



Europäische Kommission
Europäischer Fonds
für regionale Entwicklung
INVESTITION IN IHRE ZUKUNFT

To the members of the ECRN
and representatives and stakeholders from the European Chemical Regions

9th Congress of the European Chemical Regions Network in Halle/Saale on 27 October 2011

Dear Sir or Madam,

The year 2011 marks the International Year of Chemistry, embodied in the slogan "*Chemistry – our life, our future*". In this context, on behalf of the ECRN and the region of Saxony-Anhalt, it gives me great pleasure to invite you to the 9th Congress of the European Chemical Regions on 27 October 2011 in Georg-Friedrich-Händel Hall in Halle/Saale (Salgrafenplatz 1), Saxony-Anhalt.

This year's Congress theme is European regional policy. The Congress will focus particularly on the potential and challenges of sustainable use of structural funds in the European Chemical Regions in the context of Europe 2020 Strategy.

Our network currently brings together 21 chemical regions from across Europe, and we look forward to welcoming a range of high-ranking representatives from politics, business, academia, and public authorities at our Congress.

As in previous years, our Congress aims to support the exchange of views and experiences from different stakeholders in the chemical sector at the European level. We anticipate productive and fruitful discussions with representatives from the European Commission, the European chemical industry associations, unions, industry and businesses, and our member regions.

A detailed programme for the Congress with information on accommodation and registration will be sent to you in the coming weeks, but please make a note of the Congress date, 27 October, already now.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Mrs. Claudia Leissring, congress organisation office isw GmbH (Tel.: +49 (0) 345 299 8270; e-mail: konferenz@isw-gmbh.de) or the Director of the ECRN Network Secretariat in Brussel, Dr. Hanny Nover (Tel: +32 (0)2 7410 947, e-mail: office@ecrn.net).

I would also like to use this opportunity to welcome you to a **public symposium on "Lignite as raw material for use in the chemical industry"** on 26 October 2011 at cCe Kulturhaus Leuna.

We look forward to welcoming you to our Congress!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Birgitta Wolff".

Prof. Dr. Birgitta Wolff
ECRN President
Minister of Science and Economy
Saxony-Anhalt

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