

## **European Commission**

### **PROGRESS REPORT<sup>1</sup>**

#### **on recent developments regarding S&T cooperation in/with the WBC (2<sup>st</sup> half 2011 or - May 2011 / Ohrid till December 2011 / Sarajevo)**

#### **1 Policy actions**

Preparations for next Framework Programme on Research and Innovation:

- stakeholder consultation in Brussels on 10 June 2011 (all WBCs invited; some attended).
- following public consultation (and vote), decided to name next R & I framework programme 'HORIZON 2020'.

Public consultations on European Research Area Framework (online questionnaire), launched on 13 September and closed on 30 November 2011.

Innovation Convention in Brussels on 5-6 December 2011 (all WBCs invited).

Preparation of Communication on Enhancing and Focusing EU International Cooperation in Research and Innovation"(Autumn 2012).

Preparation of FP7 WPs 2013

#### **2 Legislative initiatives - development of the legal and strategic framework**

Launched FP7 WPs 2012 calls for proposals on 20 July.

Adoption by the European Commission of proposal for HORIZON 2020 bringing all EU research and innovation funding under one Regulation (on 30 November 2011/tbc).

#### **3 Important events, meetings, training activities, etc.**

Meeting of all Ministers responsible for science and research from the Western Balkans in Brussels on 15 September 2011 with Commissioner Geoghegan-Quinn, together with DG ELARG.

Participation in FP7 Info Day and Researchers' night in Podgorica (Montenegro) on 22-23 September 2011.

Second Joint Research Committee with Albania on 7 November in Tirana to assess participation and implementation of association to FP7.

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<sup>1</sup> The progress reports are collected in preparation of the meetings of the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkan Countries and will be provided for download from the WBC-INCO.Net homepage ([www.wbc-inco.net](http://www.wbc-inco.net)) about one week before the meeting takes place. Therefore please submit your report to [office@zwbc-inco.net](mailto:office@zwbc-inco.net) until November 22, 2011.

Taiex Conference in Tirana on 8-9 November on Human capital building measures under Innovation Union (together with DG EAC on Education policy and actions).

First Joint Research Committee with Bosnia and Herzegovina in Sarajevo on 2 December to assess participation and implementation of association to FP7.

#### **4 Statistics - major changes / updates of relevant statistical data**

NA

#### **5 Assessment of the developments and outlook on the next 6 months**

Monitoring progress with all Western Balkans on taking up EU research and innovation policy (FP7, ERA and Innovation Union actions and policy) in preparation of EU accession.

Preparations for 'HORIZON 2020'.