

REALEX AS THE LOCATION FOR THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION'S CONFERENCE CENTRE **(BRUSSELS – BELGIUM)**

La Hulpe, 29 January 2021

Today, on Friday, OIB and ATENOR signed a purchase agreement for the new Conference Centre put forward by ATENOR as part of the REALEX project. With this project, ATENOR responded to the European Commission's call for tenders applying the competitive dialogue procedure. This is a fine recognition of the role that Brussels plays as the capital of Europe. ATENOR is honoured to have been entrusted with this challenge and carry out such an important project. This project will undoubtedly add value to ATENOR's image, skill set and results in the years to come.

As a reminder, the project enjoys a strategic location in rue de la Loi, in the heart of the Brussels's European quarter, close to the Berlaymont building which houses the European Commission's headquarters. Additionally a permit has been granted for the construction of an office building. The project was further expanded and in November 2018, a building permit was submitted to provide for the integration of a Conference Centre.



The new Conference Centre, which will eventually replace the current Borschette Centre, is planned to have a total surface area of 33,642 m², including 25,540 m² above ground. It will feature 29 adaptable meeting and conference rooms, an office space, a cafeteria, a creche, a restaurant and a considerable number of parking spaces for cars and bicycles. The Centre will be able to accommodate up to 3,100 people at a time. It will host the meetings and conferences that currently have to be held elsewhere.

The European Commission explains: "This Conference Centre is fully in line with the objectives of the Green Deal introduced by the European Commission and is also in line with the buildings policy developed by the OIB." Indeed, REALEX is aiming for BREEAM "Excellent" certification, with a passive office complex that meets the strictest environmental standards adhering to the latest sustainability objectives of the European Commission. This makes it one of the first buildings to fully comply with the Green Deal. Finally, during the design phase, consideration was given right from the start to the use of the available spaces, making this Centre already "covid-proof".

The transaction will take place once the building permit introduced in 2018 will be issued.

As a reminder: in terms of urban planning, the principles of the Projet Urbain Loi were integrated from the design stage onwards, which also takes into account the recommendations of the impact assessment. For example, the projects THE ONE and REALEX, which are located right next to each other, form a renewed city area of indisputable architectural and environmental quality that provides a functional mix of residential units, shops, facilities, offices and green areas (2,800 m²).

The signing of this agreement confirms ATENOR's development strategy and its pioneering role in urban development. This is reflected in our location choices, giving preference to neighbourhoods that contribute to the image of European cities. The European Quarter is a symbolic example of this.

ATENOR is an urban real estate development company with European expertise listed on the Euronext Brussels market. Through our urban planning and architectural approach, we aim to provide appropriate responses to the new requirements being imposed by developments in urban and professional life. Within this framework, ATENOR invests in large scale property projects meeting strict criteria in terms of location, economic efficiency and respect for the environment.

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