

Brussels, 18 July 2012

Sir,

It is my pleasure to invite you to the high-level conference entitled "Jobs for Europe" organized by the European Commission in Brussels on 6-7 September 2012.

Building on the Employment Package adopted by the Commission on 18 April 2012 and on the outcomes of the 2012 European Semester, this conference will aim to further develop a European agenda for a job-rich recovery, drawing on the best practices in employment policies from across Europe.

The presence of Presidents M. Schulz (European Parliament), H. Van Rompuy (European Council), J.M. Barroso (European Commission) as well as of Italian Prime Minister M. Monti, Prof. C. Pissarides (Nobel Prize for Economics) and A. Gurría (Secretary-General of the OECD) has already been confirmed. The audience will comprise a variety of stakeholders from the Member States, including representatives from labour ministries, public employment services, economic and social councils, social partners, national parliaments as well as academics.

The conference will be structured around five main topics:

1. ~~Building a dynamic European labour market (considering transitions, human capital investment and mobility)~~
2. Impact of the crisis on employment (looking at "programme countries", wage levels and their adjustments, as well as the situation of jobless households)
3. Sectors with high job-creation potential (and in particular, the green economy, 'white' jobs, and ICT)
4. Employment policy throughout the life cycle (with a focus on youth, on gender and work-life balance and on active ageing)
5. Pathways to full employment (discussing the concept of a job guarantee, the role of social economy, and welfare-to-work measures)

You can find attached the draft programme.

The conference will take place at the Commission's Charlemagne Conference Centre (170 Rue de la Loi). The Commission will cover the necessary travel and accommodation expenses for **one attendee from each parliamentary chamber** of EU Member States.

We kindly ask you to register yourself or another representative of your Chamber for the conference **at the latest by Friday, 3 August 2012** by sending an e-mail with the following information: name of the delegate, position, address, phone number, e-mail address and specification whether the delegate requires hotel accommodation in Brussels on the 5th and/or the 6th of September; to the following mailbox:

EMPL-EUROPE-EMPLOYMENT-CONFERENCE@ec.europa.eu.

Due to capacity constraints it will unfortunately not be possible to accept more than one registration per Chamber. Following registration, the Commission's travel agency (TRAVEX) will contact the delegates to propose an itinerary, book their hotel and provide their tickets (we unfortunately cannot reimburse for individually-made travel arrangements).

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Mr Lukas Vesely at lukas.vesely@ec.europa.eu or +32 229 55117.

I look forward to seeing you at the conference.

Yours sincerely,



Jobs for Europe: The Employment Policy Conference

Brussels, Charlemagne, 6-7 September 2012

Draft programme, version 19.7 2012

Speakers confirmed, unless indicated otherwise

Opening plenary: Building a dynamic European labour market (transition, skills, mobility)

Thursday 6 September, 9:00 – 10:20

Chairs: **László Andor**, EU Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Koos Richelle, Director-General, European Commission - DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Opening speeches: **José Manuel Barroso**, President of the European Commission

Martin Schulz, President of the European Parliament

Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Council

Keynote speech: **Christopher Pissarides**, London School of Economics

Questions & Answers

Special keynote speeches

Thursday 6 September, 12:30 – 13:00

Angel Gurría, Secretary-General, OECD

Mario Monti, Prime Minister of Italy

Stream A: Impact of the crisis on employment

Rapporteur for the stream:

Raymond Torres, Director, International Institute for Labour Studies

Fighting unemployment in the "programme countries"

Thursday 6 September, 10:40 – 12:20

Chair: **Horst Reichenbach**, Head of the EU Task Force for Greece

Panellists: **Richard Bruton**, Minister of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation, Ireland

Pedro Silva Martins, Secretary of State for Employment, Portugal

Manos Matsaganis, Athens University of Economics and Business

Jobless households – the link between employment and poverty

Thursday 6 September, 14:30 – 16:15

Chair: **Ana Revenga**, Director, Poverty Reduction and Equity Group, World Bank

Panellists: **Fintan Farrell**, European Anti-Poverty Network

Maria Jepsen, Director, European Trade Union Institute

Irena Topinska, Warsaw University and CASE

Wages – adjustment and strategies

Thursday 6 September, 16:45 – 18:30

Chair: **Daniel Gros**, Director, Centre for European Policy Studies

Panellists: **Michel Aglietta**, CEPII (*tbc*)

Stefan Collignon, LSE and Sant'Anna School of Advanced Studies

Stefano Scarpetta, OECD

Stream B: Employment policy throughout the life cycle

Rapporteur for the stream: **Martine Durand**, Chief Statistician, OECD

Barriers to women's employment (work-life balance)

Thursday 6 September, 10:40 – 12:20

Chair: **Hanne Bjurstrøm**, Labour Minister of Norway

Panellists: **Francesca Bettio**, University of Siena

Christa Randzio-Plath, University of Hamburg (*tbc*)

Robert Anderson, Eurofound

Youth – what has the YOI achieved and what is next?

Thursday 6 September, 14:30 – 16:15

Chair: **MEP Pervenche Berès**, Chair of the Employment Committee of the European Parliament

Panellists: **Enrico Rossi**, President, Toscana region

Günther Lambertz, German Chambers of Commerce and Trade

Peter Matjašič, President, European Youth Forum

Active ageing – the labour market dimension

Thursday 6 September, 16:45 – 18:30

Chair: **Juan Menéndez-Valdés**, Director, Eurofound

Panellists: **Aart de Geus**, Member of the Executive Board, Bertelsmann Stiftung

Anne-Sophie Parent, Secretary General, AGE Europe

Claudia Menne, Confederal Secretary, ETUC

Stream C: Pathways to full employment

Rapporteur for the stream: **Dan Corry**, Chief Executive, New Philanthropy Capital

From welfare to work: activation and job creation

Thursday 6 September, 10:40 – 12:20

Chair: **José Albino Silva Peneda**, President of the Economic and Social Council, Portugal

Panellists: **Herwig Immervoll**, Senior Economist and Social Protection Specialist, World Bank

Mik Woolley, Chair of the Employment Committee

Pavlina R. Tcherneva, Franklin and Marshall College, US

Developing the social economy

Thursday 6 September, 14:30 – 16:15

Chair: **Marguerite Mendell**, Concordia University, Montreal

Panellists: **José María Aldecoa**, Chairman, Mondragon (*tbc*)

Aurélie Duprés, European Network for Social Integration Enterprises

Thorkil Sonne, Founder, Specialisterne

Job guarantee – concept and implementation

Thursday 6 September, 16:45 – 18:30

Chair: **Koos Richelle**, Director-General, European Commission - DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Panellists: **Bill Mitchell**, University of Newcastle, Australia

Frank-Jürgen Weise, Director-General, Bundesagentur für Arbeit

France Joubert, President, Centre Européen de Ressources pour les Groupements d'Employeurs

Parallel sessions: Sectors with high job-creation potential

Friday 7 September, 9:00 – 10:45

Green economy

Chair: Janez Potočnik, EU Commissioner for Environment

Panellists: Christine Evans-Klock, Director, Skills and Employability Department, ILO

Emmanuel Combet, International Research Centre on Environment and Development

Claus Hviid Christensen, Head of Emerging Technology, Group R&D, DONG Energy (*tbc*)

White (coat) jobs

Chair: John Dalli, EU Commissioner for Health and Consumer Policy

Panellists: Dirk Cuypers, President of the Board of Directors, Federal Public Service Health, Food Chain Safety and Environment, Belgium

Marianne Olsson, President, European Health Management Association

Romuald Krajewski, President, Union européenne de médecins spécialistes (UEMS) (*tbc*)

ICT jobs

Chair: Neelie Kroes, Vice-President of the European Commission responsible for the Digital Agenda

Panellists: Wu Choy Peng, CIO of SingTel Group and former CIO of the Government of Singapore

Oliver Bussman, CIO of SAP

Vincenzo Spiezia, Senior Economist, International Institute for Labour Studies

Closing plenary session

Friday 7 September, 11:15 – 13:00

Chair: **László Andor**, EU Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

Summaries of the three 3 streams from Thursday by the 3 rapporteurs (20 min.)

Raymond Torres, Director, International Institute for Labour Studies

Martine Durand, Chief Statistician, OECD

Dan Corry, Chief Executive, New Philanthropy Capital

Concluding roundtable

Guy Ryder, Director General-Elect, ILO

Bernadette Ségol, Secretary General, ETUC

Philippe De Buck, Director General, BusinessEurope (*tbc*)