

PRELIMINARY DRAFT PROGRAMME

Public Hearing

of the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection

Award of concessions contracts

Wednesday 21 March 2012 from 09.00 to 11.00

European Parliament, Brussels

Room: PHS 4B001

NB: Please note that this draft version is still under review by the Rapporteur

10.00 - 10.10 Opening session

- *Opening remarks by the Chair, Mr Malcolm Harbour* 5'
- *Introduction by the Rapporteur, Mr Philippe Juvin* 5'

10.10 - 11.00 Session 1 - Defining the instrument: objectives and scope

This first session seeks to introduce the proposed instrument for the award of concessions contracts. It should focus on questions relating to the need to intervene, the definition and scope of the instrument, including appropriate thresholds. This could be done first from a more general / strategic point of view, followed by the experience of an economic operator / concession holder

1.1) The challenge of regulating service concessions and public-private partnerships - EU legislation for more legal certainty? 10'

- Academia / Legal services
Ex: Michael Burnett, accountant / PPP specialist, EIPA (European Institute for Public Administration) (UK / NL) (*tbc*)

1.2) A light touch regime? Procedural requirements, with particular regards to the application of exclusion, selection and award criteria for service concessions 15'

- Contracting authority /entity
Ex: Rainer Plassmann, CEEP, Public utility company Cologne (Stadtwerke Köln) (Germany) (*tbc*)
- Concession holder
Ex: Pascal Belmin, VP Head of Antitrust and Trade, Legal Department, EADS (France) (*tbc*)
Ex: Rainier d'Haussonville, Veolia (France) (*tbc*)

- Anti-corruption specialist
Ex.: Tina Soreide, OECD
Ex: Judge / OECD / Transparency International

Debate with Members and stakeholders

25'

11.00 - 11.50 Session 2 - Managing concessions in practice: a practical stakeholders view

The second session looks at how concessions contracts are awarded and managed in practice, with an emphasis procedural requirements and stakeholders' needs .

2.1) Common rules for service concessions - what are the market needs?

25'

Stakeholder panel discussion

(N.b.: the objective would be to have approx. 4 participants and 3 rounds of questions with a response time of 1-2 minutes per panelist each; below, a longer potential list of panelists is proposed to increase choice).

- Contracting authority
ex.: Mr Henk Kool, Deputy Mayor City of The Hague, Rapporteur on Concessions of the Committee of the Regions (Netherlands/Belgium) and Member of the Board of Eurocities (European Network of major European Cities) *(tbc)*
Ex: Communal association? *(tbc)*
- Trade Union
Ex.: EPSU (European Federation of Public Service Unions)
- Concession holder
Ex: Brigitte Simon, Legal Counsel, Vinci construction group (France) *(tbc)*
Ex: ESPO (European Sea Port Association) *(tbc)*
Ex: German Association of Port Authorities) (Germany) *(tbc)*
- Legal services/Academia
Ex.: Prof. Christopher Bovis (Hull University) (UK) *(tbc)*
Ex: Michael Jürgen Werner (Managing Partner, Norton Rose Brussels) (Belgium) *(tbc)*
Ex: Denis Edwards, Barrister (UK) *(tbc)*

The panel should provide a contrasted view on the practical application of concessions management, to allow taking into account the different stakeholder views and needs. Participants should be briefed in advance about the precise number/content of questions to be raised / have succinct statements ready for sharing with the audience.

Debate with Members and stakeholders

25'

11.50 - 12.00 Closing session

- *Conclusions by the Rapporteur, Mr Philippe Juvin* 5'
- *Closing remarks by the Chair, Mr Malcolm Harbour* 5'
