



## International Year of Soils Closing event

Hosted by Brussels Environment



**4<sup>th</sup> December 2015, Brussels, Belgium**

Organised by the European Commission, Brussels Capital, Flanders and Wallonia regions

## AGENDA

Moderator: Mr Peter Woodward, Director Quest Associates

**9:30 30' Registration**

**10:00 60' Opening session**

- 15' Welcome and introduction by Mrs Céline Frémault, Minister of Environment, Energy and Housing, Brussels Capital Region
- 15' Keynote speech by Mr Daniel Calleja Crespo, Director General of the Directorate General for Environment, European Commission
- 30' Panel with the Minister of Brussels Capital for Environment (Mrs Céline Frémault), the Director General of the Directorate General of Environment of the European Commission (Mr Daniel Calleja Crespo), Mrs Sylvie MEEKERS, Head of "Soil, waste and circular economy" unit in the Office of the Minister of Wallonia for Environment Carlo Di Antonio, and Mr Hugo Geerts, Deputy Head of Office of the Flemish Minister of Environment Joke Schauvliege

**11:00 30' Coffee**

**11:30 60' Session 1 – International and EU context**



15' International Context: 2015 a new momentum on soil global context (the Agenda to 2030 Sustainable Development, COP21, UNCCD and FAO Global Soil Partnership activities)  
Presentation by Mrs Camilla Nordheim-Larsen, Programme Coordinator, Land Governance and Policy at United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)

15' EU context: soils in the context of EU priorities, state of play and new developments of EU Soil policy, integration of soils in EU policies –  
Presentation by Mr Humberto Delgado Rosa, Director of Natural Capital, Directorate General for Environment, European commission

15' Presentation of the publication "Remediated sites and brownfields Success stories in Europe" from the European Information and Observation Network's National Reference Centre on soils (EIONET) by Mrs Ana Paya Perez, Joint Research Centre, European Commission

15' Debate

**12:30 90' *Ceremony celebrating the World Soil Day and closing the International Year of Soils - In Duplex with FAO, Roma + Lunch***

**14:00 90' Session 2 –the Belgian context: Belgian activities and policies regarding protection and sustainable management of soil.**

**Brussels Capital Region**  
20' 10 years management of contaminated soils in the Brussels Capital Region: history, purpose and balance.  
Presentation by Brussels Environment (Mr Saïd El Fadili)

**Flemish Region**  
20' How to brand soils, A campaign and action program of the Flanders Region in the context of the United Nations International Year of Soils.  
Presentation by the Public Waste Agency of Flanders OVAM (Mr Jan Verheyen) and the Environment, Nature and Energy Department (Mrs Brigitte Borgmans)

**Walloon Region**  
Soil protection and policies: from ideas to actions



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20' Presentation by Walloon Region (Mrs Esther Goidts) and by the Advisor of the Walloon Minister (Mrs Delphine de Brogniez).

30' Debate

**15:30 20' Coffee**

**15:50 70' Session 3 – Activities in other Member States**

45' Panel with Member States representatives from Germany (Mr Thomas Strassbürger, Bundesministerium für Umwelt, Naturschutz, Bau und Reaktorsicherheit), the Netherlands (Mr Co Molenaar, Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment) and UK (Mrs Maggie Charnley, DEFRA)

25' Debate and Conclusions

**17:00 *Reception & cocktail offered by the OVAM (Flanders Region) with special "soil appetisers" carefully prepared by TV-chef Mr Felix Alen (restaurant Hof te Rhode, Diest)***