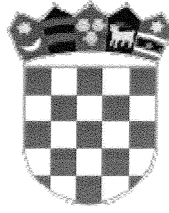


EUROPEAN COMMISSION
RESEARCH DIRECTORATE-
GENERAL



REPUBLIC OF CROATIA
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE,
EDUCATION AND SPORTS



SWEDISH PRESIDENCY

Brussels, 1st October 2009

Dear Colleagues,

We are pleased to inform you that the meeting of the Steering Platform on Research for Western Balkan Countries will be held in Zagreb, Croatia on 29 October 2009.

Enclosed you will find the proposed agenda, the draft minutes and conclusions of the last meeting held in Liblice, Czech Republic (May 28, 2009), the template for the progress report, as well as the registration form with practical information.

You are kindly asked to indicate to Ms. Tanja Ivanovic (tanja.ivanovic@hit.hr), Croatian Institute of Technology, by 16 October, 2009, who will attend the meeting in Zagreb (up to two persons).

The completed progress reports on recent developments in research cooperation for, and with, the Western Balkan Countries must be sent to Mr. Heribert Buchbauer, Austrian Federal Ministry of Science and Research (heribert.buchbauer@bmwf.gv.at) by 16 October 2009 at the latest, in order to allow for a comprehensive presentation.

We are looking forward to seeing you in Zagreb and thank you in advance for your constructive cooperation.

Alessandro Damiani

Head of Unit
International Cooperation
DG RTD D1
European Commission

Ivana Puljiz

Director of Directorate for
International Cooperation and
European Integration
Ministry of Science, Education
and Sports
of the Republic of Croatia
Zagreb, Croatia

Katarina Bjelke

Director-General
Ministry of Education and Research
Division for Research Policy
Stockholm, Sweden