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Uachtaránacht na hÉireann ar
Chomhairle an Aontais Eorpaigh
An Ghné Pharlaiminteach

Irish Presidency of the
Council of the European Union
Parliamentary Dimension

MEETING OF CHAIRPERSONS OF EMPLOYMENT, INNOVATION AND SOCIAL
AFFAIRS COMMITTEES
Dublin Castle, 28-29 April 2013

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Sunday, 28 April 2013

- 16:00 - 18:15 Registration desk open at the Herbert Park Hotel, Ballsbridge, Dublin 4
- 18:30 Departure by bus from the Herbert Park Hotel to Farmleigh House, Phoenix Park
- 19.00 Welcome reception/Tour of Farmleigh House (optional)
- 20.00 Dinner co-hosted by Mr. Damien English T.D., Chairman, Joint Committee on Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation and Ms. Joanna Tuffy, T.D., Chairperson, Joint Committee on Education and Social Protection
- 22.30 Return by bus to the Herbert Park Hotel

Monday, 29 April 2013

- 08:15 Departure by bus from Hotel to **Conference Centre, Dublin Castle**
- 09.00 **Opening address**
- Mr Damien English, TD, Chairman, Joint Committee on Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation
- Theme of Meeting: Strategies to combat youth unemployment and harness the potential of European Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs)
- 09.10 **Session 1**
- Topic: Youth Unemployment - An EU Challenge
- Chair: Ms Joanna Tuffy, Chairperson, Joint Committee on Education and Social Protection
- Address by keynote speakers:
- (i) Mr. László Andor, European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (15 mins)
- (ii) Ms. Joan Burton, T.D., Minister for Social Protection (15 mins) Debate
- 10.30 **Family Photo/Coffee Break**



11.00

Session 2

Topic: Harnessing the Potential of European SMEs and Fostering an Entrepreneurial Europe

Chair: Mr Damien English, TD, Chairman, Joint Committee on Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation

Presentation by:

- (i) Mr. Richard Bruton, T.D., Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation (10 mins)
- (ii) Ms Joanna Drake, Deputy Special Envoy for SMEs, DG Enterprise and Industry, European Commission (10 mins)
- (iii) Ms. Triona Campbell, Entrepreneur and Company Director, BeActive Media (10 mins)

Debate

12:30

Buffet Lunch

Venue: Castle Hall, Dublin Castle

14.00

Session 3

Topic: Enterprise through Innovation

Chair: Mr Damien English, TD, Chairman, Joint Committee on Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation

Presentation by:

- (i) Mr. Wolfgang Bartscher, Deputy Director-General, DG Research and Innovation, EU Commission (10 mins)
- (ii) Dr. Imelda Lambkin, Director of the National Support Network for PF7, Enterprise Ireland (10 mins)
- (iii) Dr. Mazhar Bari, Co-Founder and Chief Technology Officer, SolarPrint (Irish SME) (10 mins)

Debate

15.30

Closing Address

Mr Damien English, TD, Chairman, Joint Committee on Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation

15.45

Departure by bus from Dublin Castle to Hotel