

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH THE COUNTRIES OF CENTRAL AMERICA

DCAM/PV/02-2009

MINUTES

MEETING

BRUSSELS

Wednesday, 28 January 2009

15:00 to 17:30

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| 1. Adoption of draft agenda | 2 |
| 2. Approval of draft minutes of meeting of 2 December 2008 | 2 |
| 3. Chair's announcements | 2 |
| 4. Forthcoming visit of a delegation working group to Central America
(23-27 February 2009) | 2 |

In connection with the sixth round of negotiations for the EU-Central America Association Agreement:

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| 5. Exchange of views on the state of the negotiations for the EU-Central America Association Agreement | 2 |
| 6. Other business | 3 |
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Annex I: Record of attendance

Brussels, 10 March 2009
WM/nal

The meeting opened at 15.05, chaired by Raimon OBIOLS i GERMÀ.

1. Adoption of draft agenda

Adopted.

2. Approval of draft minutes of meeting of 2 December 2008

Approved.

3. Chair's announcements

The chair reported on his meeting the previous day, Tuesday, 27 January 2009, with a Central American ministerial delegation to examine the prospects for the sixth round of negotiations. The participants in this meeting included:

Rómulo CABALLEROS (Guatemala);

Ricardo ESMAHAN d'AUBUISSON (El Salvador);

Orlando SALVADOR SOLÓRZANO DELGADILLO (Nicaragua);

Marco VINICIO RUIZ (Costa Rica).

He also reported on the round table held that same morning with the participation of Central American parliamentarians, some of the negotiators, the Commission, and representatives of civil society.

He further announced the visit, scheduled for 11 February 2009 from 11.00, of a high-level Costa Rican delegation, consisting of the ministers for health, culture and external trade. There would be a formal meeting of the delegation for this occasion.

4. Forthcoming visit of a delegation working group to Central America (23-27 February 2009)

The chair set out the various options for the visit to Central America scheduled for the week of 23-27 February 2009. Following an exchange of views (speakers: MEYER, FERNÁNDEZ MARTÍN and the chair), it was agreed that the countries visited would be Costa Rica and Honduras.

5. Exchange of views on the state of the negotiations for the EU-Central America Association Agreement

In the context of the sixth round of negotiations for the EU-Central America Association Agreement, the chair requested an exchange of views with representatives of Central

American civil society. He stressed that Parliament's position on the negotiations with Central America is summarised in the report by Willy Meyer.

Mr FERNÁNDEZ MARTÍN expressed his appreciation of this initiative enabling a continued dialogue with representatives of civil society, and spoke on two key aspects of the negotiating process, namely problems of asymmetry and the timetable.

An exchange of views was then held with representatives of social organisations from both Central America and Europe (CIFCA, Oxfam International, Grupo Sur, APRODEV, the European Trade Union Confederation and the Central American Trade Union Platform). The speakers evoked a number of concerns and offered various suggestions regarding the negotiations for the Association Agreement. Especially stressed were: the potential impact of the agreement on development in the region; the absence of a socio-environmental impact assessment; human rights; environmental rights; and the rights of the indigenous peoples.

Winding up the debate, the chair made the following remarks:

- what is involved is more than a mere free trade agreement: importance must be laid on the political dialogue and cooperation pillars, pursuing as they do the goals of human development and sustainable development;
- continued respect for the existing asymmetries will be essential;
- it is vital to ensure respect for human rights and democracy;
- before concluding the negotiations, it will be essential to examine the issue of social and environmental impact;
- the agreement must contribute to the regional integration process.

6. Other business

None.

7. Date and place of next meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, 17 February 2009 in Brussels, at 17.30.

The meeting closed at 17.10.

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**DELTAGERLISTE/ANWESENHEITSLISTE/ΚΑΤΑΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/LIITE 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; Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suplentes/Suppléants/ Membri supplenti/Plaatsvervangers/Membros suplentes/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter:
Παρόντες	Astrid Lulling;
Present	
Presentes	
Présents	
Presenti	
Aanwezig	
Lasna	
Närvarande	
Art. 178,2	
Art. 183,3	Pilar Ayuso; Fernando Fernández Martín; Emilio Menéndez del Valle
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/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/Puhemiehen kutsusta/ På ordförandens inbjudan:</p> <p>Rådet/Rat/Συμβούλιο/Council/Consejo/Conseil/Consiglio/Raad/Conselho/Neuvosto/Rådet: (*) OTT Kommissionen/Kommission/Επιτροπή/Commission/Comisión/Commissione/Commissie/Comissão/Komissio/Kommissionen: (*) ROMEO; DUCROQUET-LAVIN Cour des comptes: C.E.S.:</p>		
<p>Andre deltagere/Andere Teilnehmer Επίσης Παρόντες/Also present Otros participantes/Autres participants/Altri partecipanti Andere aanwezigen/Otros participantes Muut osallistajat/Övriga deltagare</p>		<p>CARPIO MENDOZA (Embajada de Honduras) SAUCEDA (Honduras) CHICAS; (Embajada de Guatemala); RIEDEL TELGE; FELIX; PALACIOS (Guatemala) MORALES; JIMENEZ ZELEDON; MERINO DEL RIO (Embajada Costa Rica) GARCIA; MORENO (Embajada El Salvador) URBINA, BARAHONA (Embajada Nicaragua) MORALES (Embajada Costa Rica); FERNANDEZ; THOMSON AGUIELLO; ZEPEDA LOPES; SOLORZANO DELGADILLO; JARQUIN (Nicaragua) NIOTRIACH (Embajada Panamá) ROSSI (PARLATINO); LAGOS (PARLACEN) BOSMAN; ROBLEDO GONZALEZ; PEREZ; IBERO (CIFCA); DEL FELICE (CIDIN); VAN MELE (OXFAM); MORENO (CES-ETUC); MORALES (PSCC); MIRANDA (MASA POR LA JUSTICIA LABORAL); VASSALLO (ENRAIDE ET FRATERNITE) BERTER, POSTHAUMA DE BOER (CLAT); VALERIO (FOSDEH); GARCIA LOBO; CALLES; CASTRO (CASM/CHAAC); CONNALLY; PRYSTHON; MINERO (TROCAIRE/CIASE); CUBAS; TOLAN FINO (CENTRO HUMBOLDT CID); JANSEN (FIAN SUECIA); ANDERSSON (APRODEV) CASTRO (GRUPO SUR)</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 politicos Puolueryhmien sihteeristö Gruppernas sekretariat</p>	<p>PPE-DE PSE ALDE Verts/ALE GUE/NGL IND/DEM UEN NI</p>	<p>SALAFRANCA MUNIZ URQUIZA MUNOA SALABERRIA; REMOQUILLO, PAMBIANCO</p> <p>KROPAITE; KOBIEISTZ</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>SANMARTIN DA SILVA; CONTRERAS,</p>
<p>Udvalgssekretariatet Ausschubsekretariat Γραμματεία επιτροπής Committee secretariat Secretaria de la comisión Secrétariat de la commission Segretariato della commissione</p>		<p>MASUR/NEVES</p>

Commissiesecretariaat Secretaria de comissão Valiokunnan sihteeristö Utskottssekretariatet Assist./Βοηθός	AZPURI LEJARDI
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 (M) = Medlem./Mitglied/Μέλος/Member/Miembro/Membre/Membro/Lid/Membro/Jäsen/Ledamot
 (F) = Tjenestemand/Beamter/Υπάλληλος/Official/Funcionario/Fonctionnaire/Funzionario/Ambtenaar/Functionário/Virkamies/Tjänsteman