



Press Release

02 October, 2014

Chisinau

EU Ambassador to Moldova participates in the official opening ceremony of the International SME Conference: “SMEs – On the Road towards European Performance” in Chisinau

The International SME Conference: “SMEs – On the Road towards European Performance” was organised by the Moldovan Organisation for the Development of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (ODIMM) under the auspices of the Moldovan Ministry of Economy (MoE) within the framework of the European Union Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SME) Week activities in the Republic of Moldova

The International SME Conference is one of the many events organised by central, regional and local authorities within the framework of the European Union SME Week (29.09.2014-05.10.2014) activities in the Republic of Moldova and focussed on the provision of information on what the EU, partner countries and national, regional and local authorities are offering as concrete support to micro, small and medium-sized businesses; promoting entrepreneurship so that more people, and in particular younger ones, seriously consider becoming an entrepreneur as a career option and giving recognition to entrepreneurs for their contribution to participating countries' welfare, jobs, innovation and competitiveness.

The European Union is supporting specific aid programmes and initiatives in the small and medium sized business development in the Republic of Moldova, with the Economic Stimulation in Rural Area Budget Support Programme (ESRA BSP) being a key platform for development.

The total EU financial assistance provided through the ESRA BSP programme during 2010-2014 was approximately EUR 72 million, with one of the focal intervention areas being the support to entrepreneurship small and medium sized businesses in the rural areas of the Republic of Moldova.

In this context, Ambassador Pirkka Tapiola, Head of EU Delegation to Moldova, outlined the importance of organising specific events within the framework of the 2014 European Union SME week, especially in the area of innovation and domestic and international competitiveness:

“The European Union implements a wide range of entrepreneurship and small and medium sized business development support programmes and projects in the Republic of Moldova in view of creating new businesses, generating new jobs and allowing Moldovan enterprises to become more competitive in a globalised international business context”.

Background information:

The official opening ceremony of International SME Conference in Chisinau was attended by over 200 participants including officials from central, rayon and local authorities, donor community representatives, diplomatic corps representatives, local and national business association representatives and local businessmen and entrepreneurs.



Photo caption:

Ambassador Pirkka Tapiola, Head of the EU Delegation to the Republic of Moldova delivering his opening remarks at the official opening ceremony of the International SME Conference in Chisinau.

For more information

Delegation of the EU to Moldova: http://eeas.europa.eu/delegations/moldova/index_en.htm



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Delegation of
the European Union to Moldova

The European Commission is the EU's executive body.

The European Union is made up of 28 Member States who have decided to gradually link together their know-how, resources and destinies. Together, during a period of enlargement of 50 years, they have built a zone of stability, democracy and sustainable development whilst maintaining cultural diversity, tolerance and individual freedoms. The European Union is committed to sharing its achievements and its values with countries and peoples beyond its borders.