

# PRESS RELEASE

## Highlights of the European Public Sector Award 2009

On 4-6 November 2009, the European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA) will be proud to honour the most innovative performers in European public administration with the prestigious European Public Sector Award 2009. This is an award for the best and most innovative public sector performers in the fields of: *Performance Improvement in Public Service Delivery; Citizen Involvement; New Forms of Partnership Working; and Leadership & Management for Change*. The highlights of this international event will take place at three well-known locations in Maastricht: the Town Hall of Maastricht, the Provincial Government House and the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

On Wednesday 4 November the event will be opened at the town hall of Maastricht by Mayor Gerd Leers, who will hand out the EPSA Best Practice Certificates, together with the Director-General of the Maastricht based European Institute of Public Administration, Prof. Dr Marga Pröhl, as well as the EPSA Project Leader, Mr Alexander Heichlinger.

The international symposium, bringing together a range of experts, politicians and European Commission representatives, takes place on Thursday 5 November at the Provincial Government House, where the prominent Treaty of Maastricht was signed. On behalf of the Province of Limburg, Mr Jos Hessels, Vice-Governor for Economic Affairs, will welcome the 250 participants. International speakers during the plenary sessions include Mr Mats Odell, Swedish Minister for Local Government & Financial Markets, Mr Vladimir Spidla, European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, and Mr Henning Christophersen, Chairman of EIPA's Board of Governors and former Vice-President of the European Commission.

On the evening of 5 November during the festive award ceremony in the Crowne Plaza Hotel and in the presence of the Vice-President of the European Commission, Mr Siim Kallas, the winners of each category will be announced and the EPSA 2009 trophy, created by a local artist, will be awarded.

On Friday, 6 November 2009, the symposium will conclude with the four parallel thematic workshops, during which the award nominees and EPSA 2009 winners will present and discuss their projects in detail.

EIPA – with its headquarters located at the Onze Lieve Vrouweplein in Maastricht, and with Centres in Luxembourg, Barcelona, Warsaw and Brussels – is pleased to be able to bring together the best performers in European public administration and hand over the prestigious EPSA 2009 Award in Maastricht.

Maastricht (NL), 30 October 2009

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Note for the editors & **INVITATION TO PRESS:**

**Accredited press is invited to attend the main parts of this programme and the press conference (English spoken) on Thursday 5 November at 10.00 hrs in the Provincial Government House. In the complete programme which is herewith attached you will see which parts are open to press. Please register your participation at the latest on 2 November with Ms Joyce Groneschild. Registration is necessary in order to gain access to the buildings!**

More information: Ms Joyce Groneschild, Marketing & Information Coordinator  
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## PROGRAMME & SPEAKERS

### Wednesday, 4 November 2009

Venue: Town Hall of Maastricht

19:00 Welcome by the Mayor of Maastricht & handing out the EPSA 2009 Best Practice Certificates

### Thursday, 5 November 2009

Venue: Province House, Limburglaan 10, 6229 GA Randwyck-Maastricht (NL)

08:30 Grote Staat  
**Registration of Participants**

09:30 Feestzaal  
**EPSA 2009 Project Video Presentation** of the 20 Nominees & 40 Recipients of Best Practice Certificate / Networking / Opening Coffee & Limburg Pastry

10:00 **PRESS CONFERENCE**  
*Mats Odell* (SE), Minister for Local Government & Financial Markets, Ministry of Finance, Swedish Presidency  
*Gerd Leers* (NL), Mayor of Maastricht  
*Marga Pröhl* (DE), Director-General EIPA  
*Alexander Heichlinger* (AT), Project Manager EPSA & Senior Lecturer

***In addition to the press conference, press is invited to attend the symposium (limited places available) and there will be ample opportunity for interviews.***

11:00 Statenzaal  
**Welcome of Participants & Official Opening**  
*Jos Hessels* (NL), Vice-Governor for Economic Affairs, Province of Limburg, Maastricht  
*Marga Pröhl* (DE), Director-General

11:30 **Plenary session: Public Sector Challenges beyond 2010 – Looking into the future guiding principles**  
Introduction and Chair: *Henning Christophersen* (DK), Chairman of EIPA's Board of Governor, Former Vice-President of the European Commission  
*Mats Odell* (SE), Minister for Local Government & Financial Markets, Ministry of Finance, Swedish Presidency  
*Ole Schröder* (DE), Parliamentary State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Interior, German Government, Berlin (tbc)

- 12:15      **The European Public Sector Awards 2009 at a Glance (I) – The process, key results and prospects**  
*Alexander Heichlinger (AT)*, Project Manager EPSA & Senior Lecturer
- 12:30      Lunch for participants
- 14:00      Chair: *Berend-Jan Van Voorst tot Voorst (NL)*, Former Queens Commissioner to Limburg & Secretary General, EIPA, Maastricht
- Key note address: Administrative Capacity Building in Europe**  
*Vladimir Spidla (CZ)*, European Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, European Commission, Brussels
- 14:20      **Plenary session: The EPSA 2009 at a Glance (II) – The themes, best practices and tendencies**
- Theme 1: *Tore Malterud (NO)*, Head of Unit European Public Management, EIPA, Maastricht
  - Theme 2: *Tony Bass (IE)*, Irish Seconded National Expert, EIPA, Maastricht
  - Theme 3: *Michael Burnett (UK)*, Expert, EIPA, Maastricht
  - Theme 4: *Herma Kuperus (NL)*, Dutch Seconded National Expert, EIPA, Maastricht
- 15:00      **Panel session: Innovation and Creativity – “A Perfect Couple” for Reaching Excellence?**  
Chair: *François-Daniel Migeon (FR)*, Director General for State Modernisation, Ministry for Budget, Public Accounts and Civil Service, Paris (tbc)  
*Dagmir Dlugosz (PL)*, Director of the Department of Civil Service and State Personnel Resource, Chancellery of the Prime Minister, Warsaw  
*Marcus Steffen Bauer (DE)*, Vice President & Partner Public Sector Group Booz & Company, Munich  
*Tamyko Ysa Figueras (ES)*, Professor, Institute of Public Governance and Management, ESADE Business School, Barcelona
- 16.20      **End of symposium**
- Venue: Crowne Plaza, Ruitertij 1, 6221 EW, Maastricht (NL)
- Press is invited to attend the ceremony and the reception afterwards.***
- 18.00      **EPSA 2009 Celebratory Ceremony**  
With the participation of  
*Siiim Kallas (ET)*, Vice-President European Commission, European Commissioner for Administrative Affairs, Audit & Anti-Fraud, Brussels  
*Ank Bijleveld (NL)*, State Secretary, Dutch Ministry of the Interior & Kingdom Relations, The Hague  
*Mats Odell (SE)*, Minister for Local Government & Financial Markets, Swedish Ministry of Finance, Stockholm  
*Gerd Leers (NL)*, Mayor of Maastricht
- 20:00      Reception

**The award**

The regional artist B.J. Leyendeckers has created the EPSA 2009 trophy, which will be handed over to the winners at the awarding ceremony on the evening of 5 November.