



*Overseas Countries and Territories Association*

**Info Day - "From the Poles to the Tropics"**

**SAVE THE DATE FOR 12<sup>th</sup> APRIL 2011**



**Date: 12 April 2011**

**Registration: 1:30 pm - Introductory speeches: 2 pm**

**Venue: European Economic and Social Committee, Brussels**

**Info: [info@octassociation.org](mailto:info@octassociation.org)**

**OCTA – the Overseas Countries and Territories Association – is delighted to invite you to the OCTA Info Day, an event organized at the EESC on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2011.** The OCTA Info Day is designed to increase the perception and understanding of the Overseas Countries and Territories of the Member States of the European Union amongst EU policy-makers, national representatives and other stakeholders on the major issues and opportunities facing the OCTs.

The event will consist of two panels, each focusing on a different dimension of the realities of the OCTs. The first panel – **Economic challenges** – will focus on the assets of the various territories, highlighting their economic potential as well as the difficulties they face.

The second panel – **Environmental excellence** – will stimulate the debate on the particular relevance of the natural assets of the Overseas Countries and Territories, the role that nature protection plays in the OCTs' economies and also the natural risks that the OCTs are exposed to and how those risks are managed.

This event is held **under the patronage of MEPs Maurice Ponga, Ashley Fox, Anne Jensen and Lambert van Nistelrooij.** The panels will include a wide variety of speakers, representing the views of the European Institutions, private sector, representatives from the OCTs, experts and academics. The presentations will be followed by an **open session of questions and debate with the audience.**

After the event, OCTA invites all participants to enjoy a **cocktail** served from 5:30 pm.

Seats in the room are limited, so we would appreciate an early reply by e-mail to [info@octassociation.org](mailto:info@octassociation.org)

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any further information. **We will be sending you the detailed version of the programme in the coming days.** We hope that you will be able to join us for what we anticipate will be a lively and informative discussion.

Yours sincerely,

Kedell Worboys MBE

Acting President EXCO OCTA