

Accessible Tourism in Europe

High-level Conference, Brussels, 3-4 December 2013-

Charlemagne building, De Gasperi room

Draft programme

Tuesday, 3 December 2013

Let's Go Accessible: in Tourism, in City Life

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| 08:00 – 09:00 | Participants' arrival and registration. - Video projection: "Are you ready for Europe?" 2 nd Prize Award winner Cannes Corporate TV & Media festival 2013. |
| 09:00 – 09:45 | Opening Speeches Françoise Le Bail , European Commission, Director-General for DG Justice (tbc) Antti Peltomaki , European Commission, Deputy Director-General for DG Enterprise and Industry Representative ---- (tbc), European Disability Forum |



09:45 – 12:30

Forum Discussion

Session 1: Information and mobility. Planning the trip

Chaired by: Mr. ---(tbc)-----

Forum discussion with:

- **Mr. Damien Birambeau**, j'accède, France, *finding accessible places through ICT*
- **Mrs. Meglena Kuneva**, Special Adviser on passenger rights to European Commission Vice-President, Siim Kallas, *Are you aware of your passengers' rights?*
- **Ms. Danielle Breyer**, Ministry of the Middle Classes, Tourism and Housing, Luxembourg, *holistic approach to (accessible) tourism at national level*
- *Improving services for accessible accommodation (tbc)*
- **Ms. Susanna Laurin**, Funka Nu, Sweden, *web based tourism and accessibility guides*

12:30 – 14:00

Lunch



14:40 – 16:15

Forum Discussion

Session 2: Local areas and services in challenging areas. Enjoying the local area

Chaired by: Mr. --tbc----

Forum discussion with:

- **Ms. Maria Orejas-Chantelot**, European Foundation Centre, Brussels, *League of historic and accessible cities*
- **Mr. Enrique Varela**, Fundación Tecnológica Social, Spain, *"travelling with disabilities in cultural routes - Initiatives in Mobile technologies for the personal independence: CULTWAYs and The Satellites' Way"*
- **Mr. George Sotiriadis, Mr Ignatios Fotiou**, Greece, Founders of Tobeia Ltd, University of Patras, Department of Mechanical Engineering & Aeronautics, *enabling autonomous access to the beach – swimming by Seatrac*
- **Mr. Andreas Andersen**, International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (IAAPA), Belgium, *improving services in the amusement sector and attractions' industry*

16:15 - 17:00

Coffee break/preparation for the Access City Award

17:00 – 18:00

Ceremony

Access City Award

The winning city of the Access City Award 2014 will be announced at a special ceremony during the conference. The two other finalist cities of the competition will also be honoured.

At the presence of **Ms. Viviane Reding**, European Commission, Vice-President

Wednesday, 4 December 2013

Europe Ready for You



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|---------------|--|
| 08:00 – 09:00 | Participants' arrival and registration. |
| 09:00 – 09:30 | Opening Speeches Carlo Fidanza , Member of the European Parliament, Committee for Transport and Tourism (tbc) Rosa Estarás Ferragut , Member of the European Parliament, Committee for Transport and Tourism - Video projection: "CALYPSO, everybody deserves a break" |
| 09:30 – 10:20 | Forum Discussion Session 3: Unlocking the potential of accessible Europe. Accessible tourism: driving growth at national and local level Chaired by: Mr. Ivor Ambrose, European Network Accessible Tourism (ENAT) Forum discussion with: <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Mr. Jesús Hernández Galán, Organización Nacional de Ciegos Españoles (ONCE). <i>Tourism for all in Spain: from positive branding to record-breaking travel flows.</i>○ Mr. Marino Finozzi, Minister of Tourism and International Trade, Veneto Region. <i>The economic impact of Accessible tourism in Veneto.</i>○ Mr. Ross Calladine, Visit England (tbc). <i>Challenges and opportunities in developing accessible destinations in England.</i> |
| 10:20 – 11:00 | Questions and Answers |
| 11:00 – 11:30 | Coffee Break - Video projection: "EDEN Winner Destinations 2013" |



11:30 – 12:00

Forum Discussion

Session 4: Barrier-free tourism for success: how they did it?

Chaired by: Mr. Roberto Vitali, President Village 4All

Forum discussion with:

- Mr. Marco Pizzio (tbc), Italian Association for Multiple Sclerosis (AISM) and Like Home. *Tuscany for All*
- Mr. ---- (tbc) (an EDEN winner 2013: possible candidate / Kaunertal (AT). *Alpine glacier experiences with no “ifs” and “buts”*
- Ms. Beatrice Vio (tbc), London 2012 Paralympics Torchbearer and 2013 Wheelchair World Fencing Champion (Gold, foil)

12:00 – 12:30

Questions and Answers

12:30 – 14:00

Lunch

14:00 – 15:15

Forum Discussion

Session 5: Unlocking the potential of open Europe. Accessibility beyond disability

Chaired by: Mr. Jan Truszczyński (tbc), European Commission, Directorate-General for DG Education and Culture

Forum discussion with:

- Ms. Christin Prange, Transromanica e.v. (tbc). *Making the heritage more accessible to tourists through ICT: some business cases*
- Mr. David Grevenberg (tbc). Commonwealth Games Glasgow 2014: *how can the destination Europe benefit?*



15:15 – 16:30

Forum Discussion

Session 6: Removing non-physical barriers to travel

Chaired by: Mr. Michel De Blust, European Travel Agents and Tour Operators Association (ECTAA)

Forum discussion with:

- Mr. Marco Digioia, Cruise Lines International Association (CLIA) (tbc).
Visas and regulatory barriers to tourism: the case of the cruise industry
- European Commission, Director, DG Justice (tbc)

16:30 – 17:00

Conference Conclusions

Mr. Antonio Tajani, Vice-President of the European Commission