



Committee on Budgetary Control

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Hearing on

“Performance and visibility of EU funded projects in the Western Balkans with a special focus on the cross-border cooperation”.

11 July 2018 (16.30-18.30)

Brussels

16.30 - 16.35	Opening remarks and introduction by Chair
16.35 - 17.00	<p>I - National versus regional approach of EU funds in Western Balkans</p> <p><i>Comparison between the national oriented projects in Western Balkans and the regional oriented;</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Which are more effective?</i>• <i>Where should the EU focus more?</i>• <i>Which projects bring better value for money?</i> <p><u>Presentation</u> by Mr Roderick Ackermann, Associate Senior Researcher, Blomeyer & Sanz’, on “Effectiveness and visibility of EU funding in the Western Balkan countries with a special focus on the cross-border cooperation”¹</p> <p><u>Speaker:</u> Mr André Lys, Advisor to Director NEAR D – Western Balkans, IPA coordination, DG NEAR, European Commission</p>

¹ Presentation of a briefing on “Effectiveness and visibility of EU funding in the Western Balkan countries with a special focus on the cross-border cooperation” following a request of the CONT committee for expertise, the briefing has been commissioned by the Policy Department on Budgetary Affairs to the Consultancy Blomeyer & Sanz Ltd.

17.00 - 17.40	Questions, replies, debate
17.40 - 17.55	<p>II - Cross-border project cooperation in Western Balkans and their visibility to the citizens</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Which projects have higher visibility - national or regional?</i> • <i>Do the Western Balkan countries cooperate well with each other in international EU funded projects? Where do the problems lie?</i> • <i>Is the cooperation with neighbouring EU Member States effective? If not - then why?</i> <p><u>Speaker:</u> Mr Jean-Pierre Halkin, Head of Unit REGIO.DDG.D.1 Macro-regions, Transnational/ Interregional Cooperation, IPA, Enlargement, DG REGIO, European Commission</p>
17.55 - 18.25	Questions, replies, debate
18.25 - 18.30	Closing remarks by Chair