



Oslo
Thursday, 23 April 2009
Venue: Hotel Bristol, Haakon Salen
Kristian IV's gate 7, 0164 Oslo

Draft programme

Working languages will be Norwegian and English – no interpretation will be provided

- 09:00 Registration of participants
- 09:30 Welcome address by the European Commission
Mr. Percy Westerlund; Ambassador, Delegation of the European Commission to Norway and Iceland
- Welcome address and introduction by Norwegian Government
Mr. Ola Nafstad, Director General, Department of Research and Innovation, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Oslo
- 09:50 European Commission SME policies
Mr. Conrad Ganslandt, European Commission, Directorate-General for Enterprise and Industry
- 10:10 Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP), focusing on CIP Financial Instruments
Mr. Atle Bjørkheim, European Commission, Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs
- 10:30 Implementation of CIP financial instruments and how to apply
Mr. David Walker, European Investment Fund
- 10h50 Questions and answers
- 11:00 Coffee break and presentation of *Access to Finance* website
- Press conference parallel to coffee break**
- 11:30 Presentation of the Enterprise Europe Network (EEN)
Ms. Marthe Haugland, Innovation Norway
- 11:50 Experiences with EU loan guarantees in Norway
Mr. Odd Stenberg, Innovation Norway
Grim Gjønnes, Navita Systems AS
Mr. Lars Hektoen, Cultura Sparebank (Microcredits)
- 12:20 Guarantee mechanisms of SMEs' external finance
Mr. José Fernando Figueiredo, Chairman of AECM (European Mutual Guarantee Association)



12:40 Questions and answers

13:00 Networking lunch offered

14:00 Afternoon session I "Equity sources"

14:00 Equity sources of SMEs' external finance
Mr Knut Traaseth , Secretary General of the Norwegian Venture Capital Association (NVCA)
Ms. Jorun Pedersen, CONNECT Norway, EBAN

14:40 Cross-border venture capital in the Nordic Countries
Hans Christian Bjørne, Nordic Innovation Centre (NICE)

15:00 Questions and answers

15:15 Afternoon session II - Panel discussion: Financing for SMEs and small entrepreneurs - Sharing experiences and challenges ahead

Mr. Knut Traaseth , Secretary General of the Norwegian Venture Capital Association (NVCA) - Moderator
Ms. Karin Bing Orkland, Manager of the Business Unit in the Eastern part of Norway, DNB Nor
Mr. Olle Stenberg, Managing Director, Chalmers Innovation Fund AB. Gothenburg (to be confirmed)
Mr. Lars Erik Sletner, Norwegian Association of Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (NASME)
Ms Torill Mølmen, Innovation Norway
Mr. Atle Bjørkheim, European Commission, Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs

16:30 Afternoon coffee offered