



Sixteenth Meeting of the WBIF Steering Committee
Hosted by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
Stockholm, Sweden

14 - 15 June 2017

Draft Agenda (13.06.2017)

Venue: Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency – Stockholm:
Valhallavägen 199, 105 25 Stockholm, Sweden

Participants: DG NEAR, IFIs, Bilateral Donors, Beneficiary Countries, SEETO, Energy Community, IPFs, Connecta, WBIF Secretariat and IFICO

Day 1: Project Oriented Session

Wednesday, 14 June 2017

Co-Chairs: *Ms. Elsa Håstad, Assistant Director-General, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency*

Mr. Colin Wolfe, Head of Unit, Western Balkans Regional Cooperation and Programmes, DG NEAR, European Commission

13:00 - 14:00 **Registration** & Sandwich lunch at venue

14:00 - 14:15 **Welcoming by WBIF Co-chairs**

14:15 - 15:00 **1st Project oriented session**

- General overview and WBIF Monitoring Report (incl. cancellations)

Mr. Wolfgang Schläger, DG NEAR & Mr. Steven van der Touw, IFICO

- Joint Fund Statement

Mrs. Caroline Clarkson, EBRD

- Availability of Funds for Round 17

Mr. Wolfgang Schläger, DG NEAR

- EIB presentation: WBIF Summary Implementation Report

Mr. Massimo Cingolani, EIB

15:00 - 16:00 **2nd Project oriented session - WBIF Projects Approval (Round 17)**

- Presentation of proposals by representatives of the Beneficiaries and the IFIs

Co-chairs of the PFG, Mr. Wolfgang Schläger, DG NEAR, and CEB, Mr. Miles Vitomir Raguz

16:00 - 16:15 **Coffee Break**

16:15 - 16:45 **3rd Project oriented session – next round**

- Eligibility criteria for TA Round 18 & Dates
- Launch of INV Round 03
- Call for pledges

Mr. Wolfgang Schläger, DG NEAR

16:45 - 17:15 **State of Play Investment Grants**

- Update: INV Rounds “00” and “01”
- Update on INV Round “02”
- Adoption of ENV project

Mr. Wolfgang Schläger, DG NEAR

17:15 - 17:30 **AOB**

Departure for Evening Event at 18:00 from SIDA premises.

DAY 2, Morning Session: “Policy & Strategy”

Thursday, 15 June 2017

Co-Chairs: *Ms Mirja Peterson, Head of Unit for Environment, Market Development & Eastern Europe, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency & Mr. Colin Wolfe, Head of Unit, Western Balkans Regional Cooperation and Programmes, DG NEAR, European Commission*

08:30 - 09:00 **Registration at venue**

09:00 - 09:30 **Economic Outlook in the region**

Mr. Holger Muent, EBRD

09:30 - 10:00 **Update on the Connectivity Agenda including the Reform Measures**

Mr. Colin Wolfe, DG NEAR

10:00 - 10:30 **State of Play: “Economic Resilience Initiative”**

Mr. Jesper Persson, EIB

10:30 - 10:45 **Amendments to TA & INV GAF, Guidelines**

Presentation and adoption

Mr. Wolfgang Schläger, DG NEAR

10:45 - 11:00 **Coffee Break**

11:00 - 11:45 **Vademecum & Annex 5**

Presentation, Annex 5 for adoption

Mrs. Barbara Banki, DG Near

11:45 - 12:00 **Promotion of KfW as WBIF Partner Organisation**

WBIF SC Co-chairs: Mrs. Magdalena Svensson, SIDA & Mr. Colin Wolfe, DG NEAR

12:00 - 14:00 **Group Photo and Lunch**

At venue

DAY 2, Afternoon: Joint Session WBIF & EDIF

Thursday, 15 June 2017

14:00 - 14:15 Welcoming by Co-Chairs

Mrs. Katarina Mathernova (via video link), Deputy Director General, DG NEAR, European Commission

&

Ms. Ulrika Modéer, State Secretary to the Minister for International Development Cooperation and Climate, Sweden

14:15 - 16:00 SME development in the overall framework and general priorities

- SME support in the Western Balkans; EU strategic priorities

Mrs. Katarina Mathernova, DG NEAR

- WB EDIF's role in SME support, achievements, challenges and future prospects

Mr. Hubert Cottogni, EIF

- Swedish perspective: Inclusive and sustainable growth in the Western Balkans

Ms. Elsa Håstad, SIDA

- Presentation of the 2017 Doing Business Report

Mr. Thomas Lubeck, World Bank Group

- Discussion

16:00 - 16:15 Coffee Break

16:15 - 17:15 Thematic discussion: innovative SMEs, youth employment and women in business

- Youth employment, young entrepreneurs

TBC

- Women in Business

Ms. Biljana Scekcic, EBRD

- Increasing employability as SME booster

Mr. Markus Aschendorf, KfW

- Smart growth and innovation

Ms. Elena Andonova, DG Joint Research Centre (JRC)

17:15 - 17:30 AOB and Concluding Remarks