

**LOCAL ADMINISTRATION FACILITY- SECOND MEETING WITH THE BALKAN COUNTRIES IN THE PRESENCE OF THE REGIONAL COUNCILOR, ANGELO DI PAOLO, AND THE REGIONAL DIRECTOR, PIERLUIGI CAPUTI**

On the 16th May 2012, the Abruzzo Region hosted the second meeting of the programme *Local Administration Facility* that aims at strengthening the Balkan local authorities.



Representing the Abruzzo Region, the regional government's public works chief, Angelo Di Paolo and the regional director, Pierluigi Caputi took part in the seminar.

The aim of those seminars is to take a particular interest in the main European politics by underlying the contribution and the European scale of the local authorities and by referring to the role played by the offices as well as by the networks working in Brussels.



The Abruzzo Region had invited thirty-two officials at the meeting. They came from seven Balkan countries : Croatia, Kosovo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Albania, Montenegro, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.



In his presentation entitled « *European Rural Development Programme and Natural Resources* », Mr Di Paolo presented the activities of the Abruzzo Region for the rural development insisting on the soil management and the protection of the natural resources.



Moreover, he exposed some of the best practices of the Abruzzo Region. Mr Caputi offered support for the strengthening of public administrations' capacities presented the methods to strengthen the rule of law and to centralize power, which is necessary to the approximation of the laws preceding the accession to the EU.



The Secretary General of the Assembly of European Regions (AER), Pascal De Georgen, attended the meeting to present the activities of the network that brings together over 200 regions and is considered the most active alliance of regions in the wider Europe





The programme of the seminar was set up by the office of the Abruzzo Region in Brussels and the DG Enlargement that also paid for the all the expenses.



*Link to the article about the participation of the Abruzzo Region in the "Local Administration Facility" Programme :*

<http://www.regione.abruzzo.it/xEuropa/index.asp?modello=notizieSing&servizio=LE&stileDiv=sequence&b=notizia314&tom=314>

*Link to the presentation of the first seminar on the DG Enlargement website :*

[http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taix/dyn/taix-events/library/detail\\_en.jsp?EventID=48131](http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taix/dyn/taix-events/library/detail_en.jsp?EventID=48131)

*Link to the presentation of the second seminar on the DG Enlargement website :*

[http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taix/dyn/taix-events/library/detail\\_en.jsp?EventID=48278](http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/taix/dyn/taix-events/library/detail_en.jsp?EventID=48278)

*(Regional Directorate for Presidency Affairs-Liaison activities with E.U. - 17/05/2012)*