

Better Financing for Business

Hotel Swiss Diamond, Pristina – Monday 17 March 2014

Programme

Moderator: **Andrew MacDowall**, correspondent and analyst

8.00 **Welcome coffee and registration**

8.45 **Opening remarks**

- **Dario Scannapieco**, Vice President of the European Investment Bank (EIB)
- **Samuel Žbogar**, Head of the EU Office/EU Special Representative

9.00 – 10.30 **Fostering long-term investment and economic growth**

Sustainable and inclusive growth and job creation require long-term investment in the assets that expand the productive capacity of a modern economy, such as factories and equipment, infrastructure, new commercial buildings, and research, development and innovation. This panel will address the financing required to meet these economic needs.

Keynote speaker: **Besim Beqaj**, Minister of Finance of Kosovo

Panellists:

- **Naim Bejtullahu**, Chief Executive Officer, KOSTT
- **Esther Gravenkötter**, Director, KfW
- **Romualdo Massa Bernucci**, Head of the Adriatic Sea Department, EIB
- **Fehmi Mujota**, Minister of Infrastructure

10.30 – 11.00 **Coffee break**

11.00 – 11.15 **Special address by Hashim Thaçi**, Prime Minister of Kosovo

11.15 – 12.45 **Enhancing SME's access to financing**

SMEs are the driving force of the national economy. Prioritizing its development is therefore crucial for economic growth. It can bring many benefits, including increasing business opportunities, stimulating investment and mobilising corporate savings. This panel will focus on the available instruments available to improve SMEs access to finance.

Keynote speaker: **Safet Gerxhailu**, President of the Chamber of Commerce

Panellists:

- **Ilir Aliu**, Chief Executive Officer, ProCredit Banka
- **Dominique Courbin**, Head of Lending Operations, Slovenia, Croatia & Western Balkans, Adriatic Sea Department, EIB
- **Maureen A. Shauket**, Mission Director, USAID
- **Christof Stock**, Head of Cooperation, EU Office

12.45 – 13.00 **Closing remarks**

13.00 – 14.30 **Networking buffet lunch**

During the afternoon, bilateral meetings with EIB and/or EC representatives may be requested using the attached registration form.