



A STRUCTURED CIVIL DIALOGUE FOR A CITIZEN-FRIENDLY EUROPEAN UNION

22 March 2010

European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)
99, rue Belliard, B - 1040 Brussels
Room JDE 62

DRAFT PROGRAMME

9.30 to 10 a.m. Registration of participants

10 to 10.45 a.m. Opening session

Welcome address by **Staffan Nilsson**, President of the Various Interests Group of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)

Introduction to the Paper "*For a structured framework for European civil dialogue*" by **Carlotta Besozzi**, Rapporteur, Director of the European Disability Forum (EDF)

Statement by **Anne-Marie Sigmund**, Member of the EESC Various Interests Group on *European civil dialogue and the views of the European Economic and Social Committee*

10.45 to 11.30 a.m. **Speech** by **Viviane Reding**, Vice-President of the European Commission in charge of Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship, followed by a questions and answers session

11.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. **Round table on *Participatory democracy in action: examples of existing tools for civil dialogue at national and transnational levels***

Moderator: **Luk Zelderloo**, Secretary General, European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities (EASPD)

Speakers: **Martin Hirsch**, High Commissioner for Active Solidarities against Poverty and for Young people (France)
Ariane Rodert, Forum for voluntary social work (Sweden)
Jean-Marie Heydt, President of the INGO Conference of the Council of Europe

General debate

1 to 2.30 p.m. **Buffet lunch**

2.30 to 4.30 p.m. **Round table on *Participatory democracy in action: towards a structured framework for European civil dialogue***

Moderator: **Jean-Marc Roirant**, President of the European Civic Forum (FCE)

Speakers: **Rodi Kratsa-Tsagaropoulou**, Vice-President of the European Parliament, Member of the Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats)
Martin Schulz, President of the Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament (S&D)
Diana Wallis, Member of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE)
Isabelle Durant, Vice-president of the European Parliament, Member of the Greens/European Free Alliance Group (The Green/EFA)
Marie Christine Vergiat, Member of the Confederal Group of the European United Left - Nordic Green Left (GUE/NGL)

General debate

4.30 to 5.15 p.m. **Closing session**

Diogo Pinto, Secretary General of the European Movement International (EMI)

Carlos Carnero Gonzáles, Ambassador at large for European Integration Projects, Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation, on behalf of the Presidency-in-turn of the Council of the European Union

Mario Sepi, President of the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC)