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Directorate G. Horizontal aspects of rural development
G.3. European Network and monitoring of rural development policy

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Subject: Invitation to the seminar of the European Network for Rural Development "Semi-subsistence farming: current situation and future prospects"

Dear Ms Frost,

I have the pleasure to send you, as the representative of the United Kingdom national rural network in the Coordination committee of the European Network for Rural Development (EN RD), an invitation to participate in the second EN RD seminar "**Semi-subsistence farming: current situation and future prospects**", which will take place in Sibiu, Romania, on **21 to 23 April 2010**.

The main aim of the seminar is to assess the current situation of, and policies affecting, semi-subsistence farms in the EU-27, together with an overview of the challenges, needs and prospects they face, highlighting also their role in rural environment and society. The draft programme of the seminar is attached to this letter.

Please note that there is one place allocated for your organisation. I therefore invite you to identify the most appropriate colleague with expertise related to the topic of the seminar.

In order to confirm participation, please register using the web-link: <https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fmi/scic/SIBIU10/start.php>. We would kindly ask you to use the reference number 266 while registering. The deadline for registrations is 19 February. Please also note that there is no attendance fee for this event and that all travel and accommodation costs are the responsibility of delegates.

We also invite you to send us details (including contact details) of organisations in your country representing semi-subsistence farmers, and/or other organisations whose work is relevant to the topic of the seminar. Please note that whilst many such organisations are likely to be members of the NRN, your list does not have to be limited to NRN members. Depending on the places available, we will invite relevant organisations to participate. Please send this information to e-mail address AGRI-ENRD-SEMINAR@ec.europa.eu, by 12 February 2010.

Ms Rebecca FROST
RDPE Network - Commission for Rural Communities
UNITED KINGDOM

rebecca.frost@ruralcommunities.gov.uk

I hope that your organisation will participate actively in this seminar, thus contributing to fruitful and in-depth discussions on the current issues regarding semi-subsistence farming.

Yours sincerely,



Loretta DORMAL-MARINO
Deputy Director General

Annex: Draft programme