

UEAPME¹ Pledge

for the Committee of the Regions' Charter

on Multilevel Governance

Brussels, 18 November 2014

UEAPME, the European Association of Crafts, Small and Medium sized Enterprises, agrees with the principles of the Committee of the Regions' Charter on Multilevel Governance, which include the principle of an effective involvement of economic and social actors, in particular the SME, micro and craft enterprises' representative organisations at all level of the Multilevel Governance.

UEAPME considers that the success of European Cohesion Policy and of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) for the period 2014-2020, depends on the highest quality and efficiency of partnership and cooperation between stakeholders and public and private authorities at local, regional, national and European level, in the form of a multilevel and multi-actors governance.

UEAPME considers that the territorial policies have to take into account the real needs of SMEs, micro and craft enterprises to support their capacities to develop local and regional economy and to create jobs and to apply the EU2020 Strategy flagships. Therefore, the territorial policies should be built with the know-how and expertise of their representative organisations.

UEAPME supports the effective implementation of the Committee of the Regions' Charter on Multilevel Governance and calls on public and private authorities at all levels, including local collectivities, to deeply associate SME, micro and Craft enterprises' representative organisations in the definition, the implementation and the follow-up of territorial strategies of development and of the National Partnership Agreements and Operational Programmes.

UEAPME and its network of SMEs, microenterprises and craft organisations will act, in cooperation with the Committee of the Regions and with the support of the European institutions, to increase the capacity of their territorial representative organisations in the EU

¹ UEAPME subscribes to the European Commission's Register of Interest Representatives and to the related code of conduct as requested by the European Transparency Initiative. Our ID number is [55820581197-35](#).

Member States to deeply and efficiently play their role in the implementation of the Cohesion policy and ESIF.