

Luxembourg, 16 March 2006

4th FEMIP Experts' Committee Meeting in Vienna, on 20 and 21 March 2006 to discuss questions on business climate and energy market development in the Mediterranean region

Date: March 20-21, 2006

Venue: Kursalon Wien

Contact/ further information: Helen Kavvadia, FEMIP Senior Press Officer, (email: h.kavvadia@eib.org, tel.: +352 4379-3134, fax: +3524379-3188)

Information about the meeting will be updated on <http://www.eib.org>

BACKGROUND

Under the aegis of the Austrian Presidency of the European Union, the 4th Experts' Committee of the Facility for Euro-Mediterranean Investment and Partnership (FEMIP) meets in Vienna, on 20 and 21 March 2006.

Set up as a think-tank, the Experts are charged with the task of putting forward practical and operational recommendations to FEMIP's Ministerial Committee of the Economics and Finance Ministers of the EU and the Mediterranean Partner Countries (MPCs).

The Meeting will focus on the ways that FEMIP can support the improvement of the business climate and the attraction of foreign-direct investments in the Mediterranean region, as well as ways to further develop the Mediterranean energy markets. Special emphasis will be put on the renewable energy and

energy efficiency issues. Its recommendations will be discussed at the next FEMIP Ministerial Meeting to be held on the 25-26th of June 2006 in Tunisia.

The meeting is closed to the media.

A Press briefing will be held after the Meeting on Tuesday 21/03/2006 at 13H00 at the KURSALON, hosted by EIB Vice President de Fontaine Vive.

There will also be an opportunity for the media, especially audiovisual to attend the opening part of the meeting at 12:30 on Monday 20 March 2006.

Programme

Monday, 20 March 2006

14:00 Opening of the Meeting
14:30 Workshop 1: Improving the Business Climate in the Mediterranean Region
16:00 Coffee break
16:30 Workshop 2: Attracting Foreign Direct Investment in the Mediterranean Region
Conclusion for the Ministerial Meeting
18:15 Adjourn

Tuesday, 21 March 2006

09:00 Opening of the Meeting
Workshop 1: Supporting the development of the Mediterranean Energy Markets
11:00 Coffee break
11:15 Workshop 2: Supporting Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiently in the Mediterranean Region
Conclusion for the Ministerial Committee
13:00 Closure

TECHNICAL INFORMATION

The briefing will be informal and held in the coffee shop/restaurant of the Kursalon Wien.

N.B. Please note that no technical equipment will be made available for the journalists covering the press conferences - it will not be equipped with PCs, printers and faxes.

ACCREDITATION

Media accreditation can be made electronically (by e-mail) at CIVITAREALE@EIB.ORG with your contact details, including information about media organisation you represent.

For interviews and further information, please contact **Ms Helen Kavvadia, FEMIP Senior Press Officer**, Mobile + 352 021 45 90 57.