



Dirk Beernaert (B) is Head of Unit G1 – Nano-electronics and Photonics in the European Commission – Directorate General for Information Society and Media.

Dirk is an engineer in physics, in nuclear science and in material science (1976). After a short period working in statistics, he was involved as engineering and technology manager in setting up a laboratory to sustain the design of microelectronic components and subsequently in setting up a manufacturing site in micro-electronics to produce digital, analogue and high voltage components, where he was responsible for 20 engineers and for organising technology transfer between different organisations.

He has joined the European Commission in 1990 where he has been responsible for research initiatives in micro-electronics under different European Frameworks (FP) for Research and for cooperation with the Eureka programs in that field. He also had responsibilities for setting up the workplan for research in e-work, e-business, e-commerce and for starting up and running a Unit and the Program dealing with 'Integrated Micro and Nanosystems' activities under Framework 5 and 6 including Microsystems, sensors, interfaces, displays and large area integration. He is recently made responsible for running within Directorate General Information Society the Unit of 'nano-electronics and photonics' dealing with the implementation of Framework 6 activities, with planning the future 7th Framework activities and with all related research, innovation stimulation and regulatory activities in these fields.

Owner of 2 patents and close to 100 articles on diverse research topics, on commercialisation, on innovation and on research strategies mainly in the field of micro-nano-technologies and miniaturisation.