

German-Speaking Community of Belgium new host for cross-border organisation

## Meuse-Rhine Euroregion moves to Eupen

The central office of the "Stichting" Meuse-Rhine Euroregion will soon be moving from Maastricht to Eupen. From January 4, 2007, the twelve staff members of the Euroregion-office can be found in the Ministry of the German-Speaking Community of Belgium, at "Gospertstraße 1" in Eupen, where the ministry is generously providing offices for the Euroregion staff members. Later, the Euroregion will move together with some government services into "Gospertstraße 42". This listed building is currently awaiting renovation, with completion planned for the second half of 2008.



Since the creation of the Meuse-Rhine cross-border association in 1976, its permanent secretariat has been located in Maastricht, where its host has been the Dutch province of Limburg. After three decades, a move has become necessary, and the most detailed and advantageous offer came from the German-Speaking Community of Belgium. In May 2006 the Board of the Meuse-Rhine Euroregion decided to move to Eupen.

Both Eupen and the German-Speaking Community will benefit from the move, strengthening their image as an outward-looking international region and city. The Meuse-Rhine Euroregion has long been regarded as a "laboratory for European integration". A kind of "mini-Europe", with five different partner regions from three countries and three language areas, it forms one of the most complex and forward-looking border regions in Europe, often pioneering developments with far-reaching consequences for European inter-regional policy as a whole.

The address of the Stichting from 2007 will be:

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