

**The new approach to State aids -
Recent reforms under the State Aid Action Plan and next steps**

- Location: Charlemagne building, room Alcide de Gasperi
- Date: Friday, 21 November 2008
- 8.30-9.30 Registration and coffee
- 9.30 Welcome and introduction (Philip Lowe, Director General)
- 9.45 Key note speech: the Commission's new approach to State aid control - principles and perspectives (Commissioner Neelie Kroes)
- 10.15 The reformed policy framework (Commission Competition Team)
- 11.00 Coffee
- 11.30 The policy framework put into practice (Commission Competition Team)
- Simplification Package
 - New challenges: The Financial crisis
 - Outlook
- 12.15 Discussion
- 12.45 Lunch*
- 14.15 Coffee
- 14.30 Globalisation, financial crisis, innovation and climate change - challenges for a modernised State aid policy
- Round Table (moderated by Philip Lowe, Director General)
- Key note by French Presidency: Luc Rousseau, *Vice-Minister for Industry, Director General of the Directorate General for Enterprise, Ministry of Economy, Industry and Employment*
- Panellists: Martin Pecina, *President of Czech competition Authority*, Emma Marcegaglia, *President of Confindustria*; Ian Rodgers, *Chairman working group on State aid, BUSINESSEUROPE*; Tine Roed, *Deputy Director General, Confederation of Danish Industries*; André Sapir, *Professor Free University Brussels, Senior Fellow Bruegel*; Claus-Dieter Ehlermann, *Wilmerhale*; Massimo Merola, *Bonelli Errede Pappalardo*
- 16.30 Concluding remarks

* We kindly ask participants to make their own arrangements.