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18 May 2016, Brussels

Subject: Call to participate in 'The Pact for Innovation'
Invitation for a meeting in the EP, Brussels

Dear Minister,

The Pact for Innovation (INPACT) was launched during the Opening Ceremony of the 7th European Innovation Summit on 7 December 2015 in the European Parliament in Brussels. It was handed over to Research and Innovation Commissioner Carlos Moedas. Both, Commissioner Katainen and Commissioner Moedas welcomed the Pact during their speeches and expressed their support. At the same time the President of the Committee of the Regions Markku Markkula invited all members of the European Committee of the Regions to support this initiative.

Today we would like to call on you, the Ministers present at the Competitiveness Council, taking place on 26-27 May 2016, to participate in the INPACT initiative. The overall objective of INPACT is to create pro-innovation conditions in Europe to overcome well-known weaknesses in turning knowledge created by research and inventions into innovation providing "added value" for Europe's economy and citizens.

The INPACT leadership will follow-up on this call in the near future and discuss possibilities for member states to support and engage in the implementation of the INPACT priorities.

My colleague Prof. Jerzy Buzek and I have the pleasure of inviting you to an INPACT working breakfast meeting in the European Parliament in Brussels on 26 May from 8:00 to 9:00.

Please do not hesitate to contact Roland Strauss for any question you may have:

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