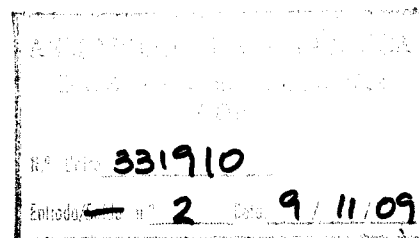


HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATES GENERAL
PUBLIC EXPENDITURE COMMITTEE



The Hague, 20 October 2009
Our Reference: 2009D50434

Invitation to Interparliamentary Conference on Improving Accountability of EU funds in EU Member States

Dear Colleague,

It is an honour for me to invite you and members of your committee to the Interparliamentary Conference on Improving Accountability of EU funds in EU Member States. This conference is to be held on Thursday (evening) and Friday, 28-29 January 2010. It will take place in the House of Representatives of the States General in The Hague, the Netherlands.

Aim and purpose of this conference is to discuss the role of EU Member States, and more specifically the role of national parliaments, in controlling EU spending and the accountability of EU funds. As the Lisbon Treaty places new emphasis on the role of member states, new challenges and opportunities exist for us and our colleagues to influence the European policy process. A preparatory paper on the subject of the conference will be sent to you in December. The conference itself will be concluded by a Conference Statement.

The Public Expenditure Committee of the House of Representatives in close cooperation with the Committee of Finance of the Senate will host the conference. The committees on budget control or equivalent bodies from all the national parliaments of the EU Member States, the European Parliament and the European Court of Auditors will also be invited.

Enclosed you will find more information about the draft program as well as general information on transport and hotels. We would much appreciate receiving confirmation of your participation in the Conference (max. 4 persons in total per parliament including staff), by 15 December 2009 at the latest.

If you have any questions please contact cie.ru@tweedekamer.nl or visit www.houseofrepresentatives.nl.

I look forward to welcoming you to The Hague.

Yours sincerely,

Charlie Aptroot
Chair of the Public Expenditure Committee
of the House of Representatives

DRAFT PROGRAMME

“IMPROVING ACCOUNTABILITY OF EU FUNDS IN EU MEMBER STATES”
28-29 JANUARY 2010, THE HAGUE

THURSDAY 28 JANUARY

Location: House of Representatives of the States General, “Oude Zaal”, Binnenhof 1A

16.00 h Guided tour at the Parliament

18.00 h Welcoming of participants and registration

18.45 -20.45 h Dinner with introduction(s)

FRIDAY 29 JANUARY, MORNING SESSION

Location: House of Representatives of the States General, “Oude Zaal”

09.30 h Opening

10.00-12.00 h **Accountability in Europe**

Introduction by EP- chair CoCoBu committee (to be confirmed)
Views from delegations
Recap of the discussions by the chairman of the conference

12.15- 13.30 h Lunch, House of Representatives, “Rooksalon”

FRIDAY 29 JANUARY, AFTERNOON SESSION

Location: House of Representatives of the States General, “Oude Zaal”

13.45-15.45 h **Perspectives in the member states**

Introductions by European Court of Audits, Netherlands Court of Audit (to be confirmed)
Views from delegations
Recap of the discussions by the chairman of the conference

15.45-16.15 h Coffee break

16.15-17.00 h Closure of the conference
Presentation of the conclusions by the chairman of the conference

17.00 h Departure of the delegations

GENERAL INFORMATION

“IMPROVING ACCOUNTABILITY OF EU FUNDS IN EU MEMBER STATES”
28-29 JANUARY 2010, THE HAGUE

MEETING VENUE

House of Representatives, “Oude Zaal”
Entrance: Binnenhof 1A
www.houseofrepresentatives.nl / see enclosed plan

DELEGATION

Delegations are asked to limit the number of delegates to 4 (including staff) in total for the National Parliaments. Please contact us if no members of Parliament can attend the meeting but observers want to attend the Conference instead.

INTERPRETATION

The language at the conference and receptions will be English. Please note that at this stage of planning no interpretation is foreseen. You are invited to bring your own interpreters, if so we kindly ask you to send an e-mail to cie.ru@tweedekamer.nl as soon as possible. Documentation during the Conference will be provided in English.

ACCOMMODATION

No block booking has been made by the host authorities. Delegations must make their individual hotel reservations. For your convenience a list of recommended hotels, all in walking distance of the House of Representatives, is given at the end of this information note.

ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE

Delegations are requested to arrange their own transport to and from the airport, and to and from the hotels. All the recommended hotels are within walking range of the meeting venue. Direct trains run between Amsterdam Schiphol airport and The Hague. Please note that The Hague has two train stations (Central ór Hollands Spoor), you can travel to both of them to reach the meeting venue / hotels. Please visit <http://www.ns.nl/cs/Satellite/travellers> for more information. Taxis are available from Schiphol airport to the Hague: around 80 €. From the train stations in The Hague to hotels: around 10 €.

BADGES

An ID document is required to obtain a badge and to participate at the meeting and receptions. All participants are requested to wear their badges at all times for security reasons.

PROGRAMME

The invitation includes a draft programme for the meeting. The final programme will be sent to participants at least a week before the Conference. We kindly ask your understanding for last minute changes, you will be informed about them upon registration in The Hague.

GUIDED TOUR

Before the official program starts on Thursday 28 January, a guided tour in English along the premises of the States-General will be provided.

REGISTRATION

The website www.houseofrepresentatives.nl provides an online registration form. When completed please return your registration form to the House of Representatives of the Dutch Parliament (cie.ru@tweedekamer.nl). We kindly ask you to submit your registration as soon as possible but no later than 15 December 2009. A registration desk, in the hall of Binnenhof 1A, will be open both days of the conference, half an hour before the program starts.

SUGGESTED HOTELS

Le Méridien Hotel des Indes

Lange Voorhout 54-56
2514 EG THE HAGUE
tel. 0031 70 361 23 45
<http://www.hoteldesindes.nl>

Hotel Corona

Buitenhof 39-42
2513 AH THE HAGUE
tel. 00 31 363 79 30
fax 00 31 361 57 85; info@corona.nl

Mercure Hotel Den Haag Central

Spui 180
2511 BW THE HAGUE
tel. 00 31 70 363 67 00
fax 00 31 70 363 93 98; h1317@accor-hotel.com

Novotel Den Haag Centrum

Hofweg 5-7
2511 AA THE HAGUE
Tel. 00 31 70 364 88 46
Fax 00 31 70 356 2889; h1180@accor-hotels.com

Parkhotel Den Haag

Molenstraat 53
2513 BJ THE HAGUE
Tel. 00 31 70 362 43 71
Fax 00 31 70 361 45 25; www.parkhoteldenhaag.nl

Hotel IBIS Den Haag Centre

Jan Hendrikstraat 10
2512 GL Den Haag
Tel. 00 31 70 318 43 18
Fax 0031 70 318 43 19; H3701@accor.com

PARTICIPATION FORM

“IMPROVING ACCOUNTABILITY OF EU FUNDS IN EU MEMBER STATES”
28-29 JANUARY 2010, THE HAGUE

(Please use one form for each participant, complete using BLOCK CAPITALS)

A GENERAL INFORMATION

Country _____

First name(s) _____ Surname _____

Gender _____

Delegation _____

Position _____

Telephone _____ Fax _____ Mobile _____

Email _____

Special Dietary requirements? Please specify _____

- I will be attending the guided tour of the Parliament and Dinner (28.1) and the Symposium (29.1)
- I will be attending the Dinner (28.1) and the Symposium (29.1)
- I will be attending the Symposium only (29.1)

(please choose one option, indicate with ✓)

B ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE INFORMATION

Arrival Date _____

Departure Date _____

Date : _____ Signature : _____

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BEFORE 15 December 2009

Completed forms can be sent to:
House of Representatives of the States General
Secretariat of the Public Expenditure Committee
Postbus 20018
NL 2500 EA THE HAGUE

Fax: + 31 70 318 3386 / e-mail cie.ru@tweedekamer.nl

MAP OF THE HAGUE



- 1 = Train station The Hague Central
- 2 = Train station The Hague HS
- 3 = Meeting Venue (Binnenhof 1A)
- 4 = Mercure Hotel Den Haag Central
- 5 = Novotel Den Haag Centrum
- 6 = Hotel Corona
- 7 = Hotel IBIS
- 8 = Parkhotel
- 9 = Le Méridien Hotel Des Indes