The European Brain Council's Weekly External Environment Update

Week of 25 February 2013

**Quote of the week**

*Science and innovation are key drivers for European competitiveness, economic growth and the creation of new jobs. This Advisory Council will focus on science and technology related topics that are of cross-cutting nature, with a clear societal dimension. It will identify the issues of value where science, research and innovation can contribute to support future development in Europe.*

EC President Barroso announces creation of a Science and Technology Advisory Council. See **Key updates this week** section for further details.

**Agenda Watch**

i) **Draft agenda of the Research Working Party meeting**

Please click [here](#) to access the draft agenda of the Research Working Party meeting that took place on February 25.

Items on the agenda include:


ii) **COREPER I and II – summary of discussion**

COREPER I and II met on February 5, 6 and 9 2013. Please click [here](#) to read a summary of the items discussed.

iii) **Coreper Part 1 meeting agenda, February 27 and March 1 2013 [Research]**

Please follow this [link](#) for the provisional agenda for meeting of Coreper Part 1 on February 27 2013 and March 1 2013.

Items on the agenda in relation to research include the following:

- Horizon 2020 (establishing the Framework Programme for Research and Innovation, and rules for participation and dissemination in ‘Horizon 2020’)

iv) **Draft agenda of the Research Working Party meeting**

Please click [here](#) to access the draft agenda of the Research Working Party meeting that will take place on March 4.

Items on the agenda include:

Institution watch

i) On February 26, EURORDIS and MEP Antonyia Parvanova are co-hosting the “Faster access to medicines for rare disease patients” meeting for policy discussion.

ii) On February 28, EuropaBio is organising the Pharma Summit 2013 in London, United Kingdom.

iii) On March 6, LABInnovater is organising a conference on Cross-Border Healthcare: Mastering e-Health to establish strategic alliances between healthcare clusters & research partners in Life Sciences to drive inventions in personalised healthcare. The event takes place in Amsterdam, the Netherlands.

iv) On March 7-8, Ministry of Innovation, Science and Research of the German State of North Rhine-Westphalia is hosting an event on Successful R&I in Europe 2013: Takeoff for Horizon 2020, in Dusseldorf, Germany.

v) On March 14, the European Alcohol Policy Alliance (EUROCARE) is organising a lunch seminar with the title "Alcohol Policy and Health in Europe – Where do we go?"

vi) On March 20, the European Alliance for Personalised Medicine, in association with the Irish Presidency, is organising a conference on Innovation and patient access to personalised medicine. The meeting will bring together researchers, patients, physicians, regulators and politicians, to explore the current barriers and how they can be dismantled. Expert panels will examine potential ways through the obstacles that Europe currently poses - in relation to clinical trials, the links between diagnosis and treatment, reimbursement, training of healthcare professionals, and sharing of data. The event takes place in Dublin, Ireland.

Key updates this week

Call for tender for the facilitation of the community platform of the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing

The European Commission (DG SANCO and DG CONNECT jointly) maintains an online platform, the "Marketplace", for the mobilisation of stakeholders in the delivery of the European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/eipaha/

A call for tenders will be sent soon to a minimum of candidates identified by the European Commission for a service contract of a maximum value of € 60.000 for the facilitation of the platform. The overarching role of the contractor will be to provide technical advice and day-to-day operational support, and to facilitate stakeholder engagement.

Contact: cnect-h2(at)ec.europa.eu
President Barroso announces creation of a Science and Technology Advisory Council

The President of the European Commission, José Manuel Barroso, has announced today the creation of a Science and Technology Advisory Council. This informal advisory body held its first meeting today in Brussels.

President Barroso said: "Science and innovation are key drivers for European competitiveness, economic growth and the creation of new jobs. This Advisory Council will focus on science and technology related topics that are of cross-cutting nature, with a clear societal dimension. It will identify the issues of value where science, research and innovation can contribute to support future development in Europe".

The creation of the Advisory Council follows the President’s appointment of Professor Anne Glover as the European Commission’s first Chief Scientific Adviser in January 2012, aiming at ensuring more evidence-based European Union policy-making, but also at promoting the uptake of science & technology in society, including a better transfer of knowledge from the scientific world to industry.

The Science and Technology Advisory Council is an independent and informal group of outstanding science and technology experts from academia, business and civil society, covering a broad range of disciplines and uniting expertise from across the European Research Area. Its members have been selected by the President in consultation with the Chief Scientific Adviser, based on their scientific reputation, experience at the science-policy interface and communication skills.

The main aim of the Council is to provide advice directly to the President on how to create the proper environment for innovation by shaping a European society that embraces science, technology and engineering. In particular, the Council will advise on the opportunities and risks stemming from scientific and technological progress. It will also advise on how to communicate these in order to foster an informed societal debate and ensure that Europe does not “miss the boat” and remains a global leader in cutting-edge technologies.

The Science and Technology Advisory Council differs from other advisory bodies in the Commission in that it does not have a specific subject remit, but tackles issues that are of cross-cutting nature, with a clear societal dimension. It will operate in a proactive way, identifying topics of value and of interest to support future growth and development in Europe. The President will also ask the Council for advice on science and technology related topics that are of key importance for underpinning the Commission’s growth agenda.

With the creation of this Advisory Council, and other key proposals to support the development of research & innovation, such as the Innovation Union, the European Research Area and Horizon 2020, President Barroso added another building block to pursue the goal of delivering smart, sustainable and inclusive growth for Europe.

Members of the Science and Technology Advisory Council:

Alan ATKISSON (Sweden)
Ferdinando BECCALLI-FALCO (Italy)
Victor DE LORENZO (Spain)
Tamás F. FREUND (Hungary)
Susan M. GASSER (Switzerland)
Søren MOLIN (Denmark)
Joanna PINIŃSKA (Poland)
Alexandre Tiedtke QUINTANILHA (Portugal)
Ortwin RENN (Germany)
Riitta SALMELIN (Finland)
Pat SANDRA (Belgium)
Hans-Joachim SCHELLNHUBER (Germany)
Roberta SESSOLI (Italy)
Cedric VILLANI (France)
Ada E. YONATH (Israel)

Please click [here](#) to read the speech by President Barroso on Funding Europe's tech industry future

**Articles of interest**

- Re-examining brain disorders (PARADISE project)
- Reform of clinical trials directive must be future-proof

**Dates for your diary:**

**2012 and 2013 meeting schedule:** Board Meetings (BM), Industry Board Meetings (IBM), Officers Meeting (OM), Telephone Conferences (TC)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Type of meeting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>27 June 2013</td>
<td>BM 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>28 June 2013</td>
<td>IBM 2</td>
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<tr>
<td>17 October 2013</td>
<td>BM 3 and AGM 2013</td>
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<tr>
<td>18 October 2013</td>
<td>IBM 3</td>
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<td>12 December 2013</td>
<td>OM</td>
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**Calendar of events:**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Location</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>EPA congress</strong></td>
<td>6 – 9th April 2013</td>
<td>Nice</td>
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<td><strong>BNA 2013 Festival of Neuroscience</strong></td>
<td>7 - 10 April 2013</td>
<td>London</td>
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<td><strong>Month of the Brain, conference in Brussels</strong></td>
<td>14 May 2013</td>
<td>Brussels</td>
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<td><strong>Month of the Brain, meeting in Dublin</strong></td>
<td>27 – 28 May 2013</td>
<td>Dublin</td>
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<td><strong>World Congress of Neurology in co-operation with EFNS</strong></td>
<td>21-26 September, 2013</td>
<td>Vienna</td>
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<td><strong>ECNP congress</strong></td>
<td>5 – 9th October 2013</td>
<td>Barcelona</td>
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<td><strong>EANS congress</strong></td>
<td>11th November 2013</td>
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