



Council of the
European Union

035857/EU XXVI. GP
Eingelangt am 24/09/18

Brussels, 24 September 2018
(OR. en)

12433/18

COMPET 617
MI 658

NOTE

From:	LV Delegation
To:	Council
Subject:	Outcome of the Single Market Forum “25 years, European, Free, and Single” (Riga, 14 September 2018- closing event) <i>- Information from the Latvian delegation</i>

Delegations will find attached an Information note from the LV Delegation on the subject mentioned above.

The delegation of Latvia is willing to inform the Competitiveness Council about the final event commemorating 25 years of the Single market. The forum took place on the 14th September, 2018 in Riga and was organised in cooperation with the European Commission.

The forum was attended by high level speakers and audience, and the welcome speeches were delivered by Commissioner for the Internal Market, Industry, Enterprise and SMEs, Ms. Elżbieta Bieńkowska and Deputy Prime Minister of Latvia Mr. Arvils Ašeradens.

Issues dealt with during the forum included the functioning of a broad number of the EU Single market tools that are in place today, such as the Single Digital Gateway, public procurement, various SME support tools and others. Another topic for discussion was the existence of bottlenecks hindering a fully functioning Single market for goods.

The discussion served both to highlight the added value of the EU Single market, and to identify the possible paths for the way forward. Insights gained will prove useful during the discussions to be held in the December 2018 European Council. The event should be regarded as a complimentary forum to other ongoing initiatives regarding the Single market, for example, the likeminded letter of June, the debate in Competitiveness Council and other EU Single market events that have taken place to celebrate 25th anniversary of the EU Single market.
