

Draft Agenda

Informal meeting of Ministers for Regional Policy

“Future of the Cohesion Policy”

Mariánské Lázně, 22-24 April 2009

22 April 2009: Arrival of participants and Study Tour

During the morning	Arrival of participants to Prague; transfer to Karlovarský region – to Mariánské Lázně	
13:00	Official opening of the meeting – welcome drink	Cyril Svoboda
14:00 - 17:30	Study Tour – visit of the region - project visit, Karlovy Vary - meeting with regional representatives (presidents of the regions, mayors)	
19:00	Dinner at the Hotel Esplanade and Centrální Lázně	

23 April 2009: First day of the ministerial meeting

9:30 - 10:00	Registration <i>Czech Minister for Regional Development will chair the meeting</i>	Cyril Svoboda
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	Morning session – state of play of a debate on the future of Cohesion Policy, discussion of Ministers	
10:00 - 10:15	Introductory address of the Czech Minister for Regional Development	Cyril Svoboda
10:15 - 10:30	Presentation of the European Parliament’s position on the future of Cohesion Policy	Gerardo Galeote
10:30 - 10:45	Presentation of the Committee of Regions’ position on the future of Cohesion Policy (incl. information on results of the European Summit of Regions and Cities in Prague)	Luc Van den Brande
10:45 - 11:00	Presentation of outcomes of the OECD ministerial meeting on “Investing for Growth: Building Innovative Regions”	tbc
11:00 - 11:15	Coffee break	
11:15 - 11:30	Presentation of a report – results of the Prague’s (March) international conference on the Future of Cohesion Policy	John Bachtler
11:30 - 12:45	Discussion of Ministers – short responses to presentations	
12:45 - 12:50	Family photo	

12:50 - 14:15 Lunch break

Afternoon session – discussion of Ministers		
14:15 - 14:20	Czech Minister for Regional Development - short introduction of the document and topics for discussion	Cyril Svoboda
14:20 - 14:50	Key-note speech - Presentation of the European Commission – Strategic Orientation Paper	Danuta Hübner
14:50 - 16:00	Discussion of Ministers on the Future of Cohesion Policy (first part)	
16:00 - 16:15 Coffee break		
16:15 - 17:30	Discussion of Ministers on the Future of Cohesion Policy (second part)	
17:30 - 17:50	Discussion and approval of the ministerial communiqué with common principles of the future Cohesion Policy	
17:50 - 18:00	Press conference	
19:00 - 22:30 Gala-dinner and cultural programme		

24 April 2009: Second day of the ministerial meeting

9:30 - 9:40	Introductory address to integrated local development including territorial aspect	Cyril Svoboda
9:40 - 10:10	Presentation of the preliminary results of the public debate on the “Green Paper on Territorial Cohesion: Turning Territorial Diversity into Strength”	Danuta Hübner
10:10 - 11:30	Discussion of Ministers (first part)	
11:30 - 12:00 Coffee break		
12:00 - 12:45	Discussion of Ministers (second part)	
12:45 - 12:55	Conclusions reflecting the discussion	Cyril Svoboda
12:55 - 13:00	Presentation of the Swedish presidency programme	Maud Olofsson /tbc/
13:00 - 13:20	Summary and conclusions of both days	Cyril Svoboda
13:20 - 13:50	Press conference	

13:50 - 15:00 Lunch

after 15:00 Departure for Prague

Draft communiqué of the EU ministers will be discussed at the ad hoc expert meeting in Prague on 10 March and then at the DG meeting in Prague, on 25 March (back to back the International Conference on 26 and 27 March).