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MINUTES
of the meeting of 1 October 2009, 10.15 – 11.15
BRUSSELS

The Chairman, Bastiaan Belder, opened the meeting on Thursday 1 October 2009 at 10.15.

1. Adoption of draft agenda

The draft agenda was adopted.

2. Approval of minutes of the constituent meeting of 17 September 2009

The minutes were approved.

3. Chair's announcements

(a) Joint meetings

The delegation had agreed to encourage joint meetings with other Parliament bodies on subjects of current interest.

The two joint meetings (with the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the Delegation for relations with the Palestinian Legislative Council), scheduled for the week of 5 October, had both been postponed:

- meeting with Mr Goldstone, head of the fact-finding mission to Gaza ordered by the UN Human Rights Council.
- meeting with Geneva Initiative representatives.

New dates would be proposed.

(b) Young Israeli, Arab and European political leaders

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A second meeting between young Israeli, Arab and European political leaders would be held in Brussels from 16 to 19 November 2009. A working lunch with the Delegation for relations with the Palestinian Legislative Council was envisaged for 18 November.

(c) Calendar of activities for 2009

The Chair reported on his talks with members of the government and the Knesset during his visit to Israel the previous week. The Knesset was in the process of setting up its delegation for relations with the European Parliament but had made clear the importance of renewing contact as soon as possible.

The weekend of 16 to 19 November had been suggested to this end. With the delegation's agreement, the date would be included in the draft 2009 calendar, which would be presented to the Conference of Delegation Chairs on 1 October, before being formally approved by the Conference of Presidents on 15 October.

(d) Documentation/information

To ensure continuous and appropriate information for members, the secretariat would regularly send documents or text links by e-mail. Members were invited to put forward suggestions in this connection.

4. Exchange of views with Ran Curiel, Ambassador of Israel

The Israeli Ambassador made a number of points:

- On the peace process

- Some optimism after the recent statements and meetings in New York; the negotiations should resume shortly.
- A positive trend in the situation on the ground, particularly in terms of security: the number of check points was falling, owing to US aid, not forgetting the European Union; tourism was resuming (one million visitors), a combined effort by the Israeli and Palestinian authorities.
- The concept of the Jewish State must not be understood in religious terms; it represented the self-determination of the Jewish people, accompanied by recognised, integrated minorities.
- The international community must continue to give constant attention to the Iranian nuclear threat; the American dialogue initiative could be positive to this end.

On Israeli-EU relations

- The nature of relations between Israel and the European Union must go beyond the framework of exchanges of declarations to become a genuine permanent dialogue. The EU must hold out a hand to Israel, particularly with regard to participation in Community programmes.
- Israel was not content with a standardised good neighbourhood model but favoured a specific, appropriate relationship.

There was a discussion on the following subjects:

- The way in which the debate on security was handled took in the question of the creation

of Palestinian institutions. The plan proposed by Salam Fayiad was highly appropriate to this end. US and EU aid was essential.

- Mr Curiel considered the report by the Godstone mission on the Israeli military operation in Gaza (on a mandate from the UN Human Rights Council) to be completely partisan and biased, as was shown by the very membership of the council. The 550-page report made no mention anywhere of the Israeli right to self-defence. The Israeli authorities were envisaging a new inquiry.

- The delegation's first Vice-Chair, Cristiano Allam, stressed the need to support the State of Israel in its approach, which was nothing less than defence of a fundamental right, the right to life. Israel was the only state in the world whose very existence was contested by a number of Arab states. Israel was an independent state and its wish to live in peace should not be put under threat.

5. Statement by the Commission representative

Domenico Gigliotti, the Commission representative, outlined relations between Israel and the EU in the context of the European neighbourhood policy and the association agreement.

The action plan had made possible negotiations in a wide variety of areas; it should now be adapted and a new version produced.

Political dialogue was intensifying, in particular on human rights; the informal human rights working party had been turned into a standing committee.

The Chair suggested making a more detailed assessment of the association agreement at a forthcoming meeting.

6. Next meeting

Wednesday 14 October 2009, Brussels (9.30-10.30).

The meeting closed at 11.15.

CTBEH JHICT/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/
ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/KATAΣTACTH ΠAΠONTΩN/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/
LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĚJUMU REĢISTRŠ/DALYVIŲ SAŖAŠAS/JELENLÉTI ÍV/
REGĪSTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/LISTĂ DE PREZENŢĂ/
PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA

Биоро/Меса/Председничество/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/Biuras/Elnökség/
Prezydium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)

Bastiaan Belder (P), Magdi Cristiano Allam (IVP)
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Μέλη/Members/Députés/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/Képviselők/Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Elena Băsescu, Sari Essayah, Ágnes Hankiss, Chrysoula Paliadeli, Frédérique Ries, Andreas SchwabDimitar Stoyanov, Michael Theurer, Róza Thun Und Hohenstein
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantys nariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleantî/Náhradníci/Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
Louis Bontes, Leonidas Donskis, Ismail Ertug, Filip Kaczmarek, Elisabeth Köstinger, Catherine Soullie

187 (2)
193 (3)
46 (6) (Точка от дневния ред/Punto del orden del día/Bod pořadu jednání (OJ)/Punkt på dagsordenen/Tagesordnungspunkt/Päevakorra punkt/Ημερήσια Διάταξη Σημείο/Agenda item/Point OJ/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkēs punktas/Napirendi pont/Punt Aġenda/Agendapunt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/Točka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Föredragningslista punkt)

Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaatlejad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Osservatori/Novērotāji/Stebėtojai/Megfigyelők/Osservatori/Waarnemers/Obserwatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Opazovalci/Tarkkailijat/Observatörer

По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Εσimehe kutsel/Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair(wo)man/Sur l'invitation du président/Su invito del presidente/Pēc priekšsēdētāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmininkui pakvietus/Az elnök meghívására/Fuq stedina tač-'Chairman'/Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/Na zaproszenie Przewodniczącego/A convite do Presidente/La invitația președintelui/Na pozvanie predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan
Ambassadeur Ran Curiel (Mission d'Israël), Domenico Gigliotti (Commission européenne)

СЪВЕТ/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nõukogu/Συμβούλιο/Council/Conseil/Consiglio/Padome/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/Conselho/
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Consiliu/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (*)	
Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Kommissionen/Kommission/Euroopa Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Commissione/Komisija/Bizottság/Kummissjoni/Commissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisja/Komissio/Kommissionen (*)	
Други институции/Otras instituciones/Ostatní orgány a instituce/Andre institutioner/Andere Organe/Muud institutsioonid/Άλλα θεσμικά όργανα/Other institutions/Autres institutions/Altre istituzioni/Citas iestādes/Kitos institucijos/Más intézmények/Istituzzjonijiet oħra/Andere instellingen/Inne instytucje/Outras Instituições/Alte institūīi/Iné inštitúcie/Druge institucije/Muut toimielimet/Andra institutioner/organ	

Други учасници/Otros participantes/Ostatní účastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/Επίσης Παρόντες/Other participants/Autres participants/Altri partecipanti/Citi klātesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Partecipanti oħra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Alți participanți/Ini účastnici/Dруги udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare	
G. Peleg (Mission d'Israël)	
Секретариат на политическите групи/Secretaría de los Grupos políticos/Sekretariát politických skupin/Gruppernes sekretariat/Sekretariat der Fraktionen/Fraktsioonide sekretariaat/Γραμματεία των Πολιτικών Ομάδων/Secretariats of political groups/Secrétariat des groupes politiques/Segreteria gruppi politici/Politisko grupu sekretariāts/Frakciju sekretoriai/Képviselőcsoportok titkársága/Sekretarjat gruppi politici/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secr. dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupin/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristö/Gruppernas sekretariat	
PPE	J. Soutullo, C. Guasto
S&D	B. Marasa, Z. Simon
ALDE	G. McLaughlin
ECR	A. Isaacs
Verts/ALE	
GUE/NGL	
EFD	
NI	

<p>Кабинет на председателя/Gabinete del Presidente/Kancelář předsedy/Formandens Kabinet/Kabinett des Präsidenten/Presidendi kantselēi/Γραφείο Προέδρου/President's Office/Cabinet du Président/Gabinetto del Presidente/Priekšsēdētāja kabinets/Pirmininko kabinetas/Elnöki hivatal/Kabinett tal-President/Kabinet van de Voorzitter/Gabinet Przewodniczącego/Gabinete do Presidente/Cabinet Preşedinte/Kancelária predsedu/Urad predsednika/Puhemiehen kabinetti/Talmannens kansli</p>	
<p>Кабинет на генералния секретар/Gabinete del Secretario General/Kancelář generálního tajemníka/Generalsekretærens Kabinet/Kabinett des Generalsekretærs/Peasekretâri büroo/Γραφείο Γενικού Γραμματέα/Secretary-General's Office/Cabinet du Secrétaire général/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/Ġeneralsekretära kabinets/Generalinio sekretoriaus kabinetas/Főtitkári hivatal/Kabinett tas-Segretarju Ġenerali/Kabinet van de secretaris-generaal/Gabinet Sekretarza Generalnego/Gabinete do Secretário-Geral/Cabinet Secretar General/Kancelária generálneho tajomníka/Urad generalnega sekretarja/Pääsihteerin kabinetti/Generalsekreterarens kansli</p>	
<p>Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/Directorate-General/Direction générale/Direzione generale/Generāldirektorāts/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/Direktorat Ġenerali/Direktoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direcção-Geral/Direcții Generale/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/Pääosasto/Generaldirektorat</p>	
<p>DG PRES DG IPOL DG EXPO DG COMM DG PERS DG INLO DG TRAD DG INTE DG FINS DG ITEC</p>	<p>C. Oaida</p>
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<p>Секретариат на комисията/Secretaría de la comisión/Sekretariát výboru/Udvalgssekretariatet/Ausschusseksretariat/Komisjoni sekretariaat/Γραμματεία επιτροπής/Committee secretariat/Secrétariat de la commission/Segreteria della commissione/Komitejas sekretariāts/Komiteto sekretoriatas/A bizottság titkársága/Sekretarjat tal-kumitat/Commissiesecretariaat/Sekretariat komisji/Sekretariado da comissão/Sekretariat comisie/Sekretariat odbora/Valiokunnan sihteeristö/Utskottssekretariatet</p>	
<p>M. Reinprecht, C. Garrigues, B. Ajmi</p>	
<p>Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asystent/Pomočnik/Avustaja/Assistenten</p>	
<p>E. Screen</p>	

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