Agenda of the European Commission
29 September – 5 October 2014

**Background notes from the Spokespersons' service for journalists.
The European Commission reserves the right to make changes.**

Tuesday 30 September-Wednesday 1 October:
Commission holds Third Forum of Europe's Outermost Regions

Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 November:
The EU at the G20 Summit in Brisbane, Australia – **media accreditation open**

<p style="text-align:center;">**Tuesday 30 September-Wednesday 1 October:**</p>

<p style="text-align:center;">***Commission holds Third Forum of Europe's Outermost Regions***</p>

The news:
The Third Forum of the outermost regions (ORs), will take place in Brussels on 30 September and 1 October 2014. This high level event gathers the nine Presidents of these regions and key representatives of the European institutions in Brussels to exchange ideas on how to pool their efforts to meet the objectives of the Europe 2020 Strategy and create jobs and sustainable growth.

The ORs, as well as all the other European regions, benefit hugely from Cohesion Policy, whose recent reform was spearheaded by Commissioner Johannes Hahn. Cohesion Policy has become the main investment instrument of the EU aimed at reducing economic and social disparities across Europe. More than €6.6 billion will be allocated to the outermost regions for the period 2014-2020 via the European Regional Development Fund and the European Social Fund.

The background:
The two-day event will allow exchanges on how to help the nine regions (Guadeloupe, French Guiana, Reunion, Martinique, the overseas Collectivity of St Martin, the Azores, Madeira, Mayotte and the Canary Islands) to target resources and investments in the most optimal way, capitalising on their specific characteristics and strengths.

The event:
- This year the OR Presidents will gather under the theme "9 Regions at the heart of the Europe of today and tomorrow". An official photo of President José Manuel Barroso and all Presidents will take place on 30 September at 12:50 in the Charlemagne building. It will be followed by a press conference with Nicholas Martyn, Deputy Director General of the DG for Regional and Urban Policy, European Commission and Victorin Lurel, Chair of the Conference of Presidents of the Outermost Regions.
- During the forum, three thematic panels will focus on employment and education - sectors with high potential for the development of the regions, as well as regional integration and increased accessibility.
- More information on the 3rd Forum of the Outermost Regions can be found on the Inforegio website. A press release will be available on the day. Webstreaming will be available during the event. The sessions will be published the day of the event.
- EbS will be covering the event http://ec.europa.eu/avservices

The sources:
– 3rd Forum of the Outermost Regions
– Webstreaming:
  GASP 30/01/20147: 09.00 – 18.15
  MANS 30/09/2014: 09.00 – 18.00
  GASP 01/10/2014: 09.00 – 12.45
– Examples of flagship projects supported by EU funds

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Saturday 15 and Sunday 16 November:

The EU at the G20 Summit in Brisbane, Australia – <u>media accreditation open</u>

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The news:
The President of the European Commission and the President of the European Council will represent the EU at this year's G20 Summit, which will take place on 15 and 16 November in Brisbane, Australia. Leaders are expected, amongst others, to adopt the Brisbane Action Plan, putting in place concrete short and medium-term actions to develop comprehensive strategies to stimulate growth. These will include infrastructure investments, trade barrier reductions, employment and development measures. Furthermore, G20 leaders will discuss measures to make the global economy more resilient to deal with future shocks.

The Australian Presidency has now opened the procedure for media accreditation. Journalists can apply for official accreditation until 21 October 2014, 9:00 Brussels time, at https://www.g20.org/accreditation/media_registration. As the Australian government points out, it is important that media register for accreditation via the online accreditation portal as early as possible and then apply for their visa. Accreditation will only be confirmed once the applicant has an approved visa.

The background:
The Brisbane Summit is the 9th edition of the Group of 20 (G20) Summit of the world's major advanced and emerging economies. Its members are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, Italy, India, Indonesia, Japan, Mexico, Republic of Korea, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States and the European Union. Together, they represent around 90% of global GDP, 80% of global trade and two-thirds of the world's population. This year, Australia welcomes Spain as a permanent invitee; Mauritania as the 2014 chair of the African Union; Myanmar as the 2014 Chair of the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN); Senegal, representing the New Partnership for Africa's Development; New Zealand; and Singapore. The 10th edition of the G20 Summit will be hosted by Turkey in 2015.

The event:
- 15 and 16 November 2014: 9th edition of the G20 Summit in the Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre, Brisbane, Australia, with the participation of the Presidents of the European Commission and the European Council.
- Press events ahead of and during the G20 Summit are to be confirmed. Press material about the EU at the G20 will be made available in the week before and during the Summit
- Available on EbS

The sources:
- G20 2014 Media accreditation: https://www.g20.org/accreditation/media_registration
- G20 website of the Australian Presidency: https://www.g20.org/
- G20 section on President Barroso's website:
  http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/president/g20/index_en.htm

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