

Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Latvia, K.Valdemāra iela 3, Press Conference Room

### PROGRAMME

8:30-9:00	<b>Registration</b> <b>Morning coffee</b>
9:00-9:35	<b>Welcome and opening</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Opening speech Mr A. Teikmanis, State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia</li><li>- Ms. I. Vaidere, Member of the European Parliament</li><li>- <i>Innovation from the Employer's Confederation of Latvia (LDDK) perspective</i> Ms. L. Mengēlsone, Director General, Employers' Confederation of Latvia</li></ul>
<b>Session I</b> 9:35-11:25	<b><i>Innovation strategies in the Baltic Sea Region – contribution to the competitiveness of enterprises and states in the region</i></b> Moderator Ms. L. Mengēlsone, Director General, Employers' Confederation of Latvia <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Innovation in the Baltic Sea Region <i>The importance of regional innovation strategies in the EU context and globally. Presentation of the report "Innovation in the Baltic Sea Region"</i> Mr. A. Reid, Director, Technopolis Group</li><li>- <i>Priorities of Latvia in the field of innovation</i> Mr. J. Pūce, State Secretary, Ministry of Economics of Latvia</li><li>- <i>Role/interests of local governments</i> Mr. A. Jaunsleinis, Chairman, LPS</li><li>- <i>Research for innovative production</i> <i>Encouraging clusters of academic excellence. Illuminating possibilities of research institutions to cooperate with industry and to raise the knowledge efficiency. Networking examples/opportunities between researchers and innovative SMEs</i> Dr. habil.sc.ing. L. Ribickis, Rector, Riga Technical University</li><li>- <i>Innovation centres, Technology transfer centres and Technology incubators as promoters of innovative entrepreneurship</i> Dr. phys. M. Ēlerts, Mr. V. Zeps, Ms. E. Pudāne, Latvian Investment and Development Agency</li><li>- <i>Tampere Business Region</i> Mr. J. Masekki, Executive Partner</li><li>- <i>Questions &amp; Answers</i></li></ul>
11:25-12:25	<b>Buffet lunch</b>

<b>Session II</b> 12:25-14:15	<p><b><i>EU Strategy for the Baltic Sea Region (EUSBSR) as a tool in the area of innovation</i></b>  <i>Calling for a closer cooperation among Baltic Sea Region countries. Facilitating transnational diffusion of technology &amp; knowledge, in order to raise a competitiveness of the whole region</i></p> <p>Moderator Mr. V. Zagorskis, Deputy Head of the Representation of European Commission in Latvia</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>EUSBSR - innovations</i> Mr. S.G. Edlund, EUSBSR 7<sup>th</sup> Priority Area Coordinator</li> <li>- <i>Project “Sustainable production through innovation in small and medium sized enterprises” (SPIN)</i> Mr. A. Roose, University of Tartu</li> <li>- <i>Why successful regional projects need EUSBSR</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>o BSR Stars programme Ms. L. Sparāne, Latvian IT Cluster</li> <li>o BSR InnoReg Mr. E. Kokkonen, The Baltic Institute of Finland</li> <li>o BONUS Dr. M. Bundule, The Latvian Academy of Sciences</li> </ul> </li> <li>- <i>Innovation policy/priorities in EE, role of the EUSBSR</i> EE</li> <li>- <i>Innovation policy/ priorities in LT, role of the EUSBSR</i> Tadas Tumėnas, Innovation and Knowledge Society Department, Ministry of Economy of Lithuania</li> <li>- <i>Questions &amp; Answers</i></li> </ul>
14:15-14:30	<b>Coffee break</b>
<b>Session III</b> 14:30-15:55	<p><b><i>Financial sources available for innovative entrepreneurship</i></b>  <i>National and regional (international) instruments for R&amp;D</i></p> <p>Moderator Ms. B. Liepa, INTERACT Point Turku</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <i>How to facilitate/increase availability of EU programmes in the next multi-annual financial framework (2014-2020). Main challenges and recommendations for the EUSBSR implementation in Latvia</i> Mr. A. Lindholm, DG REGIO</li> <li>- <i>EU innovation programmes</i> Ms. B. Liepa, INTERACT Point Turku</li> <li>- <i>Nordic-Baltic Mobility Programme for Business and Industry</i> Mr. K. Valters, Nordic Council of Ministers, Secretariat</li> <li>- <i>EU programmes “EUREKA” and “Eurostars”</i> Ms. I. Bēverte, The Latvian Academy of Sciences</li> <li>- <i>Governmental support mechanisms (SFs; ERAF)</i> Ms. I. Alhasova, Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Latvia</li> <li>- <i>Questions &amp; Answers</i></li> </ul>
16:00-16:15	<p><b>Closing remarks – conclusions</b>  <i>Future challenges to harness EUSBSR opportunities for innovative sectors into socio - economic competitiveness and sustainable development in Latvia and the region.</i></p> <p>Mr. T. Linkaits, Head, VASAB Secretariat</p>
	<b>Wine &amp; snacks</b>