



D-IL_PV(2013)0220_1

MINUTES

of the meeting of 20 February 2013, from 14.30 to 16.00
Brussels

The meeting opened at 14.30 on Wednesday, 20 February 2013, with the Chair, Bastiaan Belder, in the chair.

The Chair welcomed the guest-speaker for that day, Sir Michael Leigh, and his fellow MEPs Antoniya Parvanova and Kyriacos Triantaphyllides, who had also been asked to give their views.

1. Adoption of draft agenda (PE 495.820)
The draft agenda was adopted.

2. Chair's announcements

The Chair made the following announcements:

- A joint conference had been held the previous day with the Palestinian delegation on the 'Aladdin project', covering: memory of the holocaust, intercultural and religious dialogue, tolerance. Around a dozen well-known European and Middle Eastern figures from political, academic and artistic life had come to testify.
- A joint meeting had been held that morning between the Middle East working group and the Palestinian delegation, to hear the Israeli NGO 'Blue White Future' set out their ideas on the future of the settlements.
- Israeli President Shimon Peres would visit the EP on 7 March 2013.

3. Exchange of views on 'Gas under the Mediterranean: implications for Israel and the EU', with

- Sir Michael Leigh, Advisor to the German Marshall Fund and a former Commission Director-General

- Antonia Parvanova, MEP (ALDE, Bulgaria), 1st Vice-Chair of the PA-UfM Committee on Energy, Environment and Water

The guest-speaker, a former Commission DG and Senior Advisor to the German Marshall Fund, spoke well on a subject that for geopolitical, economic and environmental reasons was very sensitive.

The question was: what was the impact of the natural gas fields discovered since 2009 in the eastern Mediterranean in the economic zones of Israel, Cyprus, Lebanon and Turkey ... with three sizeable fields holding an estimated 35 trillion m³ (Tamar, Leviathan and Aphrodite)?

There are numerous difficulties:

- geopolitical: agreements on the delimitation of the exclusive economic zones to be reached between Israel/Lebanon and Cyprus, Israel/Turkey, Cyprus and the northern/Turkish part;
- extraction/exploitation presented technical difficulties (- 5000 m) and would be costly: estimated at EUR 10 billion;
- question: would this political-economic challenge have a positive influence on political disagreements in the region or was it, on the contrary, a factor that would further aggravate the situation?
- transport of liquified gas: which infrastructure and which routes? With the related political difficulties;
- ecological/environmental hazards and safety/security of installations.

Decisions to be taken:

- Israel had to take a decision based on a June 2012 report: how much gas should be kept for domestic consumption? How much should be kept for export? How could civil society be expected to react?
- The EU was following developments: it was in favour of sources of energy being diversified.

Antonia Parvanova set her observations in the wider context of Euromed. She was working to raise awareness among the State Parties of this challenge and hoped that this would be placed on the agenda of the Energy Ministerial Meeting in December 2013. She noted that the disputes only applied to 1 % to 2 % of the zones concerned.

The EU must not abandon non-renewable sources of energy.
She said she was more worried about the Cyprus/Turkey problem.

Kyriacos Triantaphyllides (GUE, CY) was invited to speak.

Discovery of the gas was certainly opportune for Cyprus, in view of its ongoing economic and financial problems.

Cyprus was entirely dependent on oil and coal but had been able to begin diversification with a wind park.

The political changes expected would be decisive for management of this file.

Conclusion by Michael Leigh: it was not necessary to conclude agreements on sharing the resources, since no revenue was expected for at least five years.
To the question: 'Are you optimistic?', he gave the humorous reply that, 'Sometimes an optimist is a poorly informed pessimist'.

The Chair thanked the speakers.

4. Date and place of next meeting
20 March 2013

The meeting closed at 16.00.

**ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/
ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/KATAΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/
LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĒJUMU REĢISTRŠ/DALYVIŲ SAŖAŠAS/JELENLÉTI ÍV/
REĢISTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/LISTÁ DE PREZENȚĂ/
PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA**

Бюро/Mesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/Biuras/Elnökség/ Prezydium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)
Bastiaan Belder, Olga Sehnalová.
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Μέλη/Members/Députés/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/Képviselők/ Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Sari Essayah, Alexandra Thein.
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Supplenti/ Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantys nariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleantî/Náhradníci/Namestniki/ Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
Fiorello Provera, Alf Svensson, Auke Zijlstra.

187 (2)
193 (3)
Radvilė Morkūnaitė-Mikulėnienė, Antonia Parvanova, Kyriacos Triantaphyllides.
49 (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/Darbotvarkės punktas/ Napirendi pont/Punt fuq l-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/Stebētāji/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/Esimehe 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 tal-President/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

- Sir Michael Leigh, conseiller au German Marshall Fund et ancien directeur général à la Commission européenne
- Antonia Parvanova, MEP (ALDE, Bulgarie), 1ère vice-présidente de la Commission Energie, Environnement et Eau de l'AP UPM

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nöukogu/Συμβούλιο/Council/Conseil/Consiglio/Padome/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/Conselho/Consiliu/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (*)

Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Kommissionen/Kommission/Euroopa Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Commissione/Komisija/Bizottság/Kummissjoni/Commissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisia/Komissio/Kommissionen (*)

Европейска служба за външна дейност/Evropská služba pro vnější činnost/EU-Udenrigstjenesten/Europäischer Auswärtiger Dienst/Euroopa välisteenistus/Ευρωπαϊκή Υπηρεσία Εξωτερικής Δράσης/European External Action service/Servicio Europeo de Acción Exterior/Service européen pour l'action extérieure/Servizio europeo per l'azione esterna/Eiropas Ārējās darbības dienests/Europos išorės veiksmų tarnyba/Európai Külügyi Szolgálat/Servizz Ewropew għall-Azzjoni Esterna/Europese dienst voor extern optreden/Europejska Służba Działań Zewnętrznych/Serviço Europeu para a Acção Externa/Serviciul european pentru actiune externă/Európska služba pre vonkajšiu činnosť/Evropska služba za zunanje delovanje/Euroopan ulkosuhdehallinto/Europeiska avdelningen för yttre åtgärd (*)

Nikolov Krassimir, Zohra Melil, Wouter Spiesschaert.

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 ohra/Andere instellingen/Inne instytucje/Outras Instituições/Alte instituții/Iné inštitúcie/Druge institucije/Muut toimeelimeet/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/Iní účastníci/Drugi udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare

Josias Terschüren (Israel Allies Foundation), Charlotte Brandsma (German Marshall Fund), Rima Tarabay, Nuno Wahnon (Bnai Brith), Eddy Soufilillo (Transatlantic Institute), Gilad Segal (Israeli Mission), Matusof (EIOA), Nicolas Constantinides (Perm. Rep. Cyprus).

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/Képviseletcsoportok titkársága/Sekretarjat gruppi poliitici/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secr. dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupin/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmién sihteeristöt/Gruppernas sekretariat

PPE

Virginia Millán de Silva

S&D

Zoltán Simon

ALDE

ECR

Isabelle de Crayencour

Verts/ALE

GUE/NGL

EFD

Alexandros Brakoulias, Constantine Levoyannis, Gerasimos Katsikogianis

NI

Sarka Syrova

Кабинет на председателя/Gabinete del Presidente/Kancelář předsedy/Formandens Kabinet/Kabinett des Präsidenten/Presidendi kantselei/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 Președinte/Kancelária predsedu/Urad predsednika/Puhemiehen kabinetti/Talmannens kansli

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DG PRES DG IPOL DG EXPO DG COMM DG PERS DG INLO DG TRAD DG INTE DG FINS DG ITEC	Christina Craver (AFET).
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Christian Garrigues.	
Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asyistent/Pomočnik/ Avustaja/Assistenten	
Barbara Ajmi.	

- * (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair(wo)man/Président/Priekšsēdētājs/Pirmininkas/
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Ierēdnis/Pareigūnas/Tisztviselő/Ufficial/Ambtenaar/Urządник/Funcionário/Funcionar/Úradník/Uradnik/Virkamies/Tjänsteman