



**UNECE Spring Seminar
Competitiveness and economic growth in the UNECE Region**

**Palais des Nations (Conference Room XVIII), Geneva
Monday, 23 February 2004**

Programme

10:00

Opening remarks: Brigita Schmögnerová, Executive Secretary, UNECE

10:10 - 11:30

Session I: **Competitiveness, growth and catching up in the UNECE region**

Moderator: Abdur Chowdhury, UNECE

Speaker: Karl Aiginger, Austrian Institute of Economic Research

Discussants: Daniel Daianu, Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest
Evgeny Gavrilentov, Troika Dialog, Moscow

11:30 - 13:00

Session II: **The determinants of competitiveness in the knowledge-driven economy: education, research and development, innovation in the UNECE region**

Moderator: Daniel Daianu, Academy of Economic Studies, Bucharest

Speaker: Jan Fagerberg, University of Oslo

Discussants: Janos Gacs, Hungarian Academy of Sciences
Robert Huggins, Robert Huggins Associates

15:00 - 16:30

Session III: **The competitiveness of regions and localities within the UNECE economies**

Moderator: Pavel Mertlik, Raiffeisenbank, Czech Republic

Speaker: Gyula Horvath, Hungarian Academy of Sciences

Discussants: Karl Aiginger, Austrian Institute of Economic Research
Riccardo Faini, Italian Ministry of Treasury

16:30 - 18:00

Session IV: **The role of governments in fostering competitiveness and growth**

Moderator: Riccardo Faini, Italian Ministry of Treasury

Speaker: Ken Warwick, UK Ministry of Trade

Discussant: Pavel Mertlik, Raiffeisenbank, Czech Republic