

## EMINENT Maths, Science and Technology Education Session

The Eminent programme has a plenary session on the issue of MST as follows:

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| 11h30 – 13h00 | <p><b><u>Plenary session 2 – <i>Inspiring young people: the challenges of Maths, Science and Technology</i> – AUDITORIUM MANTEGNA</u></b></p> <p><b>Chair: Doug Brown - Expert Consultant at BECTA - the UK's lead agency for Technology in Education</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Andrea Gavosto, Director, Agnelli Foundation</li> <li>○ Luigi Berlinguer, Chair, Inter-ministerial Working Group for Scientific Culture Dissemination, and Minister of Education 1996-2000</li> <li>○ Maruja Gutierrez – Diaz - European Commission perspective</li> <li>○ Introducing the e-skills portal – Alexa Joyce (European Schoolnet)</li> </ul> |
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### Objective of this plenary session - Stimulating young people's interest in MST

This session will focus on the key issue of raising young people's interest in maths, science and technology, and thus encouraging them to consider careers in the field. Students in most Western countries are displaying falling levels of interest in the topic; strategies to address this situation on a wide-scale are crucial for securing Europe's future, in terms of economics, innovation and democratic engagement in scientific and technical development.

### Chair - Doug Brown - Department for Children, Family and Schools – 10 mn

The Chair will introduce this session and will present some of the key factors regarding young people's interest in MST education and careers.

### Speakers

- Andrea Gavosto, Director, Agnelli Foundation – 20 mn
- Luigi Berlinguer, Chair, Inter-ministerial Working Group for Scientific Culture Dissemination, and Minister of Education 1996-2000 – 20 mn
- Maruja Gutierrez – Diaz - European Commission perspective – 15 mn
- Introducing the e-skills portal – Alexa Joyce (European Schoolnet) – 10 mn

### **The role of ERT in supporting MST education - Andrea Gavosto, Giovanni Agnelli Foundation 15 mn**

The European Round Table of Industrialists (ERT), an informal forum bringing together around 45 chief executives and chairs of major multinational companies of European parentage, has identified increasing young people's interest in Mathematics, Science and Technology (MST) as essential for sustainable economic growth in Europe, and reaching the targets set in 2000 by the European Community and laid out in the Lisbon 2010 Agenda. As a result, ERT decided to explore ways of increasing young European's interest in MST education and careers with the ultimate aim of advance Europe's competitive position.

Director of the Agnelli Foundation, Andrea Gavosto is an economist, who has worked for the Research Centres of Banca d'Italia, Fiat and Confindustria, and has been Chief Economist of Telecom Italia from 2002 to 2007. At the Agnelli Foundation, he is focusing research activities on the crucial issues of education in Italy.

**How Italy tackles the issue of raising young people's interest in maths, science and technology - Luigi Berlinguer, Chair, Inter-ministerial Working Group for Scientific Culture Dissemination, and Minister of Education 1996-2000 – 20 mn**

Mr Berlinguer will present the situation in Italy regarding the lack of interest of young people in MST studies. He will also share his views on how to inspire young generations. He will also be asked to give his analysis on what industry should take into consideration when seeking to develop industry-school collaboration to encourage more students to take up MST careers.

**What are the European Commission perspectives – Maruja Gutierrez – Diaz – 15 mn**

Maruja Gutierrez-Diaz will present the various actions undertaken by the Commission regarding this issue of MST. She will present the results of the MST cluster as well as the follow up of the Rocard report. She will also be asked to comment on the importance of industry – school cooperation in that context.

**The European eSkills career portal – an example of industry-education cooperation - Alexa Joyce, European Schoolnet – 10 mn**

Alexa Joyce will present the European Skills Career portal (<http://eskills.eun.org>). The European e-Skills Career Portal project was launched and is supported by the [e-Skills Industry Leadership Board \(ILB\)](#) and is managed by the ILB Career Portal Committee (CPC) as an autonomous and stand-alone initiative under the umbrella of the ILB. The ILB contracted [European Schoolnet](#) (EUN Partnership AISBL) as service provider to develop and to launch a pilot version of the portal for the [European e-Skills Conference 2008](#) in Thessaloniki on 9-10 October 2008.

As the eSkills career portal has as main objective to attract more students in the IT industry, such an example has been chosen to contribute to this MST session.