Meeting of the Chairpersons of the Committees on Social Affairs

Draft Programme

23 – 24 MARCH 2017
MALTA
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>15:00 – 18:30</td>
<td>Arrival of delegations and registration at the hotels</td>
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<td>18:30</td>
<td>Departure by bus from the hotels to the dinner venue</td>
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| 19:00      | Dinner hosted by Hon. Anthony Agius Decelis, Chairman of the Social Affairs Committee  
|            | Venue: Esplora, Interactive Science Centre, Villa Bighi, Kalkara    |
| 21:30      | Return to the hotels by bus                                           |
Friday, 24 March 2017

08:15    Departure by bus from the conference hotels to the Grand Hotel Excelsior, Great Siege Road, Floriana

08:30    Arrival of participants and registration for the meeting

09:00    Opening of the meeting

Welcome address by Hon. Angelo Farrugia, Speaker of the House of Representatives

Introductory remarks by Hon. Anthony Agius Decelis, Chairman of the Social Affairs Committee

Speech by Ms Marianne Thyssen, European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs, Skills and Labour Mobility (tbc)

09:30    Session I: Poverty and Social Exclusion: Working towards a more inclusive Europe

Keynote Speaker: Mr Alfonso Lara Montero, Policy Director, European Social Network

Speaker: Ms Sian Jones, Policy Coordinator, European Anti-Poverty Network

Debate

10:30    Coffee Break
11:00  
**Session II: What makes an individual socially excluded? Different perspectives and exchange of best practices**

Speaker: Prof. Angela Abela, *Department of Family Studies, University of Malta*

Speaker: Ms Jana Hainsworth, *President, Social Platform*

Speaker: Mr Silvan Agius, *Director Human Rights and Integration, Ministry for Social Dialogue, Consumer Affairs and Civil Liberties*

Debate

13:00  
**Official Photo**

**Lunch**

14:30  
**Session III: Taking stock of the policies of Europe 2020 and the way forward**

Keynote Speaker: Mr Thomas Dominique, *Former Chairperson, Social Protection Committee*

Speaker: Dr Barbara Kauffmann, *Director for Employment and Social Governance, European Commission*

Speaker: Mr Ioannis Dimitrakopoulos, *Head of Equality and Citizens’ Rights Department, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights*

Debate

16:15  
**Concluding remarks by the Chairperson of the Social Affairs Committee**

16:30  
**Departure of delegations**