



ASSEMBLÉE DES RÉGIONS D'EUROPE
ASSEMBLY OF EUROPEAN REGIONS
VERSAMMLUNG DER REGIONEN EUROPAS
ASAMBLEA DE LAS REGIONES DE EUROPA
ASSEMBLEA DELLE REGIONI D'EUROPA

Plymouth, 24th September 2002

**Recent exchange of views between Brian Greenslade,
President of AER Committee on Regional Policy, Leader of Devonshire,
and Commissioner Michel Barnier**

Brian Greenslade and Michel Barnier met in Plymouth, on 20th September 2002, during a conference on the future of European Cohesion Policy.

On this occasion, Brian Greenslade presented the AER's main proposals for the future of regional policy and announced future AER major events in this field.

“The efficiency of the future Regional Policy in an enlarged Europe will depend on the full Regions' involvement. Regions – and their regional development policies - have a particular and necessary role to play as actors in cohesion and development. This means they must be better integrated at the programming stage and also – in advance of the actual programming stage - decide on future objectives of common regional development policies along with EU and national states. This also requires that the Regions must be provided with appropriate competencies and adequate financial backing: this is what I told Mr Barnier, during the conference, also in the presence of Mr Caveri, MEP, President of the EP Committee of Regional Policy, and of Mr Graham Watson MEP, European Parliamentary Leader for the Liberal Caucus”, Mr Greenslade said.

“Mr Barnier welcomed the AER's proposals. He recognised the indispensable role of the AER as a bridge between all the Regions, despite huge differences among them and competition”, Mr Greenslade added.

This dialogue between the AER and major EU institutions will continue in Pecs, Hungary, on 14-15 November 2002, during the forthcoming 1st AER Conference of Regional Presidents and Ministers of Spatial Planning. Jean-Charles Leygues, Director, DG REGIO, and MEP Luciano Caveri, President of the European Parliament Committee on Regional Policy will share their views with the European Regions.

**If you have not yet registered for this conference, please do not hesitate to do so.
Registrations are still open!**

Immeuble Europe, 20 place des Halles, F – 67054 STRASBOURG Cedex (France)

Téléphone (+33) 3 88 22 07 07 – Téléfax (+33) 3 88 75 67 19

E-mail : secretariat@are-regions-europe.org ou infopresse@are-regions-europe.org