MINUTES

of the sitting of

Monday

1 February 2016
KEYS TO SYMBOLS USED

* Consultation procedure
*** Consent procedure
***I Ordinary legislative procedure: first reading
***II Ordinary legislative procedure: second reading
***III Ordinary legislative procedure: third reading
(The type of procedure is determined by the legal basis proposed in the draft act.)

ABBREVIATIONS USED FOR PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES

AFET Committee on Foreign Affairs
DEVE Committee on Development
INTA Committee on International Trade
BUDG Committee on Budgets
CONT Committee on Budgetary Control
ECON Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs
EMPL Committee on Employment and Social Affairs
ENVI Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety
ITRE Committee on Industry, Research and Energy
IMCO Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection
TRAN Committee on Transport and Tourism
REGI Committee on Regional Development
AGRI Committee on Agriculture and Rural Development
PECH Committee on Fisheries
CULT Committee on Culture and Education
JURI Committee on Legal Affairs
LIBE Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs
AFCO Committee on Constitutional Affairs
FEMM Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality
PETI Committee on Petitions
DROI Subcommittee on Human Rights
SEDE Subcommittee on Security and Defence

ABBREVIATIONS USED FOR POLITICAL GROUPS

PPE Group of the European People’s Party (Christian Democrats)
S&D Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats in the European Parliament
ECR European Conservatives and Reformists Group
ALDE Group of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe
GUE/NGL Confederal Group of the European United Left – Nordic Green Left
Verts/ALE Group of the Greens/European Free Alliance
EFDD Europe of Freedom and Direct Democracy Group
ENF Europe of Nations and Freedom
NI Non-attached Members
1. Resumption of the session
The sitting opened at 17.05.

2. Approval of the minutes of the previous sitting
The minutes of the previous sitting were approved.

3. Tribute
The President paid tribute to the memory of Miloslav Ransdorf, Member of the European Parliament.

Parliament observed a minute's silence.

4. Composition of Parliament
Following the death of Miloslav Ransdorf, Parliament, acting under Rule 4(1), established the vacancy of his seat with effect from 23 January 2016.

The Portuguese authorities had given notice of the election of João Pimenta Lopes to replace Inês Cristina Zuber as Member of Parliament with effect from 31 January 2016.

Under Rule 3(2), until such time as his credentials had been verified or a ruling had been given on any dispute, and provided that he had previously made a written declaration stating that he did not hold any office incompatible with that of Member of the European Parliament, João Pimenta Lopes would take his seat in Parliament and on its bodies and would enjoy all the rights attaching thereto.
The following spoke: Birgit Sippel, to comment on what certain Members were purported to have said about migrants (the President said that responding to things said outside Parliament fell outside the scope of his competences).

5. Composition of committees
The President had received the following request for an appointment from the ECR Group:
Committee of Inquiry into Emission Measurements in the Automotive Sector: Julie Girling to replace Remo Sernagiotto

The appointment would be deemed ratified if no objections were raised before the approval of these Minutes.

6. Documents received
The following documents had been received:

1) from the Council and Commission

  referred to responsible : LIBE

  referred to responsible : BUDG
  opinion : EMPL, REGI

  referred to responsible : LIBE
  opinion : DEVE, AFET

2) from committees


7. Questions for oral answer (submission)

The following questions for oral answer had been submitted by Members (Rule 128):

— (O-000005/2016) by Bernd Lange, on behalf of the INTA Committee, to the Commission: Commercial relationship between the EU and China and market economy status (2016/2514 (RSP)) (B8-0102/2016);

— (O-000006/2016) by Iratxe García Pérez, on behalf of the FEMM Committee, to the Commission: New Strategy for Gender Equality and Women’s Rights post-2015 (2016/2526 (RSP)) (B8-0103/2016);

— (O-000153/2015) by Bernd Lange and Salvatore Cicu, on behalf of the INTA Committee, to the Council: UN Convention on Transparency in Treaty-based Investor-State Arbitration (2015/2930(RSP)) (B8-0104/2016);

— (O-000012/2016) by Iskra Mihaylova, on behalf of the REGI Committee, to the Commission: Role of local and regional authorities in the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF) (2015/3013(RSP)) (B8-0105/2016);

— (O-000013/2016) by Iskra Mihaylova, on behalf of the REGI Committee, to the Commission: Insularity condition (2015/3014(RSP)) (B8-0106/2016)

— (O-000003/2016) by Matthias Groote, on behalf of the S&D Group, Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy,
on behalf of the ALDE Group, Bas Eickhout, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group, Merja Kyllönen, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, and Piernicola Pedicini, on behalf of the EFDD Group, to the Commission: Commission action to comply with judgment in Case T-521/14 Sweden v Commission (2016/2536(RSP)) (B8-0107/2016);

— (O-000011/2016) by Bernd Lange and Christofer Fjellner, on behalf of the INTA Committee, to the Commission: Sustainable development provisions of the EU-West Africa Economic Partnership Agreement (2016/2554(RSP)) (B8-0108/2016).

8. Order of business

The final draft agenda for the February and I 2016 sittings (PE 576.422/PDOJ) had been distributed and the following changes had been proposed (Rule 152):

Monday

No changes.

Tuesday

Request from the ENF Group to include on the agenda, as the first item in the afternoon, a debate on 'The spread of the Zika virus'.

The following spoke: Joëlle Mélin, on behalf of the ENF Group, to move the request, and Enrique Guerrero Salom, to request that the matter first be referred to the competent committee.

Parliament approved the latter request.

The following spoke: Viviane Reding, to insist that report A8-0009/2016 on 'Negotiations for the Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA)', for which she was rapporteur, remain on the agenda for voting time on the Wednesday, Manfred Weber, to support what she had said, and Richard Corbett and Edouard Ferrand on the application of Rule 175.

Request from the GUE/NGL Group to insert, as a fourth item in the joint discussion on the Tuesday afternoon, statements by the Council and the Commission on 'Increased racist hatred and violence against refugees and migrants across Europe'.

The following spoke: Gabriele Zimmer, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, to move the request, Enrique Guerrero Salom, for the request, and Olaf Stuger, against the request.

Parliament voted by EV to approve the request (183 in favour, 142 against, 27 abstentions).

Pervenche Berès said that she would have voted in favour but had not had her voting card.

Wednesday, Thursday

No changes.

The order of business was thus established.
9. European Central Bank annual report for 2014 (debate)


Notis Marias introduced the report.

The following spoke: Mario Draghi (President of the European Central Bank) and Valdis Dombrovskis (Vice-President of the Commission).

IN THE CHAIR: David-Maria SASSOLI
Vice-President

The following spoke: Tom Vandenkendelaere, on behalf of the PPE Group, Costas Mavrides, on behalf of the S&D Group, Stanislaw Ożóg, on behalf of the ECR Group, Cora van Nieuwenhuizen, on behalf of the ALDE Group, Fabio De Masi, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, Ernest Urtasun, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group, Marco Valli, on behalf of the EFDD Group, Gerolf Annemans, on behalf of the ENF Group, Eleftherios Synadinos, non-attached Member, Dariusz Rosati, who also replied to a blue-card question by Peter van Dalen, Roberto Gualtieri, Sander Loones, Enrique Calvet Chambon, Dimitrios Papadimoulis, who also replied to a blue-card question by Jean-Luc Schaffhauser, Patrick O'Flynn, Bernard Monot, Theodor Dumitru Stolojan, Elisa Ferreira, Beatrix von Storch and Luke Ming Flanagan.

IN THE CHAIR: Ramón Luis VALCÁRCEL SISO
Vice-President

The following spoke: Barbara Kappel, who also replied to a blue-card question by Jonathan Arnott, Eva Paunova, Pervenche Berès, Zbigniew Kuźmiuk, Thomas Mann, Peter van Dalen and Siegfried Mureșan.

The following spoke under the catch-the-eye procedure: Ivana Maletić, Romana Tomc, Nicola Caputo, Bernd Lucke, Miguel Viegas, Peter Eriksson, Jonathan Arnott and Jean-Luc Schaffhauser.

The following spoke: Valdis Dombrovskis, Mario Draghi and Notis Marias.

The debate closed.

Vote: next part-session.

10. Recommendations to the European Commission on the negotiations for the Trade in Services Agreement (TiSA) (debate)


Viviane Reding introduced the report.

The following spoke: Cecilia Malmström (Member of the Commission).

The following spoke: Thomas Händel (rapporteur for the opinion of the EMPL Committee), Lola
Sánchez Caldentey (rapporteur for the opinion of the DEVE Committee), Alessia Maria Mosca (rapporteur for the opinion of the ECON Committee), Virginie Rozière (rapporteur for the opinion of the IMCO Committee), Terry Reintke (rapporteur for the opinion of the REGI Committee), Wim van de Camp (rapporteur for the opinion of the TRAN Committee), David Borrelli (rapporteur for the opinion of the ITRE Committee), Daniel Caspary, on behalf of the PPE Group, who also replied to a blue-card question by Paul Rübig, Jude Kirton-Darling, on behalf of the S&D Group, who also replied to a blue-card question by Anne-Marie Mineur, Emma McClarkin, on behalf of the ECR Group, who declined to take a blue-card question from William (The Earl of) Dartmouth, Marietje Schaake, on behalf of the ALDE Group, who also replied to a blue-card question by William (The Earl of) Dartmouth, Stelios Kouloglou, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, Julia Reda, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group, Tiziana Beghin, on behalf of the EFDD Group, Franz Obermayr, on behalf of the ENF Group, Georgios Epitideios, non-attached Member, Jarosław Wałęsa, David Martin, who also replied to a blue-card question by Jonathan Arnott, Joachim Starbatty, Helmut Scholz, Max Andersson, who also replied to a blue-card question by Tibor Szanyi, Arne Gericke, to request that the agenda be amended to include an item on the latest initiatives by the WHO in response to the Zika virus (the President said that this matter had already been addressed when the agenda was established), Udo Voigt, Santiago Fisas Ayxelà, Bernd Lange, Jana Žitňanská, Anne-Marie Mineur, José Bové, Romana Tomc, Marita Ulvskog, Maria Arena, Inmaculada Rodríguez-Piñero Fernández and Emmanuel Maurel.

The following spoke under the catch-the-eye procedure: Franc Bogović, Tonino Picula, Ruža Tomašić, Ivan Jakovčić, Marina Albiol Guzmán, Ernest Urtasun, Jonathan Arnott and Jean-Luc Schaffhauser.

The following spoke: Cecilia Malmström.

IN THE CHAIR: Alexander Graf LAMBSDORFF

Vice-President

The following spoke: Viviane Reding.

The debate closed.

Vote: minutes of 3.2.2016, item 8.8.

11. Commercial relationship between EU and China and market economy status (debate)

Question for oral answer (O-000005/2016) by Bernd Lange, on behalf of the INTA Committee, to the Commission, on the commercial relationship between the EU and China and market economy status (2016/2514(RSP)) (B8-0102/2016)

Bernd Lange moved the question.

Cecilia Malmström (Member of the Commission) answered the question.

The following spoke: Iuliu Winkler, on behalf of the PPE Group, David Martin, on behalf of the S&D Group, Emma McClarkin, on behalf of the ECR Group, Marietje Schaake, on behalf of the ALDE Group, Helmut Scholz, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, Reinhard Bütikofer, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group, David Borrelli, on behalf of the EFDD Group, Barbara Kappel, on behalf of the ENF Group, Janusz Korwin-Mikke, non-attached Member, Daniel Caspary, Alessia Maria
Mosca, Daniel Dalton, Marielle de Sarnez, William (The Earl of) Dartmouth, who also replied to a blue-card question by David Martin, Jean-Luc Schaffhauser, Salvatore Ciccio, Victor Boştinaru, Bas Belder, Dita Charanzová, Roger Helmer, Franck Proust, Jo Leinen, Jaroslaw Wałęsa, who also reacted to a blue-card question by Janusz Korwin-Mikke, Maria Arena, Wim van de Camp, Joachim Schuster, Christofer Fjellner, Emmanuel Maurel, Jude Kirton-Darling, who also replied to a blue-card question by Jonathan Arnott, Karoline Graswander-Hainz and Inmaculada Rodriguez-Piñero Fernández.

The following spoke under the catch-the-eye procedure: Michaela Šojdrová and Izaskun Bilbao Barandica.

IN THE CHAIR: Sylvie GUILLAUME
Vice-President

The following spoke under the catch-the-eye procedure: Nicola Caputo, Notis Marias, Hannu Takkula, Jill Evans and Tiziana Beghin.

The following spoke: Cecilia Malmström.

The debate closed.

12. Composition of committees and delegations
The President had received the following requests for appointments from the GUE/NGL Group:

FEMM Committee: João Pimenta Lopes

EMPL Committee: João Pimenta Lopes

Delegation for relations with the Federative Republic of Brazil: João Pimenta Lopes

Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly: João Pimenta Lopes

The appointments would be deemed ratified if there were no objections before the approval of these minutes.

13. Request for the defence of parliamentary immunity
Mario Borghezio MEP had submitted a request for the defence of his immunity in connection with proceedings brought against him before the Milan District Court.

Under Rule 9(1), the request had been referred to the committee responsible, the JURI Committee

Question for oral answer (O-000011/2016) by Christofer Fjellner, on behalf of the INTA Committee, to the Commission: Sustainable development provisions of the EU-West Africa Economic Partnership Agreement (2016/2554(RSP)) (B8-0108/2016)

Bernd Lange (deputising for the author) moved the question.
Cecilia Malmström (Member of the Commission) answered the question.

The following spoke: Jude Kirton-Darling, on behalf of the S&D Group, Daniel Caspary, on behalf of the PPE Group, João Ferreira, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, Arne Gericke, on behalf of the ECR Group, Ska Keller, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group, Christofer Fjellner and David Martin.

The following spoke under the catch-the-eye procedure: Maria Arena and Notis Marias.

The following spoke: Cecilia Malmström.

The debate closed.

15. **Mid-term review of the EU biodiversity strategy** (debate)


Mark Demesmaeker introduced the report.

The following spoke: Karmenu Vella (Member of the Commission).

The following spoke: Jordi Sebastià (rapporteur for the opinion of the DEVE Committee), Norbert Lins, on behalf of the PPE Group, Karin Kadenbach, on behalf of the S&D Group, Jadwiga Wiśniewska, on behalf of the ECR Group, Catherine Bearder, on behalf of the ALDE Group, Lynn Boylan, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, Margrete Auken, on behalf of the Verts/ALE Group, Marco Affronte, on behalf of the EFDD Group, Pilar Ayuso, Renata Briano, Gerben-Jan Gerbrandy, Julia Reid, Francesc Gambús, Jan Huitema, Elisabeth Köstinger, Herbert Dorfmann and Alojz Peterle.

The following spoke under the catch-the-eye procedure: Marijana Petir, Tibor Szanyi, Notis Marias, Ulrike Müller, João Ferreira and Jonathan Arnott.

The following spoke: Karmenu Vella.

The debate closed.

Vote: *minutes of 2.2.2016, item 6.10.*

16. **One-minute speeches on matters of political importance**

In accordance with Rule 163, the following Members who wished to draw the attention of Parliament to matters of political importance spoke for one minute:


17. **Agenda of the next sitting**

The agenda of the next day's sitting had been established ('Agenda' PE 576.422/OJMA).
18. Closure of the sitting

The sitting closed at 23.45.

Klaus Welle  
Secretary-General

Sylvie Guillaume  
Vice-President
ATTENDANCE REGISTER

1.2.2016

Present:

Excused:

Crowley, Dodds Anneliese, Engström, Konečná, Le Pen Jean-Marie, McAvan, McGuinness, Melior, Michels, Vallina, Verheyen