



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 12 June 2013

10865/13

ENV 557
RECH 268

NOTE

from: General Secretariat
to: Delegations
Subject: International Meetings and Events
- Meeting of the European Platform for Biodiversity Research Strategy (EPBRs)
(Dublin, 15-17 May 2013)
= Information from the Presidency and the Commission

Delegations will find attached an information note on the above, to be dealt with under "other business" at the meeting of the Council (Environment) on 18 June 2013.

**Meeting of the European Platform for Biodiversity Research Strategy (EPBRS)
(Dublin, 15-17 May 2013)**

- Information from the Presidency and the Commission -

The Irish Presidency hosted a meeting of the European Platform for Biodiversity Research Strategy (EPBRS) in Dublin from 15 to 17 May 2013. The purpose of the meeting was to set out the needs for biodiversity research over the next 7 years.

The EPBRS provides a forum at which natural and social scientists, policy makers, research funders and other stakeholders look to identify research priorities in the field of biodiversity and ecosystem services, and find the means to best carry the work to fruition. It works closely with the European Commission, who has provided the Platform with some core funding.

During the meeting, the Platform considered how best science could contribute to the attainment of the objectives of the EU Biodiversity Strategy. The conclusion was that this will be through a scientifically sound EU wide evaluation of the status of all species and habitats covered by EU nature legislation, further development of the science-policy interface on biodiversity in the EU and by planning research in line with the priorities for Horizon 2020, the EU Research and Innovation Strategy.

This built on discussions held at an EPBRS workshop on "Investing in innovative research for nature and livelihoods" held in Brussels, 11-12 April 2013, and the ALTER-Net Conference on "Science underpinning the EU 2020 Biodiversity Strategy", held in Ghent, 15-18 April 2013.

The Irish Presidency welcomes the research recommendations of the EPBRS meeting and acknowledges the need for further development of the science-policy interface on biodiversity in the EU into a coherent framework supporting research and innovation and environmental policies and invites the European Commission to continue to support such efforts by providing adequate resources to implement this through, and as part of, related EU research projects and its work on a dedicated EU mechanism.

The full set of recommendations will be published shortly on the Platform's website:

<http://www.epbrs.org>.