

VITO Session at G-STIC Conference 8 June 2026, Flemish Parliament	
Imec Visit 9 June 2026, 10.00-12.00, Leuven	
EARTO Board – RIN CEOs Meeting 9 June 2026	
12.00 - 13.30	Lunch in Leuven
13.30 - 16.00	Joint Meeting - EARTO Executive Board & RIN CEOs (Agenda set by EARTO Secretariat & RIN Chair) – Hosted by imec in Leuven
19.00	Joint Dinner - EARTO Executive Board & RIN CEOs in Brussels – Hosted by VITO in Brussels
	Speeches by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inge Neven, CEO, VITO Jesús Valero, President, EARTO
EARTO ANNUAL CONFERENCE 10 June 2026, 9.00-15.30 From Research to Industrial Power: Scaling Europe’s Critical Technologies Royal Museums of Fine Arts of Belgium Rue du Musée/Museumstraat 9 - 1000 Brussels (Belgium)	
8.30 – 9.00	Welcome Coffee
9.00 – 10.00	Introduction
	Welcome speeches by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jesús Valero, President, EARTO Inge Neven, CEO, VITO Luc Van den hove, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Imec Keynotes by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Eléonore Simonet, Federal Minister of the Middle Class, Self-employed and SMEs & Member of the Parliament of the Brussels-Capital Region Simon Gheysen, Chief of Staff of Cabinet of Matthias Diependaele, Minister-President and Minister of innovation, Flemish Parliament Bruno Tobback, Member of the European Parliament, Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats Video message by Henna Virkkunen, Executive Vice-President for Tech Sovereignty, Security and Democracy, European Commission Bernard Magenmann, Director General, DG Joint Research Centre, European Commission
10.00 – 10.15	Coffee Break
10.15 – 11.30	RTOs, Industry and Europe’s Technological Sovereignty
	Keynote: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alexandr Hobza, Cabinet Expert, Cabinet of Executive Vice-President Stéphane Séjourné – Prosperity and Industrial Strategy Anthony Gooch Gálvez, Secretary General, ERT Gilles Requena, Chief Patent Research and Policy Officer, EPO Panel/Discussion RTOs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bruno Feignier, Deputy CEO, CEA Luc Van den hove, Chairman of the Board of Directors, Imec Katherine Bennett, CEO, HVM Catapult Moderated by Jesús Valero, President, EARTO
11.30 – 12.00	EARTO Innovation Awards Ceremony
12.00 – 13.30	Networking Lunch
13.30 – 14.00	Keynote Speech by Christian Ehler, Member of the European Parliament, on ECF and Horizon Europe negotiations
14.00 – 14.30	IMEC Session – The Role of RTOs in supporting Industry in Scaling up Tech
	Introduction by Anne Van Den Bosch (VP, IMEC) Keynotes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pierre Chastenot, Head of Unit, Microelectronics and Photonics Industry, DG CONNECT Patrick Bressler, Director International Cooperation, Emerging Technologies and Innovation, Fraunhofer Bruno Paing, VP Europe, CEA-Leti Moderated by Alexandre Vandermeersch (CEO, Multitel) & Anne Van Den Bosch (VP, IMEC)
14.30 – 15.00	VITO Session – The Role of RTOs in de-risking Technologies for Deep-tech Startups
	Introduction by Nils Wuytens, Head of Incubation and Acceleration, VITO Panel members: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Michiel Scheffer, Chairman of the Board, European Innovation Council (EIC) Kalle Härkki, President and CEO, VTT Jekaterina Novikova, Deputy Head of Unit, Innovation Policy & Access to Finance, DG R&I, EC Moderated by Koen Maertens (CTO, Flanders Make) & Nils Wuytens (VITO)
15.00 – 15.30	Keynote Speech by Ekaterina Zaharieva, EU Commissioner for Startups and R&I, European Commission
15.30	Closing by EARTO President