



President Juncker appoints Dr Edmund Stoiber Special Adviser for Better Regulation; First Vice-President Timmermans announces reform of the Impact Assessment Board.

Brussels, 18 December 2014

Today, the President of the European Commission, Jean-Claude Juncker, appointed Dr Edmund Stoiber as Special Adviser on Better Regulation.

President **Jean-Claude Juncker** said: *"EU citizens need the EU to focus where it can make a real difference to their lives, not to interfere in every detail; EU businesses need the space to innovate and grow, not get tied up in red tape. Edmund Stoiber has helped the Commission on this quest for seven years now, identifying unnecessary burdens on business, and helping the Commission improve the business environment. Considering his commitment, experience and expertise, he is the right man to advise us on fighting overregulation and red tape and give growth and jobs a real chance in Europe. This Commission is committed to being bigger and more ambitious on big things: and smaller and more modest on small things."*

First Vice-President **Frans Timmermans** said: *"I welcome Dr Stoiber as a Special Adviser and I am looking forward to working with him on reducing administrative burdens to boost jobs, growth and investments in the EU. These past seven years, the High Level Group chaired by Dr Stoiber has made a clear impact on reducing administrative burdens for small- and medium sized enterprises. Dr Stoiber's arrival as Special Advisor shows that reducing regulatory burden and improving implementation is at the core of Commission's effort to deliver the benefits that citizens expect at minimum costs."*

On the reform of the Impact Assessment Board First Vice-President **Timmermans** stated: *"In addition, as part of the strengthening of the Commission's approach to better regulation, the Commission will transform the Impact Assessment Board into a Regulatory Scrutiny Board, including two external members. All members will be independent, working full time exclusively for the Board and be transparently selected on the basis of their expertise. The mandate of the Board will be extended to include the review of major retrospective analyses."*

The Juncker Commission brings a new approach with its [Agenda for Jobs, Growth, Fairness and Democratic Change](#). The Commission has been re-organised, with seven Vice-Presidents focused on delivering results under this new agenda, and First Vice-President Timmermans specifically in charge of Better Regulation.

Dr Edmund Stoiber, former Prime Minister of Bavaria, was from 2007 until October 2014 Chairman of the High Level Group on Administrative Burdens. The Group advised the Commission on how to make EU law lighter, simpler and cheaper; and helped garner political commitment in other EU Institutions and Member States in favour of better regulation.

Under the chairmanship of Dr Stoiber, the Group's mandate was twice extended and broadened: it provided best practice for Member States when implementing EU law; and advised on how EU legislation and Member State administrations could best respond to the needs of small- and medium-sized businesses.

With the support of the Group, the Commission exceeded its target to cut red tape for business—achieving a 27% cut, rather than 25%, and bringing about savings for companies [worth over €33 billion](#).

In his new role, Dr Stoiber will in particular advise on how to cut red tape and reduce administrative burdens for small and medium sized enterprises to boost jobs, growth and investments in the EU.

Further information:

[Smart regulation website](#)

[Frequently asked questions about the "Stoiber Group" and its Final Report](#)

Press contacts

[Mina ANDREEVA](#) (+32 2 299 13 82)

General public inquiries:

[Europe Direct](#) by phone [00 800 67 89 10 11](#) or by [email](#)