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|  | C:\Users\vruzic\Desktop\Coat_of_arms_of_Croatia_svg.png | Lithuanian presidency of the Counsil of the European Union 2013 |
| **EUROPEAN COMMISSION RESEARCH DIRECTORATE-GENERAL** | **MINISTRY OF SCIENCE, EDUCATION AND SPORTS - CROATIA** |  **LITHUANIAN PRESIDENCY** |

**DRAFT AGENDA**

**Meeting of the Steering Platform on Research for Western Balkan Countries in Zagreb, Croatia**

**11 December 2013**

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| 14.00 – 14.0514.05 – 14.30 | **Welcome address** by* Representative from Croatia (host)

**Opening Statements** by:* Lithuanian Presidency;
* European Commission;
* Representative from FYROM (co-chair);
* Representative from Croatia (host and co-chair).
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| 14.30 – 14.45 | **Approval of the Agenda**Approval of the Minutes of the last Steering Platform Meeting (Budva, Montenegro June 5/6, 2013)  |
| 14.45 – 16.0016.00 – 16.30 16.30 – 18.0019.30 | **Preparing for ‘Horizon 2020’:** * Latest developments on Horizon 2020 (Lithuanian Presidency)
* State of play on association to Horizon 2020 (European Commission)
* Actions in Support of participation in Horizon 2020: launch events and workshops/technical assistance (European Commission)
* COST (COST representative Croatia)
* Preparations for IPA II and Horizon 2020 (information by WBCs).

***Family photo followed by Coffee break*****What has been done since June 2013:** Presentation of **recent developments regarding S&T cooperation in/with the WBCs** (see Information sheets for more details), by:* European Commission (DG R&I and DG JRC)
* Western Balkan countries;
* Steering Platform members: EU Member States and countries associated to FP7;
* Representatives from WBC-INCO.NET, SEE-ERA.NET PLUS, COST, Eureka, UNESCO, CEI, EVAL-INNO, M-ERA.NET.

***Dinner / Social Event*** |
| **12 December 2013**09.00 – 10.3010.30 – 10.4510.45 – 12.3012.30 – 13.15 13.15 – 14. 00 | **Regional cooperation: Strategic approaches** * Debriefing and follow-up on “Regional R&D Strategy for Innovation” (World Bank team)
* Debriefing on “South East European 2020 Strategy” – Pillar “Smart Growth” (RCC)
* Debriefing and follow-up Annual CEI meeting in Trieste
* Future of the Steering Platform
* Preparations for the WBC-INCO.NET Final conference

**Coffee break****Challenges and opportunities for the WBCs:****Knowledge and technology transfer:*** Debriefing on “Modernization of WBC universities through strengthening of structures and services for knowledge transfer, research and innovation” (WBC Inno project)

**Smart Regions:** * Debriefing on Danube.INCO.NET
* Debriefing on Danube Regional Research Fund
* Eastern European Partnership (Lithuanian Presidency)
* Debriefing on 2nd Training Workshop on Smart Specialisation for South East European countries.

**Horizons for Social Sciences and Humanities*** **Vilnius Declaration** (Debriefing on Conference *Horizons for Social Sciences and Humanities*; Lithuanian Presidency).
* **Democracy challenges in SEE** (Debriefing on inaugural conference of the regional Centre for advanced studies SEE in SSH established at the University of Rijeka; CAS director).
* **Evaluation culture in SEE** (Public procurement in SEE innovation evaluations: A comparative and needs assessment study; EVAL-INNO expert).

**Round Table & Discussion** * Regional cooperation: strategic approaches
* Challenges and opportunities for the WBCs
* Future of the Steering Platform
* AOB

**Concluding Remarks**Presentation and adoption of conclusions including recommendations on future actions and workAOB |
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