

**Regional seminar on Access to Finance**  
**MSME Access to Finance for Inclusive and Sustainable Growth-**  
**Stimulating MSME Growth in the MED Region**  
**24 February 2016**  
**Conference Centre "Albert Borschette" Rue Froissart 36, B-1040 Brussels**  
**ROOM AB-2D**

**Programme**

08:30-09:00	<b>Registration - Coffee, tea</b>
09:00-09:15	<b>Welcome and opening statement</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms Irène Mingasson, Head of Unit, Regional Programmes Neighbourhood South, DG NEAR</li> <li>- Ms Monica Saldago-Fernandez, Policy Officer on Access to Finance, DG GROWTH</li> </ul>
09:15-10:15	<b>Panel 1: MSME experience in Accessing to Finance</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms Mai Medhat, CEO, Eventtus, Egypt</li> <li>- Ms Wafa Salam, Manager, Filfil Cultural Venue, Palestine</li> <li>- Ms Oula Farawati, CEO, Printati, Jordan</li> <li>- Mr Perry Navelka, CEO, Penguin Strategies, Israel</li> <li>- Mr Wassim Cherrada, CEO, Souk Ceramik/CONNECT, Tunisia (10 minutes each maximum)</li> </ul> Debate – Q&A <b>Moderator:</b> Mr Bernd Balkenhol, Professor, Geneva University
10:15-11:15	<b>Panel 2: Advancing financial inclusions for MSME in the MED region</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms Souhir Taktak, CEO, Banque de Financement des Petites et Moyennes Entreprises, Tunisia</li> <li>- Mr Fouad Rahme, General Manager, BLC INVEST SAL, Lebanon</li> <li>- Mr Haytham Kamhiyah, General Manager, Capital Bank, Jordan</li> <li>- Mr Walid Ismail, General Manager, SMEs Credit Risk, National Bank of Egypt, Egypt (10 minutes each maximum)</li> </ul> Debate – Q&A <b>Moderator:</b> Ms Katrin Sturm – General Secretary - AECM
11:15-11:30	<b>Coffee break</b>
11:30-13:00	<b>Panel 3: Key findings of the assessment of MED countries' policies to facilitate access to finance for MSMEs</b> At national and regional levels (half an hour) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms Marie-Jo Char, Mr François-Louis Billon and Mr Christophe Malherbe, Experts EBESM/GIZ</li> </ul> This session will be followed by a one-hour open debate on key findings <b>Moderator:</b> Ms Katrin Sturm
13:00-14:30	<b>Lunch break</b>

14:30-15:30	<p><b>Panel 4: The EU initiative for financial inclusion in MED countries</b>          Presentation of the EU Initiative for Financial Inclusion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms Ingrid Schwaiger, Deputy Head of Unit, Regional Programmes Neighbourhood South, DG NEAR</li> </ul> <p>Panel discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms Marion Hoenicke, Head of Division, Banks, Neighbourhood Countries, EIB</li> <li>- Ms Ines Ebrecht, Principal Project Manager, KfW Development Bank</li> <li>- Mr Laurent Biddiscombe, Investment Officer, Financial Institutions and Private Sector Support Division, AFD</li> <li>- Mr Alessandro Vittadini, Principal Banker, SME Finance &amp; Development Department, EBRD</li> </ul> <p>(10 minutes each maximum)          Debate – Q&amp;A  <b>Moderator:</b> Mr Bernd Balkenhol</p>
15:30-15:45	<b>Coffee break</b>
15:45-17:00	<p><b>Panel 5: Moving towards a collaborative framework – Key issues and policy recommendations</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Intervention from each Member of the Working Group on Access to Finance on the future of financial inclusion and major reforms needed (10 minutes each maximum)</li> <li>- Open debate: expectations, proposal, comments.</li> </ul> <p><b>Moderator:</b> Mr Bernd Balkenhol</p>
17:00-17:15	<p><b>Concluding remarks and next steps</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms Ingrid Schwaiger</li> </ul>
17:15-18:30	<b>Cocktail / Reception</b>

(\* ) Simultaneous translation will be available in French & English