



ЕВРОПЕЙСКИ ПАРЛАМЕНТ PARLAMENTO EUROPEO EVROPSKÝ PARLAMENT EUROPA-PARLAMENTET
EUROPÄISCHES PARLAMENT EUROOPA PARLAMENT ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟ ΚΟΙΝΟΒΟΥΛΙΟ EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN PARLAIMINT NA HEORPA PARLAMENTO EUROPEO EIROPAS PARLAMENTS
EUROPOS PARLAMENTAS EURÓPAI PARLAMENT IL-PARLAMENT EWROPEW EUROPEES PARLEMENT
PARLAMENT EUROPEJSKI PARLAMENTO EUROPEU PARLAMENTUL EUROPEAN
EURÓPSKY PARLAMENT EVROPSKI PARLAMENT EUROOPAN PARLAMENTTI EUROPAPARLAMENTET

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH THE COUNTRIES OF CENTRAL AMERICA

DCAM/PV 01 /2009

MINUTES

MEETING

BRUSSELS

Tuesday, 27 January 2009

from 09.30 to 10.30

Room: ASP A5G2

**Exchange of views with
economic affairs ministers from Central America
on
the sixth round of negotiations on the
European Union-Central America Association Agreement**

Annex I: List of participants

Annex II: List of participants from Central America

Brussels, 9 March 2009

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The meeting opened at 09.05 with Mr Raimon OBIOLS I GERMÀ in the chair.

The Chair welcomed those present, especially the economic affairs ministers from Central America and the members of his delegation.

Exchange of views with economic affairs ministers from Central America on the sixth round of negotiations on the European Union-Central America Association Agreement

Before starting the exchange of views, the Chair pointed out that the European Parliament's position on the process of negotiating an association agreement between the European Union and Central had been made clear by Mr Willy Meier, MEP, and highlighted in particular the importance of acknowledging asymmetries, support for the regional integration process, the involvement of civil society in the negotiating process and the need to consider the association agreement's social and environmental impact. The Chair also hoped that the negotiations could be concluded in the first half of 2009.

An exchange of views then commenced with the ministers present:

Mr Rómulo Caballeros, Guatemala's Minister for Economic Affairs, pointed out that the 25th anniversary of the San José Dialogue would fall in May 2009 and highlighted the importance his country attached to concluding the negotiations in the first half of 2009. He also emphasised that this would be the first region-to-region instrument of its type.

Mr Ricardo Esmahan, El Salvador's Minister for Economic Affairs, also hoped that the negotiations could be concluded in the next few months. The economic situation in Central America would also be affected by the international financial and economic crisis. He stressed that such an agreement with the European Union would help diversify Central America's external trade and overcome the present crisis. He also highlighted the need for broad support for the agreement across the board, by Central American societies.

Mr Orlando Solorzano, Nicaragua's Minister for Economic Development, Industry and Trade, highlighted the fact that, in addition to the trade pillar, the political dialogue and cooperation pillars were of major importance under the agreement. He also pointed out that the negotiations were taking place at a difficult time of international economic crisis and that concluding the negotiations would send a positive message. He emphasised the political nature of the agreement and welcomed the European Parliament's support in the negotiating process.

Mr Marco Vinicio Ruiz, Costa Rica's Minister for External Trade, pointed out that Central America sought greater development based on democracy and sustainable development. He advocated a greater European presence in Central America, diversification of Central American countries' external trade and increased European investment in the region. He also pointed out that meeting the European Union's plant health standards meant a challenge for Central America's economies, since it required technical cooperation. Winding up, he pointed to the degree of convergence there was between the European Union and Central America on many issues of global interest, but also cited a number of sensitive products (sugar, meat, bananas) for which acceptable terms would have to be secured for access to the European market.

In the ensuing debate, Miguel Ángel Martínez, Luis Yáñez, Pilar Ayuso, María Badia and the Chair spoke on the following issues: the need to conclude the negotiations in the first half of the year, the possible impact of the elections in El Salvador, environmental and consumer protection standards, the state of integration in Central America, intellectual property, the position of Panama with regard to the negotiations and the need to complete social and environmental impact studies before the negotiations were concluded.

The meeting closed at 10.30.

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**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: (*) Raimon Obiols i Germà (P);
Anwesend	Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Μέλη/Members/Diputados/Députés/Deputati/Leden/Deputados/Jäsenet/Ledamöter: Irena Belohorská
Παρόντες	Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suplentes/Suppléants/ Membri supplenti/Plaatsvervangers/Membros suplentes/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter: Maria Badia i Cutchet; Astrid Lulling; Miguel Angel Martínez Martínez;
Present	
Presentes	
Présents	
Presenti	
Aanwezig	
Lasna	
Närvarande	
Art. 178,2	
Art. 183,3	Pilar Ayuso; Karsten Friedrich Hoppenstedt; Christa Klauß
Endv. Deltog/Weitere Teiln./ Συμμετείχαν επίσης/Also present Participaron igualmente/ Participaient également/ Hanno partecipato altresì/ Andere deelnemers/ Outros participantes/ Muut osallistajat/ Dessutom deltog	Ministros Encargados de Comercio de América Central (ver lista)
(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/Παρών στις/Present on/Présent le/Presente il/Aanwezig op/Presente em/Presenteel/Läsna/Närvarande den.

<p>Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung d. Vorsitzenden/Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chairman/Por invitación del presidente/Sur l'invitation du président/Su invito del presidente/Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/A convite do presidente/Puhemiesien kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan:</p> <p>Rådet/Rat/Συμβούλιο/Council/Consejo/Conseil/Consiglio/Raad/Conselho/Neuvosto/Rådet: (*) JANSSEN; Kommissionen/Kommission/Επιτροπή/Commission/Comisión/Commissione/Commissie/Comissão/Komissio/Kommissionen: (*)</p> <p>Cour des comptes: C.E.S.:</p>		
<p>Andre deltagere/Andere Teilnehmer Επίσης Παρόντες/Also present Otros participantes/Autres participants/Altri partecipanti Andere aanwezigen/Outros participantes Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagaree</p>		<p>ESMAHAW (Embajada de El Salvador); CARPIO MENDOZA, (Embajada de Honduras) CHICAS, MOLINA, MORALES (Embajada de Guatemala); TRINIDAD, SISNIEGA, CASTRO, PALACIOS (Guatemala) SANDINO, SOMARIBA, URBINA (Nicaragua) ECHANDI, RUIZ, LOPE (Costa Rica) ROSSIE (PARLATINO), GARCIA; PIMENTEL (SIECA); NAVAS; DE SGER (FEMICA); CASTILLO FLORES (FMICA-CCSICA); MOLINA (CCSICA); DIAZ; CAMIZALEZ (MINEC); VILLAR (AGENCIA EFE)</p>
<p>Gruppernes sekretariat Sekretariat der Fraktionen Γραμματεία των Πολ. Ομάδων Secretariat political groups Secr. De los grupos políticos Secr. Groupes politiques Segr. Dei gruppi politici Secr. Van de fracties Secr. Dos grupos políticos Puolueryhmien sihteeristö Gruppernas sekretariat</p>	<p>PPE-DE PSE ALDE Verts/ALE GUE/NGL IND/DEM UEN NI</p>	<p>ORSAGOVA MUNIZ DE URQUIZA</p>
<p>Cab. Du Président</p>		
<p>Cab. Du Secrétaire Général</p>		
<p>Generaldirektorat Generaldirektion Γενική Διεύθυνση Directorate-General Dirección general Direction générale Direzione generale Directoraat-generaal Direcção general Contrôle financier Service juridique Pääosasto Generaldirektorat</p>	<p>I II III IV V VI VII</p>	<p>RODAS; ENCISO Y BERGE; NEVES; OLEIRO; VALENTE DA SILVA; CONTRERAS;</p>
<p>Udvalgssekretariatet Ausschubsekretariat Γραμματεία επιτροπής Committee secretariat Secretaria de la comisión Secrétariat de la commission Segretariato della commissione Commissiesecretariaat Secretaria de comissão Valiokunnan sihteeristö Utskottssekretariatet Assist./Βοηθός</p>		<p>MASUR</p> <p>AZPIRI LEJARDI</p>

* (P) = Formand/Pres./Πρόεδρος/Chairman/Président/Voorzitter/Puhemies/Ordförande

(VP) = Næstform./Vize-Pres./Αντιπρόεδρος/Vice-Chairman/Vice-Président/Ondervoorz./Vice-pres/Varapuhemies/Vice ordförande.

(M) = Medlem./Mitglied/Μέλος/Member/Miembro/Membre/Membro/Lid/Membro/Jäsen/Ledamot

(F) = Tjenestemand/Beamter/Υπάλληλος/Official/Funcionario/Fonctionnaire/Funzionario/Ambtenaar/Functionário/Virkamies/Tjänsteman

DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH THE COUNTRIES OF CENTRAL AMERICA

27 January 2009

List of participants

Delegation of Central American economic affairs ministers

- *Mr Rómulo CABALLEROS, Minister with responsibility for trade, Guatemala*
- *Mr Ricardo ESMAHAN d'AUBUISSON, Minister with responsibility for trade, El Salvador*
- *Mr Fredis CERRATO, Minister with responsibility for trade, Honduras*
- *Mr Orlando SALVADOR SOLÓRZANO DELGADILLO, Minister with responsibility for trade, Nicaragua*
- *Mr Marco VINICIO RUIZ, Minister with responsibility for trade, Costa Rica*