



6. Annex

Country profiles

SWITZERLAND

Innovation as a priority for Switzerland

Knowledge has been very important in a country like Switzerland where there are no raw materials and where economic activities are based on exportation. This importance has grown in the last ten years with the globalisation of the economy and the arrival of complex new technologies.

For these knowledge-based activities, it is necessary:

- to adapt the training to the new requirements of the knowledge society,
- to let the individual acquire new qualifications and bring them up-to-date,
- for the companies to insert themselves in national or international networks of multiple cooperation.

Today's knowledge society lends a new importance to the interface between companies and the training and research sector. The training and research level is a good means to attract companies to Switzerland. This is the reason why the training, research and technology sector is only a true economic sector and a vector of creativity, innovation and growth if the companies know and use its potential.

According to the European innovation scoreboard, Switzerland is still among the most innovative countries in Europe, even in the world. Switzerland has an excellent training and research potential. However, important and necessary reforms must be carried out in professional training and in High Schools.

Objectives to be reached in innovation in the next years

To stay a leader in innovation and to find enhanced growth, Switzerland must remain the first to discover and become the first to apply. Public authorities must offer a powerful training, research and technology sector to the contractors who develop new products, which will supplement their own research efforts and support the fast application of knowledge. It is necessary to continue investing in and reforming the training, research and technology sector to have an education and research resource of high quality. It is also necessary to improve the economic environment, in particular for the small- and medium-sized companies.

Concrete measures

The Federal government will take concrete measures with four aims:

To reinforce and optimise the training, research and technology sector in which the Confederation is going to invest near to 17 billion SFr. until 2007, with a special effort to develop more effective promotion of innovation instruments.

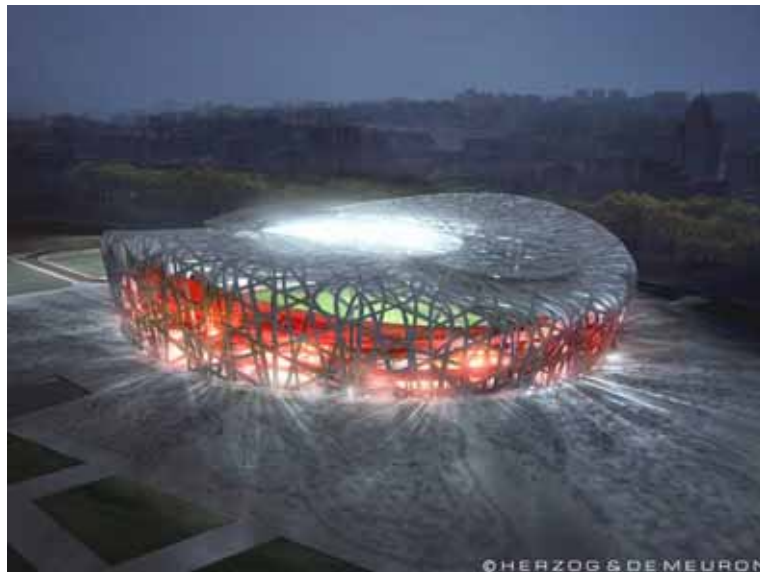
To develop the culture of creating companies.

To narrow the gap between the economic and the training and research world. The idea is that research departments and companies speak the same language, developing the transfer of knowledge and technology.



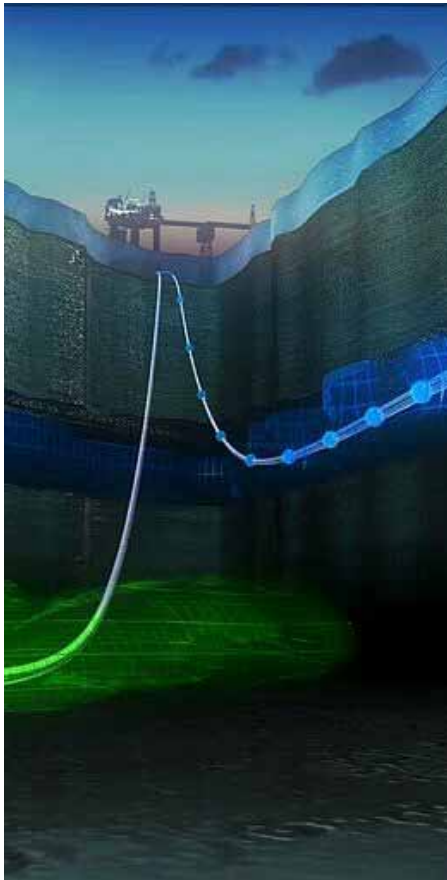
To learn from the world which surrounds us by benchmarking. A systematic benchmarking is necessary to compare the performances of the Swiss economy in terms of innovation, to optimise the contribution from the training, research and technology system to innovation, and to learn from experiences in other countries and regions in the world.

These measures imply an increased dialogue between the economic actors, Confederation and the cantons. Efforts are necessary to develop the companies, to give an image of Switzerland as an InnoNation, and to find the necessary growth to maintain our standard of living and finance our public expenses.





NORWAY



Innovation in Norway

Norway is well positioned to innovate in a global knowledge-based economy. The country is blessed with several important assets. It enjoys a solid and stable economy. There has been considerable investment in research, education and physical infrastructure. Norway has abundant natural resources (such as oil, waterfalls, fish, and vast expanses of forest and countryside) that provide an excellent foundation for the processing industries. Information and communication technology (ICT) is extensively utilised by trade and industry, as well as by the population in general. Moreover, Norwegian trade and industry is characterised by trust and good co-operation internally within businesses, as well as between employer and employee organisations.

The Norwegian economy is deeply integrated in the global economy. As a participant in the European Economic Area (EEA), Norway has access to the Single Market on a par with the members of the European Union when it comes to business and trade. Norway gives high priority to the development of the European Research and Innovation Area and has, in the first phase of the Sixth Framework Programme, established a sound base for further participation in European Research and Innovation. Norwegian actors

participate in every fourth contract, and in the ERA-NET scheme, Norwegian research institutions participate in nearly every second contract in Europe.

(<http://www.forskningsradet.no/english/activities/eu/>)

A national plan for innovation

In the past few years, enhancing innovation has become the focus of increased attention in Norway in response to the challenges posed by a progressively globalised economy. Although the country is in the international forefront in several technological areas, the culture of innovation still needs to be integrated into all business sectors and the educational system – as is the case in many European countries. The Government has recently launched a national plan for innovation that is designed to lead to a shift towards more entrepreneurship and greater boldness in combining the forces of education, research and business.

The public investment in R&D is about the same as other European countries, but Norway is lagging behind in its private investment. (http://www.nifu.no/foustat_eng/mini-fou_eng/2003/introduction.html) However, a closer look at the industry structure provides some important insights. The Norwegian industrial sector is to a large extent founded on raw material-based industries, and some of these are not R&D intensive. A sector-by-sector comparison reveals that Norwegian companies have roughly the same level of R&D investments as companies in other countries.

Norway has world-leading companies in industrial sectors with high level of innovation activity, such as the petroleum sector, the maritime industry, biotechnology, and ICT.



Petroleum technology

The petroleum sector is heavily dependent on advanced technology development. From the time oil became a significant part of Norway's economy, oilrigs and other equipment for the petroleum industry have emerged as extremely important Norwegian technology products. As a demanding customer, the petroleum industry has also given rise to a number of high technology companies in the processing, supplier and service industries. Some of the installations running on the Norwegian continental shelf truly belong among the technological wonders of the world. The Troll A platform is the tallest structure ever transported by humans over the Earth's surface.



<http://www.statoil.com/STATOILCOM/SVG00990.NSF/UNID/AB328362D130FEBB4125665D005455E4?opendocument>

Maritime sector

Norway also has a dynamic maritime sector, and the extensive skills of the entire maritime cluster generates innovative capacity. Maritime industry in Norway boasts a high level of expertise and has produced internationally competitive companies in fields such as technical surveillance, shipbroking, research and development, finance and insurance. Sea transportation will increase in volume and speed between the continents, as short sea shipping and on inland waterways. Ninety per cent of the trade of the European countries is transported by water. The best technology and resources are required within a wide variety of areas, ranging from ships, vehicles and operations to navigation and telecommunication systems. This provides a wealth of opportunity for Norwegian competencies such as those found at the Marintek Centre at the SINTEF group in Trondheim

http://www.marintek.no/eway/default0.asp?pid=199&oid=0&e=0&trg=MainPage_3296&MainPage_3296=4177:0::0:0:3296::0:0:0

Biotechnology

Biotechnology is both old and new in Norway. Its beginnings can be traced back to marine biologist Michael Sars, who was the first to discover biological organisms at great ocean depths, and who has given his name to the Norwegian Sars' Centre (www.sars.no). Recently, the Norwegian Institute of Marine Research (<http://www.imr.no/>) paid tribute to its son, Georg Ossian Sars, by giving his name to their new research vessel – one of the most advanced in the world.

New ventures in Norwegian biotechnology were founded in the 1980s. More than nine out of ten are spin-offs from research conducted at State universities and governmental research institutes, in many cases with start-up capital provided by a mix of private venture capital and government agency grants. Several young enterprises could be cited, e.g. PhotoCure (www.photocure.no), which is a spin-off of research conducted at the Norwegian Radium Hospital in Oslo, one of the largest cancer hospitals in northern Europe. The company develops and manufactures therapeutic, diagnostic and medical devices based on its proprietary photodynamic therapy technologies. Its best-known products are for the treatment of skin cancer.

Further North, in Tromsø, Biotec Pharmacon (<http://www.biotec.no/>) produces the Shrimp Alkaline Phosphatase (SAP). Processing water from the shrimp industry is the raw material



for a highly purified enzyme that now comprises one of the world's most sold DNA modifying enzymes.

Within the fish farming sector, researchers have now started the meticulous process of mapping the genome of the cod, predicted to be the next species to be cultured and exported to markets in Europe and overseas. This project is one of many sponsored by the national programme on functional genomics – FUGE

(<http://www.forskningsradet.no/fag/andre/fuge/english/documents.html>)

ICT

ICT is a burgeoning industry that is becoming increasingly important to Norwegian commerce. The telecommunications industry represents the bulk of the Norwegian ICT industry, and the Norwegian professional telecommunications community maintains high international standards. The first advances in GSM technology took place at the SINTEF group (www.sintef.no) and the Norwegian University of Science and Technology (www.ntnu.no) in Trondheim. Today, a small, rapidly expanding internet company, Opera Software (www.opera.com), is marketing one of the few web browsers that really challenges the Microsoft monopoly.

Why the urge to innovate?

High-cost countries – like Norway – will continue to see standardised production being ousted or moved to other countries. It becomes more difficult to compete with low-cost countries, where the best of existing technology is increasingly available. Countries that are already industrialised must turn their focus to the development of innovative and knowledge-intensive trade and industry in order to maintain their capacity to finance a high level of welfare. High quality, together with new products and services, are needed to obtain favourable prices. Growth impulses from the petroleum sector to the rest of the Norwegian economy are expected to diminish in coming years. Moreover, government revenues from the petroleum sector are in decline, whilst public sector expenditure commitments relating to healthcare and pensions are on the rise. An ageing population will also have an impact on other public sector expenditure items. All this means that the future Norwegian economy must be able to adapt and innovate.

Centres of excellence

It is the aim of the Norwegian Government that Norway achieves a cutting-edge position in terms of knowledge, expertise and new technology. This calls for quality improvement throughout the entire educational and research system. While it has become increasingly clear that Norway needs to enhance the quality of its research, there are numerous examples of Norwegian researchers who perform at a high international level, not least in connection with the EU framework programmes for research.

The Research Council of Norway has designated 13 Centres of Excellence (<http://www.forskningsradet.no/>) to encourage and reward high-quality research.



For more information about these centres, please visit their websites:

Centre of Mathematics for Applications

Centre for Integrated Petroleum Research

Aquaculture Protein Centre

International Centre for Geohazards

Centre for Quantifiable Quality of Service

Centre for the Biology of Memory

Centre for Ships and Ocean Structures

Centre for the Study of Civil War

Bjerknes Centre for Climate Research

Centre for Molecular Biology

Physics of Geological Processes

Centre for Advanced Study in Theoretical Linguistics

Centre for Medieval Studies



SWEDEN

“Sweden is one of the countries in the world that spends most resources on R& D compared to GDP. Sweden is also top-ranked with respect to publications in international academic journals & granted patents per capita.”



Three pillars of Sweden's success

Few nations offer such diversity of industries as Sweden, with its leadership in sectors such as automotive, business services, life science, mining, steel, retail and pulp and paper. This diversity has enabled widespread growth of Swedish applications and industrial expertise.

Sweden is an excellent country for ICT investment and business, with opportunities covering a number of ICT sectors. A global hotspot for innovation, Sweden excels in fields such as wireless communications, microelectronics, telematics and photonics.

No other nation invests more in R&D, – the NMT, GSM, WCDMA, EDGE and Bluetooth technologies were all invented in Sweden. In June 2003, the research firm IDC named Sweden the world's top information economy for the fourth consecutive year. Information and communications technologies (ICT) use is well-established in traditional industries and Sweden is the birthplace of some of the world's major industrial multinationals – ABB, AstraZeneca, IKEA, Saab, Sandvik, SEB, Tetra Pak, Volvo and many more.

The third pillar of the success story is the biotech industry. After tremendous growth in recent years, the Swedish biotech industry today comprises more than 200 companies - Europe's fourth-largest and the largest when measured in relation to both population and GDP. This rather strong position is explained by the flexible research environment in Sweden. Since 1950, Sweden has produced more Nobel laureates, relative to its population, than any other nation. The Prize Awarding Institution for Physiology or Medicine is the Nobel Assembly at the Karolinska Institute. Sweden's record of invention and innovation has been rewarded by the continuing commercial success of its industries.



Stockholm - A region of excellence for innovative start-ups

Majority of the Swedish research and development is concentrated to the Stockholm-Mälars Region, comprising the Stockholm, Uppsala, Sörmland and Västmanland County. The total population of Stockholm County is just under 1.8 million and the Gross Regional Product of Stockholm County was 249.718 SEK in 1996. The economy in Stockholm, the capital of Sweden, and its surrounding region is growing faster than the rest of Sweden.

This development draws its momentum from two factors, on the one hand the extensive innovation supporting infrastructure with universities and technology providers and on the other hand the dynamic industrial growth within sectors such as Telecommunication, Information Technology, Media and Entertainment sometimes referred to as the TIME industry, Bioscience, Finance and Environment. The Stockholm region has become a major centre for Information and Communication Technology based development with Kista as one of the world's leading innovation environments. Of the 100,000 companies in the Stockholm region more than 15,000 belong to the ICT sector.



Three of Europe's strongest clusters of biotechnology are found in Sweden: Stockholm/ Uppsala, Göteborg and Malmö/Lund, according to the Boston Consulting Group. The Stockholm-Mälars region is at the centre of the Swedish health care industry and one of Europe's largest industrial health care clusters with 150 medical device companies, 120 biotechnology companies, 120 biotech related companies and 70 pharmaceutical groups. The region accounts for 66% of Sweden's pharmaceutical revenues and 72% of its biotechnology revenues. Well-known companies that originate from the Stockholm region include AstraZeneca, Pfizer (earlier Pharmacia & UpJohn). Much of the competence is clustered in institutions as Karolinska Institute, Huddinge hospital and Uppsala University with annexing science parks.

The educational system provides the basic infrastructure needed to produce highly skilled and highly motivated entrepreneurs. More than 30% of the population has an academic degree. There are altogether 20 centres for higher education in the region including the internationally outstanding Arts Colleges, The Royal Institute of Technology, Stockholm School of Economics, Stockholm University and Karolinska Institute. Newcomers are the University College Södertörns Högskola located in the southern part of the region and the IT-university in Kista, aiming at becoming world-leading centre for research and education in mobile communication. These educational institutions are complemented by three major science parks in the region; NOVUM, Stockholms, Teknikhöjd and Kista Science City.



Inside Story: Bio-Science Region

Karolinska Institutet, KTH and Stockholm University are in the process of creating a new centre for bioscience in the capital. The aim of the project – Stockholm Bioscience – is to create new and exciting possibilities for breakthroughs in bioscience based on world class multidisciplinary research. Stockholm Bioscience will offer a new and stimulating environment with attractive research facilities as well as commercial and industrial space. Stockholm Bioscience is to be built with futuristic thinking for tomorrow's research milieu where excellence in science and business, diversity in life and proximity are cornerstones.

In order to realise the vision, the project is closely involved in one of Stockholm's largest city development projects for many years. The aim is to turn the area between Karolinska Institutet, The Karolinska Hospital, KTH and Stockholm University into a new attractive part of the city that will become a new part of the inner city, a meeting place for people, culture and science.



List of Registered Participants for the Conference

Last name	First name	Organisation
Mr. Alberius	Lars	Nordic Council of Ministers
Mr. Alonso R. Blanco	Ferdinand	Stockholm Region EU Office
Mrs. Angell-Hansen	Kathrine	Norwegian Ministry of Fisheries
Mr. Arregui McGullion	Juan	North of England Office
Ms. Asp	Linda	Stockholm Region EU Office
Mr. Aydogmus		Turkish Research and Business Organisations
Mr. Backe-Hansen	Per	European Commission, DG Research, Directorate I 1
Mrs. Bail	Angelika	Stuttgart Region European Office
Mr. Ball	Joachim	European Commission, DG Research, B 3: SMEs and Research
Ms. Baranyi	Magdolna	Representation of the Regions of Hungary in Brussels
Mr. Barlindhaug	Johan Petter	Barlindhaug AS, Norway
Mr. Beber	Domenico	Regione Lombardia
Mr. Bekkevold	Geir	EFTA Secretariat
Mr. Belsø	René	Nordic Council of Ministers
Mrs. Berg	Anne	The European Office of Nordland County
Mrs. Berg	Harriet	Telenor Brussels Representative Office, Telenor ASA
Mrs. Bjerborg	Mariella	West Zealand EU Office
Mr. Bjørnebye	John	Ambassador, Royal Norwegian Embassy
Mr. Blixrud	Arild H.	Norwegian Trade Council
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Mr. Boër	Claudio	Commission for Technology and Innovation, Switzerland
Mr. Bohle	Martin	Beobachter der Länder bei der EU
Mr. Bolstad	Gunnar	The Research Council of Norway
Mr. Booth	Steven	European Commission, DG Research
Mrs. Borg	Janine	Malta Business Bureau
Ms. Bouganzir	Rachida	Stockholm Region EU Office
Mrs. Brandellero	Amanda	Association of London Government European Service
Mr. Brandtner	Thomas	European Council, DG C, Directorate II: Industry, Research, Energy, Atomic questions
Mrs. Bratt	Louise	Stockholm Region EU Office
Mrs. Braun	Gyula	Representation of the Regions of Hungary in Brussels
Mrs. Breugelmans	Christine	Ministry of the Flemish Community
Mr. Bruce	Tomas	Euroheat & Power, Sweden
Mr. Brune	Dietrich	German Association of Towns and Municipalities



Mr. Bull	Einar M.	EFTA Surveillance Authority
Mr. Burri	Jürg	Swiss Mission to the EU
Mr. Baardsen	Sjur	European Commission, DG Research, E 3
Mr. Camera	Corrado	Regione Autonoma Valle d'Aosta - Finaosta
Mr. Camus	Xavier	European Commission, DG Regional Policy
Mr. Canavan	Anthony	Office of the Northern Ireland Executive
Mr. Cannell	William	European Commission, DG Research, Directorate A 4
Mrs. Carson	Jennifer	East of England Brussels Office
Mr. Cederschiöld	Carl	City of Stockholm
Mr. Cho	Yulrae	European Commission, DG Research
Mrs. Chobanova	Rossitsa	Institute of Economics, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Mrs. Chotard	Françoise	ADEIF – Ile - de - France - Europe
Mr. Clark	Woodrow	former Deputy Director/Senior Advisor to California Governor
Mr. Conti	Sergio	Regione Lombardia
Mr. Costa-Lafarga	Jose	European Commission, DG External Relations
Mr. Curtopassi	Elena	Veneto Region
Mr. Dahlmann	Christian	Stockholm Region EU Office
Mr. Dambois	Denis	European Commission, DG Research
Mrs. Darville	Nicole	Municipality of Saint-Gilles, Consultative Commission
Mr. Deandreis	Massimo	Unioncamere Piemonte
Mr. Decoutère	Stéphane	Federal Office for Professional Education and Technology, Switzerland
Mrs. de la Torre	Clara	European Commission, DG Research
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Mr. Dover	Shabtay	Forum of University Research Authority Directors (FURAD)
Mr. Dufeil	Michel-Eric	European Commission, DG Regional Policy, C 3
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Mr. Ebell	Christoph	CTI / EUREKA, Switzerland
Mr. Edøy	Jan	Mission of Norway to the EU
Ms. Ekdahl	Bente	Mission of Norway to the EU
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Mr. Eliassen	Kjell	European Competence Ltd
Mrs. Enodd	Karin	Mission of Norway to the EU
Mrs. Evje	Tone	Norwegian Ministry of Trade and Industry
Ms. Falk	Christina	Uppsala Municipality, C-Framåt
Mr. Fenger	Nils	EFTA Surveillance Authority
Mrs. Feore	Catherine	Greater Manchester Brussels Office



Mr. Filos	Erastos	European Commission, DG Information Society
Mrs. Fraiss	Daniela	Steiermark- Buro
Mrs. Friedl	Hilde	The Research Council of Norway
Mr. Friis Konst	Thomas	Stockholm Region EU Office
Mr. Gabaglio	Vincent	Galileo Joint Undertaking
Mr. Gabrielsen	Ansgar	Minister, Norwegian Ministry of Trade and Industry
Mrs. Gardestedt	Sofie	South Sweden European Office (Sydsam)
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Mr. Gretschmann	Klaus	Council of the EU, DG C Internal market, Competitiveness, Industry, Research, Energy, Transport, Information society
Mr. Grimsbo	Olav	Mission of Norway to the EU
Mr. Grydeland	Bjørn T.	Ambassador, Mission of Norway to the EU
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Mr. Jørgensen	Peter	North Sweden European Office



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Mrs. Kirsebom	Bjarne	Permanent Representation of Sweden
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Mr. Madfors	Magnus	Ericsson Group, External Research Relations
Mrs. Majewska - Galeziak	Alicja	Pomeranian Association of Rural Communities
Mr. Martinelli	Dante	Ambassador, Swiss Mission to the EU
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Mr. Messihommer	Philippe	Swiss Mission to the EU
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Mrs. Moreno Berrocal	Sonia	Diputacion de Huelva
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Mrs. O'Hara	Eamon	The Irish Regions Office
Mr. Okstad	Asbjorn	North Trondelag Research Institute
Mr. Olander	Anders	Council of the EU, DG C, Directorate I: Internal Market, Competition, Customs Union



Mr. Ovesen	Svein-Erik	Norwegian Tourist Board
Mr. Pascal	Goergen	Brussels-Capital Region
Mr. Pascall	Stefan	European Commission, DG Information Society
Mr. Pascu	Mihail	European Commission, Cost Secretariat
Mr. Patermann	Christian	European Commission, DG Research, Directorate I: Environment
Mrs. Pedersen	Charlotte	Aalborg - North of Denmark EU Office
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Mr. Périssé	Damien	Europe Bretagne- Pays de La Loire
Mr. Pero	Hervé	European Commission, DG Research, Directorate J: Energy
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Mr. Pichler	Franz	Permanent Representation of Austria to the EU
Mr. Picqué	Charles	Mayor of the Municipality of Saint-Gilles
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Mrs. Pinna	Valentina	Unioncamere de Lombardia - Ufficio di Bruxelles
Mr. Pluncket	Russel	Business Link Kent
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Mr. Preisler	Mikkel	Ribe County - EU Vest
Mrs. Prunzel	Régine	Europabüro Deutscher Landkreistag- Eurocommunale
Mr. Quaranta	Claudio	Buero der Europaregion Tirol-Südtirol-Trentino
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Mr. Selvik	Gunnar	The Office of Western Norway in Brussels
Mr. Sequeira	Keith	European Commission, DG Research
Mr. Sirel	Kaido	Tallinn EU Office
Mr. Sivertsen	Hakon	Mid-Norway European Office
Mrs. Skar	Ida	Norwegian Ministry of Trade and Industry
Mrs. Soares De Aires	Maria	European Commission, DG Research, Directorate E 4
Mr. Spolander	Per	City of Stockholm
Mrs. Steiner	Carina	Economiesuisse
Mrs. Stenström	Kajsa	DLA Upstram
Mr. Storvik	Kjetil	Nordic Industrial Fund
Mrs. Strohm	Susane	Wiener Wirtschaftsförderungsfonds - Wien-Haus
Mrs. Strom	Monica	ITPS (Swedish Institute for Growth Policy Studies)
Mrs. Sundström Van Zeveren	Kajsa	West Sweden
Mr. Svatopluk	Halada	EUREKA secretariat
Ms. Symonds	Toni	California
Mr. Szendrodi	Laszlo	Permanent Representation of Hungary to the EC
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Mr. Taivalantti	Jani	East Finland EU Office
Mr. Takac	Kristian	Stockholm Region EU Office
Mrs. Tarras-Wahlberg	Catharina	City of Stockholm
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Mr. Thorvik	Arve	Statoil ASA
Mr. Timmers	Paul	European Commission, DG Information Society, Directorate C 6
Mr. Titlestad	Gard	Mission of Norway to the EU
Mr. Uggla	Michael	Stockholm Region EU Office
Mr. Uhlir	David	European Commission, DG Research
Mr. Ulleberg	Tor	Sintef Industrial Management
Mr. Utne	Amund	EFTA Surveillance Authority
Mrs. Valencia Bayón	Inma	Oficina del Gobierno de Cantabria
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