



## LIBSEEN

### Strategic planning workshop

Hilton Hotel, Boulevard "Bulgaria" 1, 1421 Sofia, Bulgaria/ 23<sup>rd</sup> – 24<sup>th</sup> of January, 2017

#### ABOUT THE EVENT

*LIBSEEN stands at the crossroads. Since the network's revival over the past 2 years, discussions have been initiated over the purpose and role of LIBSEEN, the reform of the political structure that is needed to fulfill this purpose and level of organizational capacity to underpin the existing and future framework of regional cooperation.*

#### Key condition for the success of the workshop:

Participants must obtain a mandate from their party bodies to discuss (and VOTE) the long-term and very crucial decisions that will affect LIBSEEN in the coming years. It is recommended that either Steering Committee members or International officer participate in the event.

Partner organizations representatives come with a clear vision of what the network should look like in line with available opportunities for cooperation and funding.

This event will serve to outline:

- LIBSEEN role, scope of activities and functions
- LIBSEEN political representation
- LIBSEEN organizational structure and role of individual bodies
- LIBSEEN funding options (in direct talks with partner organizations)
- Follow-up responsibilities given to member organizations, the network coordinator and the partner organizations

#### EVENT SCHEDULE

**SUNDAY, 22<sup>nd</sup> of January, 2017**

20:00 **Day of arrival of the participants**

END OF THE FIRST DAY



**Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> of January, 2017**

***Introduction to the workshop and presentation of networks***

**9:00 Introduction to the workshop**

- Welcome by Goran Neralić, Network Coordinator, LIBSEEN
- Francesca Binda, Binda Consulting International
- Luke Akal, Network Coordinator, African Liberal Network

**9:15 LIBSEEN state of play**

- Goran Neralić, Network Coordinator, LIBSEEN

**9:30 Expert presentations of regional networks in Africa and Asia**

- Luke Akal, Network Coordinator, African Liberal Network (expert on ALN)
- Rainer Adam, regional director, FNF (expert on CALD)
- Andrew Burgess, political advisor, ALDE Party (opportunities to engage with ALDE)

**10:15 COFFEE BREAK**

**Building a visionary regional network together:  
Group discussions and presentations**

**10:30 *Introduction to the session***

- Luke Akal, Network Coordinator, African Liberal Network

**Outline:** For this interactive session, four stations are each led by one of the regional network experts and coordinators. The stations are provided with two focus questions to be answered with input and collaboration of approximately 8 participants per station.

The questions relate to describing the ingredients for an ideal, shared vision of a regional network.

The network is therefore completely hypothetical for this session, but station leaders will most likely put forward the advantageous aspects of their networks so that we conclude with a refined idea of a near-perfect network.

**10:45 *Participant engagement and discussion at the stations (participants move to their stations)***

**Station 1: Goran Neralić [Policy and Issue Driving]**

- What are the policy themes our network should be concerned with?
- In what ways can our network drive issues?

**Station 2: Rainer Adam [Organisational Structure and Decision-Making]**

- Describe examples network structures which are democratic and efficient for decision making
- What are the rights and roles of members, on one hand, and strategic funding partners on the other, in determining our network's operations?



### **Station 3: Andrew Burgess [Communication]**

- Describe internal and external communication of the network
- What are the channels the network should use to communicate with stakeholders and the public?

### **Station 4: Luke Akal [Events and Training]**

- Discuss our network's flagship event as a gathering of all members and partners. What does this event look like and how is it organised?
- How does the network engage in training and assisting members with capacity development?

**Aim:** Robust discussions and presentation of outcomes will help to clarify each stakeholder's unique perception of the ideal network. The station discussions and presentations naturally set the tone for lunch and the LIBSEEN afternoon sessions in a friendly, creative way.

11:30 Feedback from station leaders

At the end of the station round, the station leaders each have 15 minutes to present their results to the plenary with the support of one of the participants from their station.

12:30 LUNCH (exchanging ideas for afternoon sessions)

### **Why LIBSEEN?**

***(OBJECTIVE: Analysis and agreement of priority goals for LIBSEEN as identified in recent survey)***

13:30 ***(world cafe) Plenary debate and group sessions:***

- Support, capacity building and promotion of member parties
- Coordination of policy, positions and action
- Lobbying and Advocacy

15:15 COFFEE BREAK

***What kind of activities the network will do, who does what and how to support activities?  
(Define the scope of activities for the network and determine responsibilities of specific bodies and actors)***

15:45 ***(world cafe) Plenary debate and group sessions:***

- Identifying specific activities for priority goals
- Developing action plans for goals

17:30 COFFEE BREAK



***What kind of a structure is needed?***  
***(Determine whether LIBSEEN needs structural reform)***

17:45 ***(world cafe)*** Plenary debate and group sessions:

- statutes and regulations
- political representation of LIBSEEN
- organizational structure of LIBSEEN

19:00

20:15 DINNER HOSTED BY MOVEMENT OF RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS (time used to resolve any disputes and write a common framework on each point)

END OF THE SECOND DAY

**TUESDAY, 24th of January, 2017**

***Presentation of results of the workshop***

9:30 **Final session with voting**

- Presenting a coherent vision, structure and activities of LIBSEEN based on workshop results
- Open issues to be resolved and voted on
- Presentation of funding opportunities
- Follow-up assignments

12:00 END OF THE EVENT