

## **RFO CHANGE ON BORDERS**

### **1<sup>st</sup> Annual Conference**

**Monday, 1<sup>st</sup> March 2004, 09.00 – 17.30 hours**  
**NH Hotel Düsseldorf City, Kölner Str. 186-188, D-40227 Düsseldorf**

### **Agenda**

#### **Part A: 2nd Meeting of the RFO-Steering Committee**

approx. 09.00 – 13.00 hours

1. Welcome speech and opening by Jörg Bickenbach, Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Economics and Labor, North Rhine-Westphalia
2. Approval of the agenda
3. Approval of the minutes of the RFO-Steering Committee, 14th November 2003, Düsseldorf
4. Report of the Lead Partner on the state of the RFO
5. Reporting and Audit
6. Thematic Forums (TF)
7. Subtheme Working Groups (SWG)
8. The future of European social and regional policy incl. the Community Initiatives
  - a) Third Progress report of the EU on economic and social cohesion
  - b) Legal Instrument for a decentralized cross-border cooperation
  - c) INTERREG A – future needs
  - d) New Neighborhood Instrument of the EU
9. A.O.B. (any other business)



**Part B: Thematic Forums: Discussion on strategies and possible RFO- Sub-theme Working Groups (SWG)**

Open Exhibition

- Information on Main Partner regions (location, main characteristics)
- Display of potential ideas for SWG

14:30 – 15:15 hours: Thematic Forum 1: *Promoting an integrated, well co-ordinated and environmentally friendly development of cross-border areas*

Chair: Province of Gelderland

- a) Presentation of Draft working programme (report of Lead Regions) and discussion
- b) Discussion on overall strategy of Thematic Forum
- c) Discussion on possible Sub-theme Working Groups

15:30 – 16:15 hours: Thematic Forum 2: *Further development of the economic fabric and of the labour market in border regions / cross-border regions*

Chair: to be decided

- a) Presentation of Draft working programme (report of Lead Regions) and discussion
- b) Discussion on overall strategy of Thematic Forum
- c) Discussion on possible Sub-theme Working Groups

16:30 – 17:15 hours: Thematic Forum 3: *Promoting the socio-cultural integration between border regions and closer contacts among individual citizens*

Chair: North Karelia

- a) Presentation of Draft working programme (report of Lead Regions) and discussion
- b) Discussion on overall strategy of Thematic Forum
- c) Discussion on possible Sub-theme Working Groups

17:30 hours: Closure of the meeting