

Indicative programme – Telecommunications Council meeting of 8 June 2018

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Competition: Commission agrees framework for dialogue on competition policy issues with Mexico

Commissioner **Vestager**, responsible for competition policy, said: *“We can all benefit from working with other competition authorities to promote fair global competition. This new framework for dialogue will give further impetus to our excellent cooperation with Mexico’s competition authority. We have now formalised the basis for this cooperation and are committed to intensifying our ties, to the benefit of consumers and companies in Mexico and the EU.”*

The arrangement between the EU’s and Mexico’s competition authorities provides a framework for dialogue on competition policy issues and for sharing views, as well as non-confidential information on individual cases.

In particular, the arrangement provides for:

- the exchange of information on competition laws and policies, on multilateral initiatives and advocacy efforts;

- coordination of the enforcement activities of the two competition authorities when working on the same or related matters. This is increasingly important, for example in merger assessment, where a merger can be subject to review in several jurisdictions;
- the possibility for one of the two competition authorities to refer a case to the other, if it involves anti-competitive practices carried out in the latter's territory;
- cooperation on technical matters, for instance through training or exchange of officials.

The signing of this framework for a dialogue on competition policy issues reflects the ambition of enhanced cooperation on competition matters between the EU and Mexico, to the benefit of both.

Background

The European Commission has been cooperating closely with competition authorities in countries outside the EU for many years.

At [bilateral level](#), the Commission has engaged in a wide range of cooperation activities with competition authorities in a number of non-EU countries on the basis of agreements or memoranda of understanding. Moreover, in its Free Trade Agreements, the Commission also negotiates a Competition Chapter which provides rules and disciplines on antitrust, mergers and subsidies.

In addition, the Commission participates actively in the competition-related activities of a number of [multilateral organisations](#) such as the [International Competition Network \(ICN\)](#), the [Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development \(OECD\)](#), [UNCTAD](#), the [World Trade Organisation \(WTO\)](#).

The main objective of this bilateral and multilateral cooperation with competition authorities is to promote convergence of competition policy instruments and practices across jurisdictions, exchange views on broader policy and enforcement issues, and facilitate cooperation with competition authorities in other jurisdictions on enforcement activities.

More information is available on the Commission's Competition [website](#).

[European Development Days 2018 – empowering women and girls to shape sustainable development](#)

Commission President Jean-Claude **Juncker**, who will open the EDDs tomorrow, said: *“There can be no sustainable development if half of the world's*

population is left behind. We need equal participation and leadership of women and girls in all spheres of life – both in Europe and in the world. This is what we will focus on during these European Development Days.”

Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development Neven **Mimica** emphasised: *“The EDDs gather the development community from all corners of the globe to learn from each other and to inspire new partnerships. Only if we act together, will we manage to eliminate all forms of violence against women and girls, and empower them to truly be at the forefront of sustainable development”.*

From the European Commission, the President Jean-Claude **Juncker**, together with High Representative/Vice-President Federica **Mogherini**, First-Vice President of the European Commission Frans **Timmermans**, as well as Commissioners Cecilia **Malmström**, Neven **Mimica**, Christos **Stylianides**, Phil **Hogan** and Mariya **Gabriel**, will participate at the event.

The European Development Days will furthermore be joined by many high-level speakers and participants including: Her Majesty **Mathilde**, Queen of the Belgians; Her Majesty Queen **Letizia** of Spain; Her Royal Highness **Mary**, the Crown Princess of Denmark; President of Malta Marie-Louise **Coleiro Preca**; Prime Minister of Norway Erna **Solberg**; President of the European Parliament Antonio **Tajani**; President of Rwanda Paul **Kagamé**; President of Burkina Faso Roch Marc Christian **Kaboré**; President of Niger Mahamadou **Issoufou**; President of Liberia George **Weah**; Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations Amina J. **Mohammed**, and many more.

Sixteen **Young Leaders** from around the world will join high-level panels to exchange ideas and experiences with policy-makers and world leaders. Participation and voices of young people will be additionally promoted this year by a large Youth Lounge that would facilitate youth organisations and activists’ gatherings and discussions on gender equality and other development issues.

The [Lorenzo Natali Media Prize 2018](#) will be awarded to journalists for their outstanding reporting on sustainable development, with a special focus on the elimination of violence against women and girls.

Today, in the margins of the European Development Days, Commissioner **Mimica** will sign new support for Burkina Faso, together with President Kaboré. More information will be made available at 18:00 [here](#). On Wednesday, he will sign a new package of assistance for Liberia, together with Liberian President George Weah.

A full [cultural programme](#) featuring international artists, musicians and film-makers will complement the event, while the [Global Village](#), a fair composed of 92 stands, will bring together international stakeholders to share projects or reports related to the EDDs’ main themes and thread.

Background

European Development Days were launched in 2006 as a way to gather the

international development community and discuss the way forward to eradicate poverty.

Organised by the European Commission, the EDDs have become a kind of “Davos for development”, a strong reference point for the international development community to share ideas and experiences in ways that inspire innovative solutions and new partnerships to face the world’s most pressing challenges. Since 2006, 100 world leaders, 7 Nobel Prize laureates, 4500 organisations, and 42 000 participants from 154 countries have attended the EDDs.

At the EDDs, journalists will have the opportunity to speak to many participants, including political leaders, policy-makers, business leaders, key personalities of the women’s rights movement, entrepreneurs, young people, as well as non-governmental organisations and academia. Specific media facilities and opportunities are offered to the international press such as TV and radio studios, press conference room, Facebook live corner (more information [here](#)).

The opening and closing sessions of the event, as well as several other highlights, will be broadcasted on the [European Development Days’ website](#), as well as on [EbS](#).

For More Information

[European Development Days 2018](#)

Join us and get involved:

[Daily News 04 / 06 / 2018](#)

Journées européennes du développement 2018 – encourager les femmes à façonner le développement durable

Les [12èmes Journées européennes du développement](#) (EDDs) se tiendront à partir de demain, rassemblant la communauté du développement européenne et internationale sous le thème “Les femmes et les jeunes filles au cœur du développement durable: protéger, autonomiser, investir”. Le président de la Commission européenne Jean-Claude **Juncker**, qui inaugurera les EDDs demain, a déclaré: *“Il ne peut y avoir de développement durable si la moitié de la population mondiale est laissé de côté. Nous avons besoin de la participation égale et du leadership des femmes dans tous les domaines de la vie, à la fois en Europe et dans le monde. Voici ce sur quoi nous allons nous concentrer durant ces Journées européennes du développement.”* Le commissaire pour la coopération internationale et le développement Neven Mimica a souligné: *“Les EDDs rassemblent la communauté du développement de toutes les parties du monde pour apprendre des uns des autres et inspirer de nouveaux partenariats. C’est uniquement en agissant ensemble, que nous allons pouvoir éliminer*

toutes les formes de violences faites aux femmes, et encourager les femmes à être au cœur du développement.” De la Commission européenne, le président Jean-Claude **Juncker**, la haute représentante/vice-présidente Federica **Mogherini**, le premier vice-président Frans **Timmermans**, ainsi que les commissaires Cecilia **Malmström**, Neven **Mimica**, Christos **Stylianides**, Phil **Hogan** et Mariya **Gabriel**, participeront à l'événement. Le [prix média Lorenzo Natali 2018](#) sera attribué à des journalistes pour leur remarquable travail de reportage sur le thème du développement durable, avec un accent particulier sur l'élimination des violences faites aux femmes. Aujourd'hui, en marge des Journées européennes du développement, le commissaire **Mimica** signera, avec le président Kaboré, un nouveau soutien pour le Burkina Faso. Plus d'informations seront disponibles [ici](#) à 18h. Mercredi, il signera une nouvelle enveloppe d'aide pour le Libéria, avec le président George Weah. Un [programme culturel](#) viendra également compléter l'évènement avec des artistes internationaux, des musiciens et des réalisateurs, tandis que le [village global](#), une foire composée de 92 stands, rassemblera des parties prenantes internationales pour partager leurs projets et rapports en lien avec les thématiques principales des EDDs. Le communiqué de presse complet est disponible [ici](#). (Pour plus d'informations: Carlos Martin Ruiz De Gordejuela – Tél.: +32 229 65322; Christina Wunder – Tél.: +32 229 92256)

Mergers: Commission clears acquisition of General Electric Industrial Solutions by ABB

The European Commission has approved, under the EU Merger Regulation, the acquisition of General Electric Industrial Solutions (“GEIS”) by ABB Asea Brown Boveri Ltd (“ABB”), both global suppliers of electrical products and systems. The Commission concluded that the transaction would raise no competition concerns in the relevant markets within the European Economic Area. ABB and GEIS are active worldwide in the manufacture and sale of electrical components and systems. The Commission carried out a broad investigation on a large number of markets and concluded that: i) the respective geographic areas of the companies' activities are complementary, with ABB being stronger in Europe and GEIS in the US; ii) the merged entity will continue facing effective competition from a number of large-scale rivals and specialised or local suppliers; iii) on markets where the merging companies are active at different levels of the supply chain, the Commission found that they would not have the ability to foreclose competitors, notably because alternative suppliers will continue to operate in the market. The Commission therefore concluded that the proposed transaction would raise no competition concerns in any of the markets concerned. A full press release is available in [EN](#), [DE](#), [FR](#). (For more information: Ricardo Cardoso – Tel.: +32 229 80100; Maria Sarantopoulou – Tel.: +32 229 13740)

Mergers: Commission clears acquisition of Trioplast Industrier by Altor Funds

The European Commission has approved, under the EU Merger Regulation, the acquisition of Trioplast Industrier by Altor Funds, both of Sweden. Trioplast Industrier manufactures packaging solutions based on polyethylene film. Altor Funds makes private equity investments in a variety of economic sectors. The Commission concluded that the proposed acquisition would raise no competition concerns because the companies' activities do not overlap and the vertical

links between their activities are limited. The transaction was examined under the simplified merger review procedure. More information is available on the Commission's [competition](#) website, in the public [case register](#) under the case number [M.8884](#). *(For more information: Ricardo Cardoso – Tel.: +32 229 80100; Maria Sarantopoulou – Tel.: +32 229 13740)*

Mergers: Commission clears acquisition of Springs by AEA and BCI

The European Commission has approved, under the EU Merger Regulation, the acquisition of joint control over SIWF Holdings, Inc. (“Springs”) by AEA Investors LP (“AEA”) both of the US and British Columbia Investment Management Corporation (“BCI”) of Canada. Springs manufactures and supplies window coverings such as blinds, shutters, curtains, draperies and retractable awnings. AEA is a private equity fund with investments in various sectors, particularly in value added industrial products, specialty chemicals, consumer and retail and services. BCI invests on behalf of public sector clients in fixed income, mortgages, public and private equity, real estate, infrastructure and renewable resources. The Commission concluded that the proposed acquisition would raise no competition concerns, given the lack of horizontal overlaps and vertical links between the activities of the companies. The transaction was examined under the simplified merger review procedure. More information is available on the Commission's [competition](#) website, in the public [case register](#) under the case number [M.8918](#). *(For more information: Ricardo Cardoso – Tel.: +32 229 80100; Maria Sarantopoulou – Tel.: +32 229 13740)*

Eurostat: Industrial producer prices stable in euro area

In April 2018, compared with March 2018, industrial producer prices remained stable in the euro area (EA19), while they rose by 0.1% in the EU28, according to estimates from Eurostat, the statistical office of the European Union. In March 2018, prices increased by 0.1% in both zones. In April 2018, compared with April 2017, industrial producer prices rose by 2.0% in the euro area and by 2.4% in the EU28. A Eurostat press release is available [here](#). *(For more information: Lucia Caudet – Tel.: +32 229 56182; Maud Noyon – Tel.: +32 229 80379)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

La Commission organise une conférence sur l'information prudentielle pour l'ère numérique

La Commission européenne organise aujourd'hui une conférence sur le thème "[Préparer l'information prudentielle pour l'ère numérique](#)". L'événement rassemble des experts institutionnels, industriels et universitaires pour examiner les défis actuels et les opportunités futures liées à l'information prudentielle. Valdis **Dombrovskis**, vice-président chargé de la stabilité financière, des services financiers et de l'union des marchés des capitaux,

prononcera un discours présentant la vision de la Commission sur l'information prudentielle dans l'UE. La conférence comprendra également des présentations de l'Autorité européenne des marchés financiers (AEMF ou ESMA) et de la Banque centrale européenne (BCE). Les tables-rondes se concentreront sur la meilleure manière de trouver un équilibre entre, les obligations déclaratives pesant sur les acteurs financiers, d'une part, et de l'autre, les besoins des superviseurs, et traiteront également des possibles moyens de simplifier et rationaliser les obligations d'information à l'avenir. Un streaming en direct de la conférence est disponible [ici](#). (Pour plus d'informations: Vanessa Mock – tél.: + 32 229 56194; Letizia Lupini – tél.: +32 229 51958)

Politique de Cohésion au-delà de 2020: la commissaire Crețu discute de l'avenir de la stratégie pour la région de la mer Baltique en Estonie

Une semaine après la présentation de la [proposition de la Commission pour la future politique de Cohésion](#), la commissaire à la politique régionale Corina **Crețu** est à Tallinn, en Estonie, pour le forum annuel de la stratégie de l'UE pour la région de la mer Baltique. L'avenir de la macrorégion en tant que pôle numérique mondial et la protection du riche écosystème de la mer Baltique seront au cœur des discussions. La commissaire **Crețu** a déclaré: *“Pour la période post 2020, nous proposons de renforcer le soutien des fonds de l'UE, en particulier dans le cadre des programmes Interreg, aux objectifs des stratégies macrorégionales, afin de stimuler la coopération sur des questions cruciales sans frontières ainsi que sur l'innovation.”* La commissaire **Crețu** discutera de la proposition de la Commission concernant la future politique de Cohésion avec Jüri Ratas, Premier ministre de l'Estonie, Māris Kučinskis, Premier ministre de Lettonie et Saulius Skvernelis, Premier ministre de Lituanie. Adoptée par le Conseil européen en 2009, la stratégie pour la région de la mer Baltique aide la Suède, le Danemark, l'Estonie, la Finlande, l'Allemagne, la Lettonie, la Lituanie et la Pologne à résoudre ensemble des problèmes communs tels que protéger l'environnement, améliorer les liens de transport et créer de la croissance. (Pour plus d'informations: Johannes Bahrke – Tél .: +32 229 58615, Sophie Dupin de Saint-Cyr – Tél .: +32 229 56169)

[Upcoming events](#) of the European Commission (ex-Top News)

Emma Navarro appointed as new EIB Vice-President

Emma Navarro has been appointed Vice-President and Member of the [Management Committee](#) of the [European Investment Bank](#) (EIB) by its [Board of Governors](#), consisting of the 28 European Union Finance Ministers. She took up her duties on the 1st of June.

Emma Navarro has been General Secretary of the Treasury and Financial Policy in Spain and Member of the Bank of Spain Governing Council and Board Member of the Spanish National Securities Market Commission. Prior to this, she had been President of Instituto de Crédito Oficial (ICO), Director of the Office of the Minister for Economic Affairs, Industry and Competitiveness and advisor at the International Monetary Fund. Previously, Emma Navarro held various positions in the public sector in Spain.

Upon joining the EIB, Emma Navarro stated: "I am pleased to join the EU bank and to be part of an institution that fosters investment to improve people's lives. 2018 marks the 60th anniversary of the EIB and I am convinced that both the EU and the Bank have much to celebrate. In these 60 years, the EIB has fostered cohesion and promoted the modernisation of the European economy, triggering growth and employment and making it more competitive. I am delighted to be able to contribute to this success story."

The Management Committee is the EIB's permanent collegiate executive body, consisting of a President and eight Vice-Presidents. The members of the Management Committee are appointed by the Board of Governors – the Finance Ministers of the 28 EU Member States.

Under the authority of Werner Hoyer, President of the EIB, the Management Committee collectively oversees the day-to-day running of the EIB as well as preparing and ensuring the implementation of the Board of Directors' decisions.