Letter of intent on a regional policy dialogue

between the Directorate-General for Regional Policy of the European Commission
and the Under-Secretariat of Regional and Administrative Development
of the Government of Chile

Both Chile and the European Union face challenges of uneven development of the regions, urban development or restructuring of rural or other areas.

Regional policy, supporting social and economic development, is a key means of addressing these challenges.

The Directorate-General for Regional Policy of the European Commission and the Under-Secretariat of Regional and Administrative Development of the Government of Chile hereby agree to establish a dialogue on Regional Policy. The dialogue will take place inter alia in the context of the EU-Chile Association Agreement. The dialogue will promote mutual understanding and enhance bilateral co-operation and the exchange of information on regional policy and establish communication channels so as to strengthen the exchange of information.

The dialogue will address, inter alia, exchanges of information and practices on policies aiming at economic, social and territorial cohesion including cross-border cooperation; on setting up and implementing regional policy and organizing territorial development strategies; on multi-level governance and partnership issues; on planning and evaluation procedures and methods.

The dialogue will be open and flexible so that it can be adapted to new priorities. Meetings will be organised when appropriate, possibly once a year.

Both parties will ensure that suitable organisational arrangements are put in place for the pursuit of the dialogue including the nomination of senior officials as co-chairpersons of the dialogue and shall establish contact points in the Under-Secretariat of Regional and Administrative Development of Chile and in the Directorate General of Regional Policy of the European Commission. Other partners, including those from the administration or other stakeholders may be involved in the dialogue as appropriate. Events and other actions organised under the dialogue shall be arranged jointly and on the basis of mutual agreement.

This Letter of Intent does not entail any legally binding effects in respect of either Party.

For the Directorate-General for Regional Policy of the European Commission
Dirk Ahner
Director-General

For the Government of Chile
Miguel Flores Vargas
Undersecretary of Regional and Administrative Development
Ministry of Interior

Michele Pasca-Raymondo
Deputy Director General