



## **Building an innovative and resilient forest bioeconomy**

**15 November, 2016 at 13:30 – 16:00**

***Résidence Palace – International Press Center, Brussels***

### **Background**

*The bioeconomy can help to tackle many of the grand challenges of our time, including economic growth, climate change and scarcity of non-renewable resources. Yet, the pre-condition for successful forest-based bioeconomy development is that it will be carried out in innovative, resilient and sustainable way. This means that forests are used, managed and kept in a way that they fulfil sustainability requirements and that the forest sector is capable to generate new innovations to the changing societal needs. In order for the EU forest-based bioeconomy development to succeed in these, it is necessary for it to be truly innovative in multiple dimensions. Moreover, the resiliency of the bioeconomy development needs to be monitored and assessed. The seminar contributes in answering what these require and how we can enhance innovative and resilient forest-based bioeconomy development.*

**Host:** *Miapetra Kumpula-Natri, Member of the European Parliament*

**Chair:** *Göran Persson, ThinkForest President*

### **13:30 Welcome**

*Marc Palahí, Director, EFI*

#### **Opening**

*Miapetra Kumpula-Natri, MEP*

*Göran Persson, ThinkForest President*

### **13:40 The Slovak Presidency of the Council of the EU message on forest bioeconomy**

*Anton Stredak, State Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Slovak Republic*

### **13:50 Innovative bioeconomy development**

*Jyrki Katainen, European Commission Vice-President, Jobs, Growth, Investment and Competitiveness*

### **14:10 Role of EU forest sector in sustainable bioeconomy**

*Lauri Hetemäki, Assistant Director, EFI*

### **14:25 Discussion**

### **14:40 Needs and innovations in monitoring resilient bioeconomy development: A new EFI study**

*Bernhard Wolfslehner, Head of Office, Central-East and South-East European Regional Office*

### **15:00 Panel discussion: “Innovative and resilient forest bioeconomy”.**

**Moderator:** *Göran Persson*

*John Bell, Director, Directorate F: Bioeconomy, DG Research and Innovation*

*Fredrick Federley, MEP, European Parliament*

*Elisabeth Köstinger, MEP, European Parliament*

*Bart Muys, Prof., Forest Ecology and Management Research Group, KU Leuven*

### **15:50 Concluding statement**

*Göran Persson*

**16:00-17:00** *Networking event with wine and snacks*