



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
Directorate General Internal Market and Services

**SERVICES**  
**Business-to-business services**

## **HIGH LEVEL GROUP ON RETAIL COMPETITIVENESS**

### **AGENDA FOR THE OPENING MEETING OF 20 JANUARY 2014**

**Salle Jean Rey**

**Berlaymont Building**

**Rue de la Loi, 200  
1040 - Bruxelles**

**9.30h Registration and coffee**

**10.00h Opening speech by Commissioner Barnier**

**10.15h Challenges for retail competitiveness/Lessons learned from the European Retail Action Plan (ERAP)**

- Introduction by Pierre Delsaux, Deputy-Director General DG Internal Market and Services
- Topics for the Group

**11.30h: Working methods of the Group**

**11.45h : Retail Sector Innovation**

- Short presentation by professor Reynolds, Chair of the Expert Group on Retail Sector Innovation.
- Discussion:
  1. Are there issues/trends in retail innovation which would have benefited from more attention in the report?
  2. How do you see the priority actions for follow-up in the report?
  3. How can innovation best support SMEs?

**13.15h-15.00h: Lunch**

- Introduction by MEP Malcolm Harbour, Chair of the European Parliament's Internal Market and Consumer Protection Committee (IMCO).
- Discussion on the European Parliament's report on a European Retail Action Plan for the benefit of all actors which was adopted on 11 December 2013.

**15.00h: End of the meeting**