

## PRESS RELEASE

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# European Commissioner Valdis Dombrovskis to provide keynote address at EFRAG Conference

Final programme announced for *Fostering Innovation in Corporate Reporting*, the first conference of the newly-formed European Corporate Reporting Lab@EFRAG on 5 March 2019 in Brussels.

*Brussels, 15 February 2019:* To mark the launch of the European Lab@EFRAG and its first project on climate-related reporting, a high-level conference entitled *Fostering Innovation in Corporate Reporting* will take place on the afternoon of 5 March 2019 in Brussels.

European Commission Vice-President Valdis Dombrovskis will deliver a keynote speech and Richard Howitt, IIRC CEO and former MEP will set the scene for the conference panel discussions.

The first panel discussion will revolve around overcoming challenges in corporate reporting and will be moderated by Nancy Kamp-Roelands, European Lab Steering Group (European Lab SG) member. The second panel will address innovation in corporate reporting and will be moderated by Alain Deckers, European Commission DG FISMA and European Lab SG Vice-Chair.

The other confirmed speakers are:

- Olivier Boutellis-Taft, Accountancy Europe;
- Bastian Buck, GRI;
- Bertrand Janus, Total;
- Claudia Kruse, APG Asset Management;
- Mardi McBrien, CDSB;
- Giovanna Michelon, University of Exeter Business School;
- Sirpa Pietikäiner, MEP;
- Massimo Romano, Generali Group;
- Mark Vaessen, EFRAG Board; and
- Andrew Watchman, EFRAG.



EFRAG Board President and European Lab SG Chair, Jean-Paul Gauzès, emphasised the importance of dialogue on corporate reporting noting, “in organising this high-level conference EFRAG has responded to the latest developments in corporate reporting in Europe and to the call in the European Commission’s Action Plan on *Financing Sustainable Growth* to stimulate innovation in this field. I am fully confident the views expressed by our conference participants will contribute constructively to the future development of corporate reporting and positively inform the work of the European Lab.”

The conference programme and online registration details can be found [here](#).

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Notes for editor:

a. Contact details:

- i. For more information about EFRAG, the European Lab@EFRAG or the conference please contact: [Cristina.Rodriguez@efrag.org](mailto:Cristina.Rodriguez@efrag.org), EFRAG, 35 Square de Meeûs, B-1000 Brussels. Tel: +32 (0)2 207 93 00; [info@efrag.org](mailto:info@efrag.org).

b. About EFRAG ([www.efrag.org](http://www.efrag.org))

- i. EFRAG’s mission is to serve the European public interest by developing and promoting European views in the field of financial reporting and ensuring these views are properly considered in the IASB standard-setting process and in related international debates. EFRAG ultimately provides advice to the European Commission on whether newly issued or revised IFRS Standards meet the criteria in the IAS Regulation for endorsement for use in the EU, including whether endorsement would be conducive to the European public good. EFRAG stimulates innovation in corporate reporting through the European Lab@EFRAG’s work in sharing good practices, which also complements and contributes to our work on financial reporting.

- ii. EFRAG seeks input from all stakeholders, and obtains evidence about specific European circumstances, throughout the standard-setting process and in providing our endorsement advice. Our legitimacy is built on transparency, governance, due process (which may include field tests, impact analyses and outreaches), public accountability and thought leadership. This enables EFRAG to speak convincingly, clearly and consistently, and be recognised as the European Voice in financial reporting.
- c. About the European Lab@EFRAG
- i. In September 2018, EFRAG established the [European Corporate Reporting Lab](#) (the 'European Lab@EFRAG') following the request in the EC Action Plan *Financing Sustainable Growth*. The objective is to stimulate innovations in the field of corporate reporting in Europe by identifying and sharing good practices. The European Lab@EFRAG serves the European public interest.

