

## 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Plenary Meeting of the High Level Construction Forum

30 April 2026, 10:00 to 16:30 CEST

Venue: Breydel Building (Auditorium), 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 discuss actions being implemented by the EU, Member States and industry members of the High Level Construction Forum (HLCF), in line with the recently published European Strategy for Housing Construction, as part of the Affordable Housing Plan.

The full-day event is divided into three parts:

- **Part 1:** Productivity and competitiveness of the EU's construction ecosystem
- **Part 2:** European Strategy for Housing Construction – from strategy to implementation
- **Part 3:** Breakout sessions – Delivering the European Strategy for Housing Construction

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 parts 1 and 2.

**Draft agenda**

Chair: Natalia Zebrowska, Head of Unit for Construction Policy, DG GROW H.1, European Commission

Time (CET)	Agenda
9:00 – 9:50	<b>Registration and welcome coffee</b>
<b>Part 1: Productivity and competitiveness of the EU's construction ecosystem (livestreamed)</b>	
10:00 – 10:10	<b>Opening remarks by DG GROW</b> Barbara Bonvisutto, Director, DG GROW H, European Commission
10:10 – 10:45	<b>The construction industry and housing in today's economic context</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Economic forces shaping the construction ecosystem</b> William Connell García, Deputy Head of Unit, Chief Economist Team, DG GROW, European Commission (15 mins)</li> <li>• <b>Affordable housing in the OECD</b> Marissa Plouin, Senior Policy Analyst, OECD (10 mins)</li> <li>• <b>Industry perspectives</b> Joël Schons, Vice-President – Social Affairs, European Construction Industry Federation (FIEC) – Construction 2050 Alliance (10 mins)</li> </ul>
10:45 – 11:00	<b>Discussion &amp; closing of Part 1 (15 mins)</b> Natalia Zebrowska, Head of Unit for Construction Policy, DG GROW H.1, European Commission
<b>Coffee break (20 mins)</b>	
<b>Part 2: European Strategy for Housing Construction – From strategy to implementation</b>	
11:20 – 11:30	<b>Keynote speech</b> Kerstin Jorna, Director-General, DG GROW, European Commission
11:30 – 11:50	<b>Delivering affordable housing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Matthew Baldwin, Head of Housing Task Force, European Commission (10 mins)</li> <li>• Q&amp;A (10 mins)</li> </ul>
11:50 – 12:10	<b>Governance and the future of the HLCF</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• DG GROW H.1, European Commission (10 mins)</li> <li>• Q&amp;A (10 mins)</li> </ul>
12:10 – 13:10	<b>Panel discussion: HLCF members' solutions delivering the Strategy for Housing Construction</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 Pitches x 5mins (20 mins): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Javier Martín Ramiro, Director General for Housing and Land Use, Spanish Ministry for Housing and Urban Agenda</li> <li>○ Kristina Alvendal, Industry Coordinator, Acceleration Office, Swedish Government Offices</li> <li>○ Pascal Eveillard, President, Construction Products Europe</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Nina Kreutzman, European Federation of Building and Woodworkers' President of the Standing Committee Building</li> <li>● Discussion (40 mins)</li> </ul> <p>Moderated by Ilektra Papadaki, Senior Expert in Construction Policy, Technical Secretariat of the HLCF</p>		
13:10 – 13:15	<p><b>Closing Part 2</b> Natalia Zebrowska, Head of Unit for Construction Policy, DG GROW H.1, European Commission</p>		
<p><b>Lunch break (60 minutes)</b></p>			
<p><b>Part 3: Delivering the European Strategy for Housing Construction (onsite only)</b></p>			
<p><b>Workshops</b></p>			
14:15 – 15:30	<p><b>Breakout session 1:</b> Simplifying residential permitting and administrative procedures</p>	<p><b>Breakout session 2:</b> Enabling access to and circulation of secondary construction materials and products</p>	<p><b>Breakout session 3:</b> Off-site construction and innovation: CPR implementation, financing &amp; opportunities for reconstruction</p>
<p><b>Back to plenary</b></p>			
15:45 – 16:15	<p><b>Reporting and discussion – the way forward</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Summarising findings</li> <li>● Drawing conclusions on next steps</li> </ul>		
16:15 – 16:30	<p><b>Closing remarks</b> Natalia Zebrowska, Head of Unit for Construction Policy, DG GROW H.1, European Commission</p>		