Friday, 7th April 2017, from 11.30 to 13.30

Committee of the Regions

Rue Belliard 101 1040 Brussels

"Looking into the future: Innovation in regional and local VET systems"

Introduction and welcome address - President of EARLALL

Setting the framework: The hanging nature and role of VET in Europe – future challenges and opportunities – *Jens Bjornavold, Senior Expert* CEDEFOP

Updates from the European Commission: new initiatives for VET – *Joao Santos, Deputy Head of Apprenticeships and Adult Learning Unit*, DG EMPL

EARLALL's Position with regard to the future European Innovation Council (EIC) – Government of Catalonia

Regional best practices:

- New learning settings and processes
- Innovative products and services
- Advanced practices to transfer knowledge to the business network
- Training on new methodological models, anticipating arising needs

Closing remarks – Vice-President of EARLALL



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Within the framework of the European Union's "Europe 2020" strategy, the "Bruges Communiqué on enhanced European Cooperation in Vocational Education and Training" for the period 2011-2020, sets out the strategic objectives and short-term deliverables. With regard to promoting innovation, creativity and entrepreneurship. It recommends that participating countries actively encourage vocational education and training providers to collaborate with innovative enterprises, design centres, the cultural sector and higher education institutions in forming "knowledge partnerships". This should help them gain valuable insight into new developments and competence needs and to develop professional excellence and innovation. institutions in forming "knowledge partnerships".

Vocational education and training (VET) contributes to new ideas and solutions in enterprises, economies and societies. Moreover, these processes can be strongly enhanced and promoted when VET institutions cooperate at local level, linked to the regional development strategies. It is essential to work together on the basis of targeted actions and joint initiatives, and this is precisely the objective of this conference.

During the seminar, there will be the opportunity to hear from best examples at regional level of:

- New learning settings and processes
- Innovative products and services
- Advanced practices to transfer knowledge to the business network
- Training on new methodological models, anticipating arising needs



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