Ms Vălean, Chair
Mr Liese, Coordinator of the EPP group
Mr Brannen, Acting Coordinator of the S&D group
Mr Piecha, Acting Coordinator of the ECR group
Mr Gerbrandy, Coordinator of the ALDE group
Ms Reid, Coordinator of the EFDD group

1. ADOPTION OF DRAFT AGENDA
The draft agenda was adopted in the form shown in these minutes

2. CHAIR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS

2.1 Exchange of views with the climate activist Greta Thunberg during the April part-session
The Chair informed that the Conference of Presidents was likely to decide today to ask ENVI to organise an ENVI meeting open to all interested Member to hold an exchange of views with Greta Thunberg during the April part-session. The meeting would probably take place on Tuesday, 16 April after the votes. As for the format, the Chair suggested to have a round of political groups representatives after the statement of Greta Thunberg.

3. DECISIONS ON PROCEDURE - PARTIAL AGREEMENT ON LIFE PROGRAMME

Decision taken: Following a proposal by the rapporteur, and pending guidelines from the Conference of Presidents, coordinators decided to hold the ENVI Committee vote on the partial provisional agreement as planned. Concerning the plenary vote, they decided to follow closely the developments in the Conference of Presidents and between the EP and the Council and take a decision on the basis of those developments at a later stage, possibly in written procedure.
4. POINTS FOR INFORMATION

4.1 Commission documents received

Legislative proposals

   ENVII/8/17544

Documents received for information

   COM(2019)0095

3. Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council and the European Economic and Social Committee European Union: Strategic Approach to Pharmaceuticals in the Environment
   COM(2019)0128

4. Report from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the implementation of the Circular Economy Action Plan
   COM(2019)0190

   JOIN(2019)0004

Other documents received

   SWD(2019)0030

   SWD(2019)0031
SWD(2019)0032

SWD(2019)0033

SWD(2019)0034

SWD(2019)0035

SWD(2019)0036

SWD(2019)0037

SWD(2019)0038


SWD(2019)0046

SWD(2019)0047

SWD(2019)0048

SWD(2019)0049

SWD(2019)0050

SWD(2019)0051

SWD(2019)0052

SWD(2019)0053


SWD(2019)0076

SWD(2019)0077

SWD(2019)0078

SWD(2019)0079

SWD(2019)0080

SWD(2019)0081

SWD(2019)0082

SWD(2019)0083

61. Commission staff working document Accompanying the document Report from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the implementation of the Circular Economy Action Plan SWD(2019)0090


64. Commission Decision on the adoption of the candidate list for submission to the Council and to the European Parliament with a view to the appointment of four members of the Management Board of the European Medicines Agency C(2019)0621

4.2 Petitions for information

- Petition No 0671/2018 by J.F.G. (Spanish) on the implementation of dissuasive measures for driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs.

- Petition No 0729/2018 by Massimo Scarafia (Italian) on the adoption of new techniques for the disposal and recycling of waste.

- Petition No 0731/2018 by Aurelio González Peris (Spanish), on behalf of the association Mesa de la Ría de Huelva, on the rafts of dredged material in Huelva, Spain.

- Petition No 0772/2018 by R.G. (French) on the prohibition of the corrida.

- Petition No 0787/2018 by Simon Gould (British) on the ban on smoking spaces in airports.

- Petition No 0797/2018 by N.S. (British) on quality of cross-border healthcare.

- Petition No 0935/2018 by E. P. (French), bearing 162 signatures, on improving the conditions of the Planas del Rey housing development in the municipality of Pratdip, Catalonia (Spain).

- Petition No 0943/2018 by M.J. (German) on the interpretation and application of measures to combat air pollution in Germany and other EU Member States.

- Petition No 0945/2018 by Tomt Lenz (German) on Directive 2012/19/EU on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE).
4.3 Case-law of interest for the ENVI Committee

- Judgements of 7 March 2019 in Cases T-716/14, Anthony C. Tweedale/ European Food Safety Authority (EFSA) and T-329/17 Hautala e.a./ European Food Safety Authority (EFSA)

The file included a press release of the General Court of the European Union on the judgment of the General Court annulling the decisions of EFSA refusing access to two toxicity studies on the active substance glyphosate, conducted in connection with the procedure to renew approval of that active substance, in so far as EFSA refuses to disclose the whole of those studies, with the exception of the names and signatures of the persons mentioned therein. The Court ruled that Aarhus Convention Regulation and Directive, as well as Regulation 1049/2001, provide that access to documents must be granted inter alia on the basis of the purposes pursued by those documents; namely, with reference to theses specific cases, on the basis of the fact that the concerned documents are relevant for the safety assessment carried out by the Authority. In the light of that, the General Court concluded that access should have been granted to the requested documents because they are relevant for the assessment of safety. Even in the case those documents would contain confidential information, according to the General Court, access should have been granted in reason of an overriding public interest in disclosure.

- Judgement of 7 March 2019 in Case T-837/16, Sweden v Commission

The file included an information note from the EP Legal Service on the judgment of the General Court annulling Commission Implementing Decision C(2016)5644 granting an authorisation for some uses of lead sulfochromate yellow and of lead chromate molybdate sulphate red under Regulation (EC) No 1907/2006 (REACH). In particular, the General Court found that in the case at stake uncertainties remained on the availability of alternatives and therefore the authorisation of those substances could not be granted.

4.4 Documents recently published by the European Court of Auditors

Special report No 04/2019 “The control system for organic products has improved, but some challenges remain”

This special report examines the EU's control system governing the production, processing, distribution and imports of organic products. The Court assessed whether the EU's control system now provides greater assurance to consumers that organic food in the EU is truly organic. The Court checked whether the European Commission remedied the weaknesses identified in 2012, this time covering the import regimes more extensively. In addition to following up on the six previously visited Member States (United Kingdom, Germany, Italy, Spain, France and Ireland), audit visits in the EU were carried out in Bulgaria and the Czech Republic. The report acknowledges improvements in the control system, but also points to challenges such as harmonising enforcement measures and timely reporting on non-compliance. The Court makes a number of recommendations to the Commission: it should address remaining weaknesses in Member State control systems and reporting, improve supervision over imports through better cooperation, and carry out more complete traceability checks.
Audit Preview on “EU action to fight antimicrobial resistance (AMR)”
This report provides information on an ongoing audit task on EU action against ‘superbugs’, including bacteria which have become resistant to antibiotics. The Court’s audit will focus on the Commission’s and relevant agencies’ management of key activities and resources to support Member States as well as EU research aimed at fighting AMR. The Court is particularly focusing on the support provided by Commission and the European Centre for Disease Prevention to Member States on strengthening their One Health Action Plans, on the EU framework for monitoring antimicrobial resistance and consumption in the veterinary sector, and on the Commission’s and agencies’ coordination, targeting and evaluation mechanisms within the framework of EU support for AMR research.

Remarks in brief on “The Commission’s legislative proposals for the next multiannual financial framework (MFF)”
This report provides a general overview of the Court’s views about the proposed MFF as well as its observations on specific policies such as agriculture, cohesion and international cooperation. It also covers crosscutting aspects, including the rule of law, the fight against fraud and EU accountability. The report focuses on the proposed process of setting spending priorities, the flexibility and performance orientation of the EU budget and administrative simplification, as well as audit arrangements.

5. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

6. NEXT COORDINATORS' MEETING

July 2019 (date tbc)