

Hungary

PROGRESS REPORT¹

on recent developments regarding S&T cooperation in/with the WBC (2st half 2011 or - May 2011 / Ohrid till December 2011 / Sarajevo)

1 Policy actions

New funding programme:

In the frame of the Structural Funds / Social Renewal Operative Programme / Priority 4: Higher Education Development the decision was taken to launch a new call in the field of innovative research teams. One of the priorities is Research on the Balkan Region. The preliminary call text was already open to public discussion (http://www.nfu.hu/tarsadalmi_egyeztetesen_a_nemzetkozi_kozremukodessel_megvalosulo_a lap_es_celzott_alapkutatasi_projektek_tamogatasa_cimu_palyazati_felhivas).

2 Legislative initiatives - development of the legal and strategic framework

3 Important events, meetings, training activities, etc.

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4 Development of international cooperation and actions on integration into ERA

Hungary launched during the EU Presidency a new governmental institution: Office of the Governmental Commissioner for the Danube Region. The Governmental Commissioner is Ms Etelka Barsiné Pataky, former Hungarian ambassador in Vienna, former Member of the European Parliament.

5 Statistics - major changes / updates of relevant statistical data

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(www.wbc-inco.net) about one week before the meeting takes place. Therefore please submit your report to

office@zwbc-inco.net until November 22, 2011.

¹ The progress reports are collected in preparation of the meetings of the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkan Countries and will be provided for download from the WBC-INCO.Net homepage



6 Assessment of the developments and outlook on the next 6 months

Hungarian EUREKA Presidency

A <u>conference on regional innovation</u> is planned in the frame of the Hungarian EUREKA Presidency end February or beginning March 2012. Members of the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkan Countries and the Steering Group of the EU Strategy for Danube Region Priority Area 7 (Development of the knowledge society: research, education and ICT) will be invited to the event. Possible venue might be Pécs.