



TERRITORIAL DIALOGUE 2007
"Horizon 2010 – Local and Regional Authorities for Growth and Jobs"

14 February 2007

14.30 – 18.00

Rooms JDE 52/51

COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

Jacques Delors Building

Rue Belliard 101

BRUSSELS

E-mail: analysis@cor.europa.eu

Tel: 02 282 2017

The revised Lisbon Strategy, approved by the Heads of State and Government in March 2005 is aiming to increase ownership of the strategy on the ground and thus involve regional and local actors to a greater extent in the delivery of stronger, longer-lasting growth and in the creation of more and better jobs. The Committee of the Regions (CoR) undertook two major initiatives in 2005 to support this objective: a survey on the involvement of local and regional authorities in the preparation of the National Reform Programmes (NRP) by the Member States and an analysis of the local and regional dimensions of the Member States' submitted NRPs. Both initiatives presented concerning results regarding the level of consultation of local and regional authorities in the preparation of the NRPs. In reaction to these initiatives, the Spring European Council of 23-24 March 2006 invited the CoR to submit a summary report in support of the Partnership for growth and jobs in early 2008.

To highlight and communicate the contribution of local and regional authorities the CoR also launched the Lisbon Monitoring Platform at its first Territorial Dialogue in March 2006. The aims of the Lisbon Monitoring Platform are twofold: to form a close community to support the partnership for growth and jobs by facilitating the exchange of information between local and regional policy makers and to provide information on the contributions of the local and regional level. In the first year of implementation 65 regional and local authorities have been selected to take part in this year's first wave of participants.

The Territorial Dialogue 2007 will cover the following issues:

- The linkage between the Lisbon agenda and Cohesion Policy
- Lisbon Strategy on the ground: How does the local and regional level contribute to the Lisbon goals (experiences, best practices, suggestions)

Programme

14.30-14.40: Opening Session

- Michel Delebarre, President of the Committee of the Regions

First Session: Lisbon Strategy on the ground: How does the local and regional level contribute to the Lisbon goals?

- Dr. István Sértő-Radics, mayor of Úszka, CoR member and member of the Lisbon Monitoring Platform (Észak-Alföld, Hungary)
- Günter Verheugen, Vice-president of the European Commission in charge of Enterprise and Industry
- Dr. Engelbert Lütke Daldrup, State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Transport, Building and Urban Affairs, Germany
- Constance Hanniffy, CoR Member, First Vice-Chair of commission ECOS, Member of Offaly County Council, Ireland

Open Debate

Coffee Break/Press Conference

Second Session: Cohesion Policy and the Lisbon Agenda

- Juan José Güemes, Minister of Employment and Women, member of the Lisbon Monitoring Platform (Comunidad de Madrid, Spain)
- Professor Danuta Hübner, Member of the European Commission in charge of Regional Policy
- Professor Rui Nuno Baleiras, Secretary of State for Regional Development, Portugal
- Sir Albert Bore, CoR Member, Chair of commission COTER, Member of Birmingham City Council, UK

Open Debate

17.15 Closing Session

- Dr. Ivan Žagar, Minister for local government and regional policy, Slovenia
- Luc Van den Brande, First Vice-President of the Committee of the Regions

17.35

Reception

Issues for discussion

- "Regions and cities do it anyway" – experiences with the revised Lisbon strategy on the ground in the fields of innovation, enterprise policy, employment and sustainable development policy (suggestions, best practices on the local and regional level)
- Is the message of a balanced Lisbon Strategy (including sustainable development and social reform) at the European level reaching the ground?
- Regional and local innovation strategies: Use and sustainability of innovation driven clusters in various regions
- Best practices of LRAs regarding infrastructures for businesses and support schemes to SMEs, innovation financing
- Best practices of LRAs regarding support of LRAs to life-long learning and inclusive labour markets, local partnerships aimed at improving the functioning of the labour market
- Funding of Lisbon activities of the local and regional level according to the Lisbon Monitoring 2006 relying on EU funds: How can private funds be deployed? Which consequences for the EU budget review?
- Is the Lisbon governance cycle working? Has the problem of too strongly departmental oriented approaches been solved in the Member States? Which good practices can be suggested for the next governance cycle to provide for a horizontally as well as a vertically integrated approach? How can the Open Method of Coordination profit from these experiences with the Lisbon Strategy?
- Cohesion Policy (NSRF, Operational programmes preparation) as a learning experience for the Lisbon governance cycle
- Leverage effect of Structural funds through multi-annual programming and co-financing schemes
- Role of Territorial Cooperation on the ground for the delivery of Lisbon
- Earmarking: Limitation of investment choice or recognition of diverse economic situations in EU regions?
- Objective Cohesion: delivering Lisbon in a future financial framework