



**Travel itinerary for Ms Hübner, Commissioner for Regional Policy
28th of February – 2nd of March 2008
Lapland - Finland**

Objective:

The Regional Council of Lapland has invited Ms. Hübner, Commissioner for Regional Policy, to visit Finnish Lapland in order to familiarize herself with the development opportunities and challenges of the most sparsely populated area of the European Union.

This visit will provide Ms. Hübner, Commissioner for Regional Policy, and her colleagues from the European Commission and the guests from the Finnish central government, with an excellent opportunity to meet members of regional and local authorities, academia and business representatives in Finnish Lapland and to get updated with the number of development projects and initiatives supported by the European structural funds.

Finnish Lapland is challenged by severe natural and geographic handicaps as well as strong demographic changes. On the other hand it can provide the whole Europe with an abundance of natural resources and untouched natural environment for recreation. North Finland is also well known as the one of the most innovative areas in the European Union. We want to point out that North Finland – together with other Northern Sparsely Populated Areas (NSPA) can provide the European Union with a real European added value.

Participants:

- **Ms Danuta Hübner**, Commissioner for Regional Policy, European Commission
- **Mr Alain Roggeri**, Head of Unit, DG REGIO, European Commission
- **Mr Jörgen Gren**, Member of the Cabinet of Ms Hübner, European Commission
- **Ms Elina Hakonen-Meddings**, Desk officer, DG REGIO, European Commission
- **Mr Paavo Mäkinen**, Acting head, European Commission Representation in Finland
- **Mr Heikki Aurasmaa**, Permanent under secretary of state, Ministry of Employment and the Economy
- **Ms Kielo Karioja-Mäkelä**, Counsellor, Permanent Representation of Finland to the EU
- **Ms Kaisa-Leena Lintilä**, Director, Ministry of Employment and the Economy
- **Ms Tiina Heiskanen**, Ministerial advisor, Ministry of Employment and the Economy

- **Mr Antti Liikkanen**, Chairman of the Regional Council of Lapland, Member of the Committee of Regions (28.2.; 1.3.)
- **Mr Veikko Kumpumäki**, Vice Chairman of the Regional Council of Lapland, Member of the Committee of Regions (1.3.)
- **Mr Timo E.Korva**, Chairman of the Board, Regional Council of Lapland; Mayor of Kemijärvi (28.-29.2.)
- **Mr Esko Lotvonen**, Executive Director, Regional Council of Lapland (28.-29.2.; 1.-2.3.)
- **Ms Maiju Hyry**, Development Director, Regional Council of Lapland (28.-29.2.)
- **Mr Seppo Heikkilä**, Director, North Finland EU Office, Brussels (28.-29.2.)
- **Mr Juha Kutuniva**, Secretary of Regional Development, Regional Council of Lapland (28.2.-2.3)



Programme

Thursday 28th of February 2008

- 08:40 Arrival in Rovaniemi**
Hosted by Mr Antti Liikkanen, Chairman of the Regional Council of Lapland, Member of the Committee of Regions
Mr Esko Lotvonen, Executive Director, Regional Council of Lapland
- 09:00 Welcoming Coffee at Rovaniemi City Hall**
Hosted by Mr Mauri Gardin, Mayor of Rovaniemi City
- 09:30 Regional Innovations Seminar** (programme enclosed)
Rovaniemi City Hall
- 12:00 Press Conference**
Rovaniemi City Hall
- 12:30 Transportation to Hotel Pohjanhovi**
- 13:00 Lunch**
Hotel Pohjanhovi Valkea Peura, Rovaniemi
Hosted by Mr Antti Liikkanen, Chairman of the Regional Council of Lapland, Member of the Committee of Regions
- 14:25 Visit to Lappset Group Ltd**
Hosted by Ms Johanna Ikäheimo, Chairman of the Board and Mr Juha Laakkonen, Managing Director, Lappset Group Ltd
- 15:45 Visit to Santa Claus' Village, Arctic Circle, Rovaniemi**
Hosted by Mr Juha Seppälä, Managing Director, Rovaniemi Development Agency Ltd
Christmas Exhibition, hosted by Mr. Erkki Kautto, Director of Business Development Department of Rovaniemi
Santa Claus Office, hosted by Ms. Leena Mölläri , Marketing Manager
- 17:00 Transportation from Rovaniemi to Pyhä Winter Skiing Resort**
- 19:00 Arrival in Hotel Pyhätunturi**
Hosted by Ms Miia Porkkala, Managing Director, Pyhätunturi Ltd

20:00 Dinner
Hotel Pyhätunturi
Hosted by Mr Timo E. Korva, Chairman of the Board, Regional Council of Lapland,; Mayor of Kemijärvi City and Mr Erkki Parkkinen, Municipal Manager of Pelkosenniemi

Friday 29th of February 2008

09:00 Seminar on Regional Structural Changes (programme enclosed)
Hotel Pyhätunturi

11:15 Press Conference
Hotel Pyhätunturi

12:00 Lunch
Hotel Pyhätunturi
Hosted by Mr Timo E. Korva, Mayor of Kemijärvi City, Chairman of the Board, Regional Council of Lapland

13:15 Transportation from Pyhä to Sodankylä

14:00 Visit to Tähtelä Space Research Centre, Sodankylä

Presentations of

- **Geophysical Observatory**
Mr Tauno Turunen, Director
- **Finnish Meteorological Institute**
Mr Jouni Pulliainen, Director
- **Exploration and Mining Prospects in Lapland**
Mr Risto Pietilä, Regional Director, Geological Survey of Finland
- **Case: Kevitsa Mine in Sodankylä,**
Mr Matti Pulkkinen, Mine Superintendent, Kevitsa Mining Ltd

16:15 Transportation from Sodankylä to Pyhä

17:00 Down time

18:30 Transportation from Pyhä to Luosto

19:15 Music programme
Hotel Luostotunturi

20:00 Dinner
Hotel Luostotunturi
Hosted by Municipality of Sodankylä

Transportation from Luosto to Pyhä

Saturday 1st of March 2008

- 09:00** Free time, possibility to down hill skiing
- 16:00** Transportation from Pyhä to Rovaniemi
- 18:00** Accommodation at Hotel Pohjanhovi and Hotel Scandic Rovaniemi
- 18:45** **Visit to the Arctic Centre, Rovaniemi**
Hosted by Mr Jukka Jokimäki, PhD, Arctic Centre
- 20:00** **Dinner**
Santamus, Santa Claus Village, Arctic Circle
Hosted by Mr Esko Lotvonen, Executive Director and Mr Veikko Kumpumäki, Vice Chairman of the Regional Council of Lapland, Member of the Committee of Regions

Sunday 2nd of March 2008

- 05:40 Transportation from hotel to Rovaniemi Airport**
Hosted by Mr Esko Lotvonen, Executive Director, Regional Council of Lapland

Departure to Helsinki at 6.15

SEMINAR ON REGIONAL INNOVATIONS

Thursday 28th of February 2008 at 9:30 – 12:00

Venue: Rovaniemi City Hall, Rovaniemi

PROGRAMME

Chairman: Mr Esko Lotvonen, Executive Director, Regional Council of Lapland

09:00 **Registration and coffee**

09:30 **Opening Words by the chair**

09:40 **European View on Innovation in Regional Development**

Ms Danuta Hübner, Commissioner for Regional Policy, European Commission

10:00 **Overview of Regional Development in Lapland**

Mr Antti Liikkanen, Chairman of the Council, Regional Council of Lapland;
Member of the Committee of Regions

10:20 **Experience Industry of Finnish Lapland**

Ms Sanna Tarssanen, Acting CEO, Lapland Centre of Expertise for the Ex-
perience Industry, Rovaniemi

10:40 **Cold Climate and Arctic Technology**

Ms Tanja Risikko, Principal Lecturer, Rovaniemi University of Applied Sciences,
Rovaniemi

11:00 **Virtual Education in Lapland**

Mr Eero Pekkarinen, Development Director, Kemi-Tornio University of Applied
Sciences , Kemi

11:20 **Case: ENVI Project, Virtual Learning Environment of Emergency Care**

Mr Heikki Erola, Responsible Teacher of the Wellness Campus' Viirtual Centre,
Rovaniemi University of Applied Sciences
Ms Pia Yliräisänen- Seppänen, Project Manager, Rovaniemi University of
Applied Sciences, Rovaniemi

11:45 **Discussion**

Closing Words by the chair

SEMINAR ON REGIONAL STRUCTURAL CHANGES

Friday, 29th of February 2008 at 9:00 – 11:00

Venue: Hotel Pyhätunturi, Pyhä

PROGRAMME

Chairman: Mr Timo E. Korva, Chairman of the Board, Regional Council of Lapland;
Mayor of Kemijärvi

08:30 **Registration and coffee**

09:00 **Opening Words by the chair**

09:15 **European view on Demographic and Socioeconomic Changes
in Peripheral Areas**

Ms Danuta Hübner, Commissioner for Regional Policy, European Commission

09:45 **Business Opportunities in Lapland and Barents Cooperation**

Mr Timo Rautajoki, Managing Director Lapland Chamber of commerce

10:00 **Local People's View on Structural Change – Case Kemijärvi Pulp Mill Citizens'
Movement**

Mr Heikki Nivala, Chairman of Citizens Movement, Chairman of City Government of Kemijärvi

10:15 **Pyhätunturi Ski Resort as a Dynamo for Regional Development**

Ms Miia Porkkala Managing Director Pyhätunturi Ltd

10:30 **Mechanical Forest Industry in Lapland - Case Ikihirsi Ltd**

Mr Pentti Koskenranta, Managing Director , Ikihirsi Ltd

10.45 **Discussion**

11:00 **Closing Words by the chair**