

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**Improving the effectiveness of EU policies for SMEs**

**8 February 2018 – CNEL, Viale David Lubin 2, Rome, Parlamentino room**

#EESC, #SMEs

**PROGRAMME**

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| 9.30 - 9.40 | **Opening speech**   * **Mr Pietro Francesco De Lotto**, European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) member and spokesperson for the Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs), Crafts and Family Business Category |
| 9.40 - 10.00 | **Keynote speech**   * **Mr Tiziano Treu**, president, CNEL (Economic Council for the Economy and Labour) |
| 10.00 - 11.00 | **How does Italy endeavour to improve the effectiveness of SME policies**  **Industry 4.0 and Innovation – focus on the policies implemented at national level and their impact**  *Panel discussion moderated by Ms Milena Angelova, EESC member, with:*   * Mr Bruno Busacca, head of the technical secretariat of the Italian minister for labour and social policy * Mr Lorenzo Basso, member of the Italian Parliament (TBC) * Mr Andrea Granelli, founder and president, Kanso * Mr Antonio Palmieri, member of the Italian Parliament * Mr Francesco Simone, Director-General, Artigiancassa   *Question and answer session* |
| 11.00 - 11.30 | **Coffee break** |
| 11.30 - 12.45 | **The European approach to promoting SMEs**  *Panel discussion moderated by Mr Dimitris Dimitriadis, EESC member with*:   * Ms Daiva Kvedaraitė, EESC member * Mr Panagiotis Gkofas, EESC member * Mr Luc Hendrickx, director, Enterprise Policy and External Relations, UEAPME   *Question and answer session* |
| 12.45 - 13.00 | **Closing remarks by Mr Giorgio Merletti, President, Confartigianato Imprese** |

*Participants can speak in Italian and English and listen to Italian and English.*

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