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PRESS RELEASE

YES attended Canada-EU Youth Roundtable

Brussels, Belgium, December 22, 2009 – Last 7-8 December the YES Director General Suat Lemi Sisik attended the Canada-EU Youth Roundtable in Ottawa, Canada. The roundtable was organized by Human Resources and Skill Development of Canada and the European Commission and was divided in four sessions: “Youth in Canada and the EU”, “Helping Young People Achieve their Full Potential”, “The Power of Partnership and Youth Engagement” and “Innovative Ideas for the Future”.

The Young Business sector was represented by YES and its Canadian Counterpart, Canadian Youth Business Foundation – CYBF. During the discussion it has been observed that there are many similarities regarding the youth problems in Canada and in the EU. Also the solutions that are being discussed are very much parallel in both parties.

During his speech the Director General emphasised the importance of the Young Entrepreneurship for the future of the youth stating that “we are imposing certain type of education to our future generations and try to provide them the best possible education in order to get the best possible job in the best possible company. But, we never give them the perspective of entrepreneurship. It is very important as in the future the labour market will be more difficult: there will more mobility and there will be many persons with similar qualifications willing to do the same job for a cheaper wage rate; or the labour market will be changing very fast and the human capital may not be able to follow up this”.

The Director General also stated that “in order to avoid or minimise the transition the best advises could be firstly to promote entrepreneurship (as this young generation will need work places) and secondly, try to get a multidisciplinary education in order to shift and adapt easily to the new market conditions.”

The Roundtable is expected to become a regular meeting for the both parties, one year in Europe and one year in Canada.