

AECM's annual event 2022:

***Promoting structural change for a new sustainable Europe –
Guarantees with a focus on start-ups***

14 to 17 September 2022

**Hilton Vienna Park
Am Stadtpark 1
1030 Vienna / Austria**

PROGRAMME

Wednesday, 14 September 2022

15:00 – 18:00 Meeting of the Board of Directors
– registration and documents via member area of AECM's website –

19:00 Welcome reception

Thursday, 15 September 2022

Interpretation: EN, ES, FR, IT

10:00 – 11:00 Meeting of the internal extraordinary General Assembly
– registration and documents via member area of AECM's website –

11:00 – 12:00 Meeting of the internal ordinary General Assembly
– registration and documents via member area of AECM's website –

12:00 – 13:30 Networking break

13:30 – 15:30 Public session of the General Assembly

13:30 – 13:45 Welcome & Opening

- **Guy Selbherr**, President of AECM
- **Bernhard Sagmeister**, Managing Director of the Austria Wirtschaftsservice Gesellschaft mbH (aws), Austria
- **Doris Agneter**, Managing Director of a promotional institution providing guarantees and participations to SMEs based in Lower Austria ("NÖ Bürgschaften und Beteiligungen GmbH", NÖBEG), Austria

13:45 – 14:15 Unlocking the future: SMEs’ resilient transition

- **Kerstin Jorna**, Director General, Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW), European Commission
- **Barbara Brandtner**, Director Markets and cases III: Financial services (COMP.D), Directorate-General for Competition (DG COMP), European Commission

14:15 – 15:25 The interplay of mutual, private, and public guarantee institutions for the benefit of SMEs

- **Introductory speaker: Pablo Pombo**, Founding President of AECM
- **Examples of best practices moderated by Guy Selbherr**, President of AECM
- **Laurent Melin**, President of the National Federation of SOCAMA, France and **Christian Dubarry**, Head of European and International Relations, Bpifrance, France
- **Guy Selbherr**, President of the Association of German Guarantee Banks (VDB), Germany and **Johannes Heinloth**, Member of the Board of Directors of the regional public promotional institution L-Bank, Germany
- **Athina Chatzipetrou**, CEO and President of the Hellenic Development Bank (HDB), Greece and **Charalampos Agiropoulos**, Chief Investment & Risk Officer of TMEDE – the Engineers and Public Works Contractors Fund, Greece
- **Zenón Vázquez Irizar**, Member of the Board of Directors of the Confederación Española de Sociedades de Garantía Recíproca (CESGAR), Spain and **Ana Vizcaíno**, Managing Director of the Compañía Española de Reafianzamiento (CERSA), Spain

15:25 – 15:30 Concluding remarks & end of the public session

- **Guy Selbherr**, President of AECM

15:30 – 16:00 Networking break

16:00 – 18:00 International conference

16:00 – 16:10 Welcome & Opening

- **José Fernando Figueiredo**, Special Honorary President of AECM with the special mandate for international relations

16:10 – 16:30 From crisis to recovery: Optimal support of SMEs

- **Martin Godel**, Chair of the OECD Committee on SMEs and Entrepreneurship (CSMEE) and Head of Division, Small and Medium Size Enterprise Policy, State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO), Switzerland

16:30 – 17:00 **How to make guarantee institutions and SMEs sustainable**

- **Pietro Calice**, Senior Financial Economist, Europe and Central Asia, The World Bank
- **Henk Jan Reinders**, Financial Sector Economist in the World Bank Group's Finance, Competitiveness & Innovation Global Practice

17:00 – 18:00 **The right transformation strategy for guarantee institutions**

- **Moderator: José Fernando Figueiredo**, Special Honorary President of AECM with the special mandate for international relations
- **Kosuke Yokoo**, Managing Executive Officer, Japan Finance Corporation (JFC) being member of the Asian Credit Supplementation Institution Confederation (ACSIC)
- **Nagla Bahr**, President of the Euro-Mediterranean Guarantee Network (EMGN)
- **Mohammed Al-Jafari**, Coordinator of the Global Network of Guarantee Institutions (GNGI)
- **Pedro Pisonero Pérez**, Vice President for Europe of the Ibero-American network of guarantees association (REGAR)
- **Gabriel Gonzalez**, Member of the Board of Directors of the Latin American Association of Guarantee Institutions (ALIGA)

18:00 **Concluding remarks by the moderator José Fernando Figueiredo and end of the international conference**

19:30 **Gala Dinner**

Friday, 16 September 2022

Interpretation: EN, ES, FR, IT

09:00 – 15:30 Annual seminar on “Promoting structural change for a new sustainable Europe – Guarantees with a focus on start-ups”

09:00 – 09:10 Welcome & Opening

- **Bernhard Sagmeister**, Managing Director of the Austria Wirtschaftsservice Gesellschaft mbH (aws), Austria
- **Doris Agneter**, Managing Director of a promotional institution providing guarantees and participations to SMEs based in Lower Austria (“NÖ Bürgschaften und Beteiligungen GmbH”, NÖBEG), Austria

09:10 – 09:25 Keynote address

- **Martin Kocher**, Federal Minister for Labour and Economic Affairs, Austria

Followed by an acceptance speech

- **Guy Selbherr**, President of AECM

09:25 – 09:55 Accelerating the twin transition

- **Roger Havenith**, Deputy Chief Executive, European Investment Fund (EIF)
- **Andrea Nuzzi**, Head of Corporate and Financial Institutions, Cassa Depositi e Prestiti (cdp), Italy

09:55 – 10:55 Panel 1: Financing the green transition

- **Moderator and introductory speaker: Lucia Cusmano**, Deputy Head of Entrepreneurship, SMEs and Tourism Division, Centre for Entrepreneurship, SMEs, Regions and Cities, OECD
- **Shane McCullough**, Product Development Manager, Strategic Banking Corporation of Ireland (SBCI), Ireland
- **Róbert Aradi-Beöthy**, Senior Consultant, Green Financing, OTP Bank Plc., Hungary
- **Ralf Kronberger**, Head of the Department Fiscal Policies and Taxation, Wirtschaftskammer Österreich (WKÖ) – the Austrian Federal Chamber of Economy

10:55 – 11:15 Networking break

- 11:15 – 11:30** **Main challenges and opportunities for innovative SMEs & start-ups**
- **Jean-David Malo**, Director of the European Innovation Council and SMEs Executive Agency (EISMEA), Directorate-General Research and Innovation, European Commission
- 11:30 – 11:45** **InnoRate - a European technology assessment tool**
- **Hee-Chang (Leo) Park**, Director, Korea Technology Finance Corporation (KOTEC/KIBO), Korea
- 11:45 – 12:45** **Panel 2: Making SMEs fit for future**
- **Moderator and introductory speaker: Jiří Jirasek**, Chairman of the Board of Directors of Národní rozvojová banka (NRB), Czechia
 - **Giovanni Zazzerini**, Secretary General, INSME - The International Network for SMEs
 - **Nicolas Tritaris**, Senior Investment Platform Advisor at European Investment Bank (EIB)
 - **Besnik Berisha**, Managing Director of the Kosovo Credit Guarantee Fund, Kosovo
- 12:45 – 13:00** **Group photo**
- 13:00 – 14:00** **Networking break**
- 14:00 – 14:15** **The InvestEU Fund: Benefits for SMEs, particularly for start-ups**
- **Giorgio Chiarion Casoni**, Director, InvestEU and financial institutions, Directorate-General for Economic and Financial Affairs (DG ECFIN), European Commission
- 14:15 – 15:25** **Panel 3: Financial instruments: EU support for a successful recovery**
- **Moderator: Gerhard Huemer**, Director Economic Policy, SMEunited
 - **Astrid Bartels**, Head of Unit, Access to Finance, Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW), European Commission
 - **Andrea Bomhoff**, Head of Unit, State aid — Financial institutions III, Directorate-General for Competition (DG COMP), European Commission
 - **Vincent van Steensel**, Departmental Director – Portfolio Guarantees, European Investment Fund (EIF)
 - **Mateusz Olszak**, Director Guarantees and Sureties Department, Bank Gospodarstwa Krajowego (BGK)
 - **Kiril Velitchkov**, Director European Projects and Financial Institutions, UBB, Bulgaria, Manager of KBC Group European Financial Instruments Competence Centre
- 15:25 – 15:30** **Concluding remarks & end of the annual seminar**
- **Guy Selbherr**, President of AECM

16:00 – 18:00 **Annual meeting of the GNGI**

– For members only –

- *Approval of the agenda*
- *Approval and presentation of new members of the GNGI, including KOREG, Korea*
- *Nomination of the coordinator(s) of the GNGI*
- *Activity plan 2021 – 2022 / Topics for webinars / Ways to foster knowledge exchange*
- *Next meeting*
- *Any other business*