

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND

PE/III/DAUNZ/XXVII/PV04/06

Tuesday 28 November 2006

11.30 - 12.30

A5G-2

Brussels

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Annexe: Record of attendance

The Chairman of the Delegation, Mr Parish opened the meeting at 1130hrs.

1. Adoption of the draft agenda

PE 381.123

The agenda was adopted without amendment.

2. Adoption of the draft minutes of the meeting on 24 October 2006

PE 381.105

The minutes of the meeting were adopted without amendment.

3. Communications by the Chairman

Mr Parish welcomed the representatives of the Australia and New Zealand missions to the EU. He announced that he would be writing a letter of thanks to H.E. Peter Grey, former Australian ambassador, who had recently left Brussels. Mr Parish also welcomed the new Commission desk office, Mr Luc Vandebon. Finally he noted that the meeting would be followed by a buffet reception directly outside the meeting room to which all members and staff were invited.

Mr Parish also expressed his unhappiness that interpretation facilities were often not available to the delegation.

4. Presentation of the draft programme of delegation activity for 2007

Members were presented with the draft programme of delegation activity. They were informed that it was still to be approved by the Conference of Presidents. Mr Parish noted that the date of the IPM with New Zealand had not yet been finalised.

Ms Sarah Storey of the Australian Mission presented the revised programme for the visit to Australia scheduled for w/c 26 February 2007.

Mr Rack reiterated his view that no interpreters should be taken. Mr Parish noted this but stated that the final decision on the matter would rest with him. Mr Nicholson argued that the delegation could be flexible about numbers to be taken in 2007 to Australia. Mr Chichester endorsed the views of the two previous speakers.

Mr Parish noted that each political group should organise breakfast meetings with their political counterparts while in Canberra.

Mr Rack spoke in favour of a university visit. He also welcomed proposals to discuss immigration issues. Ms Storey stated that it might be possible to arrange a meeting with the Minister with responsibility for Immigration matters.

Mr Parish noted that it could be appropriate to split the delegation into two groups so that they might discuss particular issues of interest.

Mr Nicholson expressed his appreciation for the work done in preparing the programme. He argued that the delegation needed to be well informed about the most developments concerning REACH. He looked forward to meeting provincial parliamentarians in Western Australia. He also underlined the importance of discussing agricultural issues. Mr Parish said that the delegation could look at agriculture and wine issues in Western Australia.

Ms Story noted that it might be possible to meet provincial MPs from Western Australia on the Thursday afternoon and also Federal MPs who had returned for the weekend.

Mr Claeys supported proposals to discuss immigration issues and foreign affairs.

Mr Cramer noted that he would not be going but asked about Australia's position on the Kyoto Protocol

Ms Burrows of the Australian Mission stated that Australia had signed the Protocol but had not ratified it and there were no prospects of this happening in the near future. The government was examining the issue of climate change and meetings with the relevant people could be arranged.

Mr Chichester echoed the need to examine the issue of climate change and underlined that it should be linked to energy issues. He stressed that it was important not to lose sight of the issue while in Canberra. Ms Storey stressed that immigration and energy issues would be core features of the visit.

Mr Takkula expressed his wish to come and to visit universities, noting that Australia and New Zealand had performed very well in the latest PISA study. He stressed that the EU might learn valuable lessons in this area. Mr Parish referred to the useful debate that had taken place in a university during the visit to New Zealand.

Mr Simpson asked for a briefing on Australia. Mr Parish noted that a background note would be prepared and that the Commission would be invited to the next delegation meeting on 24 January 2007 to give members an update.

5. Any other business

Mr Vandebon from the Commission introduced himself and expressed his willingness to brief the delegation at the next meeting.

Ms Lowe from the New Zealand mission stated that a decision would be taken in March/April next year about a visit in 2007 to the European Parliament. Mr Parish noted that he would like New Zealand members to come in the autumn.

6. Date and place of the next meeting

Mr Parish announced that the next meeting would take place on Wednesday 24 January 2007 between 10.15 hrs and 11.15 hrs.

The meeting closed at 12.15hrs.

**DELTAGERLISTE/ANWESENHEITSLISTE/ΚΑΤΑΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/LITE RECORD
OF ATTENDANCE/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/LISTE DE PRESENCE/ELENCO DEI
PRESENTI/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA**

Til stede	Formandskabet/Vorstand/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Ufficio di Presidenza/Mesa/Puhemiehistö/J.L. Presidium: (*) Neil PARISH (P)
Anwesend	Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Μέλη/Members/Diputados/Députés/Deputati/Leden/Deputados/Jäsenet/Ledamöter:
Παρόντες	Mr. CHICHESTER Giles, Mr. CLAEYS Philip, Mr. CRAMER Michael, Mr. HÄNSCH Klaus, Ms KLAMT Ewa, Mr. KOTEREC Miloš, Mr. NICHOLSON James, Mr. RACK Reinhard, Mr. RUTOWICZ Leopold Józef, Mr. SIMPSON Brian, Mr. TAKKULA Hannu
Present	Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suplentes/Suppléants/Membri supplenti/ Plaatsvervangers/ Membros suplentes/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter:
Presentes	Mr. DOVER Den, Mr. RÜBIG Paul, Mr. ZĪLE Roberts
Présents	
Presenti	
Aanwezig	
Lasna	
Närvarande	
Art. 183,3	
Art. 178,2	
Endv. Deltog/Weitere Teiln./ Συμμετείχαν επίσης/Also present Participaron igualmente/ Participaient également/ Hanno partecipato altresì/ Andere deelnemers/ Outros participantes/ Muut osallistujat/ Dessutom deltog	
(Dagsorden/Tagesordnung Pkt/Ημερήσια Διάταξη Σημεί/Point OJ/Punto OG/Agenda Punt/Ordem do dia Punto/punto orden del dia/Esityslist Kohta/ Föredragningslista punkt):	

- * (P) = Formand/Vorsitzender/Πρόεδρος/Chairman/Président/Presidente/Voorzitter/Presidente/Puhemies/Ordförande
(VP) = Næstform./Stellv.Vorsitz./Αντιπρόεδρος/Vice-Chairman/Vice-Président/Vicepresidente/Varapuhemies/Ondervoorz./
Vice-Pres./Vicepres/Vice ordförande.

Til stede den/Anwesend am/Παρόν στις/Present on/Présent le/Presente il/Aanwezig op/Presente em/Presenteel/Läsnä/Närvarande den.

