

## PRESS RELEASE

### European Risk Summit to examine role of science in policy-making

*- International agencies, industry and researchers to descend upon Dublin next month*

The **European Risk Summit** ([www.risksummit.eu](http://www.risksummit.eu)) will come to Trinity College Dublin, June 11<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> 2013 and bring focused discussions on the advantages of evidence and risk-based rulemaking.

Chaired by Professor Ragnar Löfstedt, Director of King's Centre for Risk Management; Mr Pat O'Mahony, Chief Executive of the Irish Medicines Board; and Dr Kevin Bradley, President of the Nickel Institute, the Summit will centre around debates and discussions on a variety of thematic risk policy issues and will feature some of the top international risk-based policy experts and academics, with speakers from some of Europe's leading industry agencies and organisations.

*"This is a high profile, unique and very topical event that will bring together leading stakeholders from all over Europe. Recently, there have been heated regulatory discussions in Brussels on everything from endocrine disrupters, aspartame, neonicotinoid pesticides, to the fatty fish from the Baltic. This summit is the 'go-to' conference of the year in European regulatory affairs,"* according to Professor Ragnar Löfstedt, King's College London.

In this time of greater regulatory scrutiny and uncertainty, consideration will be given to international principles as a way forward for science-based decision making and the possible impact this would have on the future of European sustainability and innovation, and economic development on the global stage.

Within the European Union, there is diversity in approach to regulatory risk policy across industry sectors which, in turn, has a varying impact on industry, innovation and employment. Moreover, the impact on public health matters and perception is equally diverse throughout the European Union as a result.

Continued public mistrust in European policy makers and national regulators in recent times has been largely due to high-profile regulatory cases, most recently in healthcare with PIP implants, in the food sector with the labelling of agricultural products, and within the chemicals industry through the use of bisphenol A in plastics. Such uncertainty demands a greater transparency and debate on the implications of risk and hazard clarification of chemicals and compounds to better inform law makers as well as the European citizens.

The European Risk Summit is an associated event of Ireland's Presidency of the Council of European Union and will be attended by European regulators, agencies, companies and leading academics associated with the food, healthcare, chemicals and related sectors.

**ENDS**

 Follow the event on Twitter : [@eurisk2013](https://twitter.com/eurisk2013)

Media Inquiries:

Hume Brophy Brussels: Email: [cara.nigfhearraigh@humbrophy.com](mailto:cara.nigfhearraigh@humbrophy.com) / Mobile: +32 (0)2 234 68 60

Hume Brophy Dublin: Email: [carl.gibney@humbrophy.com](mailto:carl.gibney@humbrophy.com) / Mobile: + 353 (0) 86 045 9555