



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Brussels, 4 June 2012

CM 3312/12

ERAC

COMMUNICATION

NOTICE OF MEETING AND PROVISIONAL AGENDA

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Subject: **10th Meeting of the European Research Area Committee (ERAC)**

Date: 14-15 June 2012 (Thursday, 14 June, 9h30-13h00; Friday, 15 June, 9h00-13h00)

Venue: Forum Horsens
Langmarksvej 53
8700 Horsens
Denmark

Chairpersons: Robert-Jan Smits, Director-General, and Anneli Pauli, deputy Director-General

THURSDAY, 14 JUNE (9h30-13h00)

1. Adoption of the provisional agenda

2. Approval of the draft summary conclusions of the 9th meeting of ERAC, held in Brussels on 10 February 2012

3. Standing information point

Information will be provided in writing to delegations prior to the meeting. Delegations will have the opportunity to ask questions in relation to the information provided.

4. ERA policy

4.1 ERA communication – state of play

The Commission plans to release an ERA communication in June shortly after the present meeting. The Commission will inform the Committee on the expected content and likely follow-up of the communication. The Committee may at this stage consider its role in the follow-up, in line with its earlier opinion on the development of the ERA Framework, as well as anticipate a further discussion at its next meeting.

4.2 The relationship between ERA and Horizon 2020

The enlarged ERAC Steering Board has prepared a short discussion note on 'The Relationship between the European Research Area and Horizon 2020', which is accompanied by a background paper. The Committee is invited to discuss the Paper and its recommendations, with particular emphasis on its implications for the Work Programme 2013-2014. The Presidency will give information on the state of play and the expectations regarding the negotiations on the Horizon 2020 package. Taking into account the Commission's proposals in the ERA communication, the Committee could draft conclusions at the next meeting.

5. Election of the Vice-chair of the Committee

Under Article 3 (1), first paragraph, of the Rules of Procedure of the European Research Area Committee, the Committee shall elect a Vice-Chair among Member State representatives for a period of two years. The mandate of the incumbent Vice-Chair expires in November.

6. Election of members of the Steering board

Under Article 4 (3), second paragraph, of the Rules of Procedure of the European Research Area Committee, the representatives of the Member States on ERAC's Steering Board shall be elected among Member States' representatives by the majority of them for a period of 18 months. Their term is renewable once.

FRIDAY, 15 JUNE (9h00-13h00)

7. Implementation and monitoring of the Innovation Union in the context of Europe 2020

7.1 European Semester: State of play

The Commission will present the state of play regarding research and innovation aspects in the 2012 European Semester. On 30 May, the Commission published a package of proposals including country specific recommendations for each Member State in which it addressed their key structural weaknesses and recommended action to overcome these weaknesses. The Commission has also released a Communication on the conclusions it has drawn from the 2012 European Semester. The Committee is expected to exchange views on the research and innovation aspects of these general conclusions. The Committee could also consider its future role in the process, i.e., reporting on progress achieved and the preparation of the next European Semester based on initial input by Commission services.

7.2 R&I policy monitoring: Results of the evaluation of ERAWATCH – presentation and discussion

The aim is to discuss the results of the recent evaluation of ERAWATCH and to draw initial conclusions for future policy monitoring activities on the basis of a few leading questions. The discussion will continue at the September meeting on the basis of a Commission presentation of the next steps towards an R&I observatory.

7.3 Innovation Union Competitiveness report (second edition) – discussion

The next Innovation Union Competitiveness report is due in 2013. The aim of this agenda item is to discuss the objectives, timetable, purpose and focus of the 2013 report with ERAC Members on the basis of a note and in view of the forthcoming consultation of Member States.

8. Peer review of the Estonian R&I system and lessons learned from using the self-assessment tool

The Estonian delegation will present the outcome and impact of the ERAC peer review of the Estonian R&I system conducted between September 2011 and February 2012, highlighting issues of generic importance and interest to several countries. This presentation will be followed by a presentation and discussion on the use of the Innovation Union Self-Assessment tool in future peer reviews.

9. Presentation of research and innovation policy in Denmark

10. Any other business

10.1 Invitation to Moldova to participate in ERAC meetings as observer (in accordance with Article 8 of ERAC's Rules of Procedure)

10.2 Next ERAC meeting

The Steering Board will draw up the provisional annotated agenda of the next meeting on the basis of the provisional Work Programme 2012-2013

NB: To reduce costs, only documents produced in the week preceding the meeting will be available in the meeting room.