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**Lisbon: Bringing the goalposts nearer  
Almunia to address Ifo-CoR economic forum (12 June)**

The Committee of the Regions and the Ifo Institute for Economic Research at the University of Munich will jointly host a conference in Brussels on 12 June, aimed at injecting new thinking and new life into the EU's Lisbon Strategy. The event, entitled *Lisbon: Bringing the Goalposts Nearer*, is the first in an annual conference series called Ifo BrIEF, which seeks to strengthen input from economic experts in European policy-making.

Opened by Ifo President **Hans-Werner Sinn** and Committee of the Regions Secretary General **Gerhard Stahl**, the conference will include contributions from **Joaquín Almunia**, Economic and Monetary Affairs Commissioner, **Pervenche Berès**, President of the European Parliament's Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs, **Odile Quintin**, European Commission Director General for Education and Culture, and **Nikolaus van der Pas**, Director General for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, among others. For full programme, click [here](#).

The conference will focus on the implications of dramatic changes in the division of labour brought about by globalisation, the challenges posed by the demographic change and the demands placed by the Lisbon Agenda on Europe's education policy. Launched by the European Council in 2000, the Lisbon Strategy aims to make Europe the most competitive and the most dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world by 2010. A mid-term review of the policy in 2005 resulted in a sharper focus on two principal tasks – delivering stronger, lasting growth and creating more and better jobs.

**PRESS BRIEFING**

Commissioner Almunia, Professor Sinn and Mr Stahl, who was deputy head of cabinet for Pedro Solbes, the former Economic and Monetary Affairs Commissioner, in 1999-2002, will take part in a Press Briefing from 10:00-10.30 in the Committee of the Regions' VIP Room (fifth floor, Jacques Delors Building, Rue Belliard 99-101). The main conference, which is open to media, takes place from 10:30-17:00 in Room JDE 51.

For more information, please contact:

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