair of the Governing Board, Regional School of Public Administration (ReSPA)
- Blaž Golob, Director, Centre for eGovernance Development (CeGD)
- Vesna Ratković, Chairperson, Regional Anti-corruption initiative (RAI)
- Kelmend Zajazi, Executive Director, Secretariat of the Network of Associations of Local Authorities of Southeast Europe (NALAS)

Discussion and Q&A

15.45 – 16.00  |  Coffee break

16.00 - 17.30  |  **Regional Programmes: Complementing and Adding Value to National Efforts**

**Moderated by:** Jelica Minić, Deputy Secretary General, Regional Cooperation Council Secretariat

**EC Regional Programmes and the Coordination Architecture**
- Yngve Engström, Head of Unit, Regional Programmes, DG ELARG, European Commission

**Region’s Contribution to National Competitiveness - OECD Investment Compact for SEE**
- Anthony O’Sullivan, Head, Private Sector Development Division, OECD

**Current Coordination Tools for Investment, TA and Support Programmes**
- Mary O’Mahony, IFI Coordination Office

**South East Europe Cooperation Process (SEECP) - Montenegrin Chairmanship in Office**
- Veselin Šuković, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Montenegro

Discussion and Conclusions

*The organizer reserves the right to amend the meeting agenda and timings*