

5th Annual Plenary Meeting of the High Level Construction Forum

25 March 2025, 10:00 to 16:00 CET

Venue: Breydel Building, Av. d'Auderghem 45, 1000 Brussels, Belgium

Join us in Brussels to debate the strategic challenges facing construction, and how we may address them in the future.

Together, we will also follow up on the actions implemented by the EU, Member States and industry members of the HLCF, in line with the Transition Pathway and the priorities of the new European Commission.

The full-day event is divided in three parts:

- **Part 1:** Towards a competitive, sustainable and productive construction ecosystem
- **Part 2:** Joining forces to modernise construction
- **Part 3:** Making it happen – new EU priorities for construction: interactive workshop

The event will take place in Brussels, at the premises of the Directorate-General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG GROW). Lunch and refreshments will be provided. Online participation will be possible only for part 1 and 2.

Agenda

Moderator: Katharina Knapton-Vierlich, Head of Unit for Construction,
DG GROW H.1, European Commission

Time (CET)	Agenda
9:00 – 9:50 (50 mins)	Registration and welcome coffee
Part 1: Towards a competitive, sustainable and productive construction ecosystem (livestreamed)	
10:00 – 10:10	Opening remarks by DG GROW Barbara Bonvissuto, Director, DG GROW H, European Commission
10:10 – 10:20	Keynote speech Matthew Baldwin, Head of the Housing Task Force, European Commission
10:20 – 11:10	The construction industry in today's context Economic forces shaping the construction ecosystem Román Arjona, Chief Economist, DG GROW, European Commission (15 mins) Construction 2050 Alliance manifesto Clive Pinnington, Managing Director, European Panel Federation (10 mins) Industry perspectives Philip Crampton, Vice-President, European Construction Industry Federation (10mins) Discussion (10 min)
Coffee break (30 mins)	
Part 2: Joining forces to modernise construction (livestreamed)	
11:40 – 11:50	Turning the High Level Construction Forum into action DG GROW H.1, European Commission (10 mins)
11:50 – 12:10	Member States actions - Estonia: Accelerating building permits (10 mins) <i>Christopher-Robin Raitviir, Head of Digital Construction, City of Tallinn</i> - France: Supporting the market for secondary materials (10 mins) <i>Anaïs Terbeche, Environment & Building Project Manager, SEDDRé</i>
12:10 – 12:55	Panel discussion: where next for European construction? Moderated by DG GROW (45 mins) - Cédric De Meeûs, President, Construction Products Europe - Philip van Nieuwenhuizen, President, European Builders Confederation - Slavica Uzelac, Policy Officer, European Federation of Building and Woodworkers - Anaïs Terbeche, Environment & Building Project Manager, SEDDRé - Christopher-Robin Raitviir, Head of Digital Construction, City of Tallinn

12:55 – 13:00	Closing Part 2 Katharina KNAPTON-VIERLICH, Head of Unit for Construction, DG GROW H.1, European Commission		
Lunch break (60 minutes)			
Part 3: Making it happen – EU priorities for construction (onsite only)			
Workshops			
14:00 – 15:15	Breakout session 1: Accelerating building permits	Breakout session 2: Improving the market for secondary materials	Breakout session 3: Facilitating cross-border services
Back to plenary			
15:25 – 15:55	Reporting and discussion – the way forward • Summarising findings • Proposing priorities • Exploring avenues for action • Drawing conclusions		
15:55 – 16:00	Looking ahead Katharina KNAPTON-VIERLICH, Head of Unit for Construction, DG GROW H.1, European Commission		