



EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2009 - 2014

Delegation for relations with India

D-IN_PV (2012)0125

MINUTES

of the meeting of 25 January 2012, from 17:30 to 18:30
Brussels

The meeting opened at 17:30 on Wednesday, 25 January 2012, with Graham Watson (Chair) in the chair.

1. Adoption of the draft agenda

The agenda was adopted without amendment.

2. Adoption of the draft minutes of the meeting of 5 October 2011

The minutes of the meeting of 5 October 2011 were adopted without amendment.

3. Communications by the Chair

Sir Graham Watson, the Chair of the Delegation, welcomed all the participants and announced that the aim of the meeting was to hold an exchange of view with Mr Pedro Serrano, the new EEAS Director for South and South East Asia.

Sir Graham also welcomed Mr Prem Nair, Second Secretary and Head of Chancery at the Indian embassy in Brussels and announced that current Ambassador to the EU, Dr Jaimini Bhagwati, would be leaving shortly to take up the post of High Commissioner in London. The Chair noted that he would send a letter to Dr Bhagwati on behalf of the Delegation in order to thank him for their fruitful cooperation.

4. Preparations for the 12th EU-India Summit of 10 February 2012

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Sir Graham gave the floor to Mr Serrano, who noted that he had travelled to India with HR Ashton in the previous week in order to prepare the EU-India summit. Mr Serrano noted that the objective of the strategy was two-fold: firstly, the EU would continue to pursue the Strategic Partnership with India - especially its political dimension - in the light of new political realities such as India's widely recognised emergence as a global power and the EU's strengthened foreign policy under the Lisbon Treaty. Secondly, the EU was committed to give a high-level political push to economic cooperation, notably on the FTA negotiations with a view to their early conclusion.

Mr Serrano noted that the meeting would focus on a number of main themes: bilateral, regional, and global issues.

On the bilateral side India confirmed its commitment to strengthening security cooperation, notably on counter-terrorism, counter-piracy, and on cyber security, and had agreed to prepare a road map of activities in these areas for 2012. It was recognised that the FTA negotiations would not be concluded by the time of the Summit, nevertheless it was hoped that progress could be consolidated by that date. At this stage, India was requesting new investments on the European side in order to boost its growth, which was currently decreasing. Both sides furthermore expressed their intention to intensify cooperation on energy.

Mr Serrano noted that India had some particular priorities on the bilateral side that had been raised in Bangalore, and which would probably be raised again at the Summit. These included their strong opposition to the application of the Emissions Trading System (ETS) to the aviation sector in EU airspace since 1 January; India's proposed visa waiver for holders of diplomatic and official passports; and their concerns over security checks on turban wearers in some EU airports.

Mr Serrano noted that discussions on regional issues at the Summit would probably touch on the EU and India's respective neighbourhoods, i.e. Afghanistan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, Iran, the Middle East, and the Arab Spring, and the support that India could lend within the UNSC.

Mr Serrano also stated that other issues to be discussed would probably include global economic governance, the WTO/DDA, climate change post-Durban, conference on sustainable development in Rio, the G20, and non-proliferation. He outlined a number of planned Summit deliverables, which reflected some of the important themes that he had previously underlined. These were the Joint Declarations on Energy, and on Research and Innovation; a report on the implementation of the EU-India Joint Work Programme on Clean Development and Climate Change; the signature of a Memorandum of Understanding on Statistical Cooperation; and the Agreement on a roadmap of activities for 2012 in the field of security.

Mr Serrano stressed that, as part of the EU effort to promote further economic cooperation, the Summit would, as in previous years, be followed by a Business Summit to be attended by EU and Indian CEOs who would meet with Trade Commissioner De Gucht and Indian Commerce Minister Sharma.

Finally, Mr Serrano expressed his thanks to the Delegation for the support that it brought to the EU activities in India.

Sir Graham thanked the speaker for the presentation and noted that the dossier included various articles and press releases concerning HR Ashton's visit to India in January 2012.

Mr Leinen noted that, given India's protectionist attitude adopted at the Durban meeting, EU-India discussion on the issue of climate change should be intensified. He also noted the positive role that India could play in South Asia, especially with regard to Sri Lanka and Myanmar.

Mr Désir underlined the necessity of concluding FTA negotiations as soon as possible.

Mr Mann asked about the existence of products' counterfeiting measures at the EU level. He also noted that technological cooperation should be promoted between the EU and India, especially concerning cyber security.

Mr Newton Dunn announced that he would lead a four-people visit to Delhi, on behalf of the Development Committee. Therefore, he called on Mr Serrano to say more on the EU strategy concerning Indian development issues.

Mrs Ferreira underlined the necessity of including the financial market dimension into the negotiations and noted that a harmonised way to deal with these issues should be discussed within and outside the G20. She also noted that failure in dealing with this issue would certainly create a sort of imbalance between the US, European and emerging countries markets.

Mr Tannock noted that the issue of harmonisation of the Indian market should be raised by the EU during the next summit.

Mrs Mazej Kukovič asked whether there would be new opportunities for SMEs in India.

Mr Serrano noted that India's primary concern in Durban was the impact of climate change measures on its development. On its side, the EU would continue to promote dialogue with India on this issue at both bilateral and international level.

As for the regional issues, Mr Serrano noted that EU and India were working side by side to address the Tamil issue in Sri Lanka and several questions concerning Myanmar's stability. He also recalled the EU commitment in promoting between Pakistan and India.

He noted that the EU was starting to engage with India on cyber-security and that data protection was at the heart of it.

On development, Mr Serrano recalled the Commission's shift to the poorest countries, which had consequently reduced the development assistance that the EU provided to middle-income countries. He also noted that the possibility of reduction of the development aid to India had already been discussed and accepted by the Indian authorities. Lastly, Mr Serrano noted that the financial market would certainly be part of the discussions during the next summit.

Mrs Grunberg from DG Trade noted that the FTA would constitute an important point at the summit, although the Commission was still involved in a number of high-level technical meetings which would take place before that time. She noted that the EU and India still needed to find an agreement on the tariff package, especially involving cars, wine and spirits and agricultural products- She also recalled the ongoing discussion on services, which was a very important offensive interest for both sides, with India giving the priority on Mode 4.

As far as the retail market was concerned, Mrs Grunberg stated that India had allowed single-brand retailers to invest in the country, delaying the multi-brand FDI question beyond the 2012 regional elections.

As for the question of SMEs, Mrs Grunberg noted that these enterprises would surely take advantage of the opportunity provided by the FTA, although it seemed more difficult for them to penetrate the Indian market. Mrs Grunberg also outlined the set up of the European Business and Technology centre that was aimed at helping and giving SMEs precise information on how to do business in India.

Sir Graham welcomed four new full members and five substitute members to the Delegation.

5. Programme of delegation activity of 2012

Sir Graham proposed a full delegation visit to India to take place in week 18 (30 April to 4 May 2012) which is a "green week". He also noted that discussions were underway to organise a visit of the Indian counterpart during the first half of 2012.

6. Any other business

There was no other business.

7. Date and place of next meeting

The next meeting will be held in Strasbourg on Wednesday 15 February 2012 from 1615 to 1715hrs. The Chair stated that there was the possibility of an agreement between the EPP and the ALDE group to swap the Presidents of the Delegation to India and China. However, there had not been any confirmation to date.

The meeting closed at 18:30.

**ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/
ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/KATAΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/
LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĒJUMU REĢISTRS/DALYVIŲ SĄRAŠAS/JELENLÉTI ÍV/
REĢISTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/LISTĂ 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 (*)
Graham Watson, Lena Kolarska-Bobińska
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Μέλη/Members/Députés/Deputati/Deputăți/Nariai/Képviselők/ Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Karima Delli, Harlem Désir, Jo Leinen, Zofija Mazej Kukovič, Bill Newton Dunn, Eva Ortiz Vilella, Charles Tannock, Silvia-Adriana Țicău,
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Supplenti/ Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantys nariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/Namestniki/ Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
Elisa Ferreira, Marielle Gallo, Thomas Mann, Joanna Katarzyna Skrzydlewska, Geoffrey Van Orden

187 (2)
193 (3)
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/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/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 pozwanie pedsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nõukogu/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 (*)
Grünberg (DG Trade)
Европейска служба за външна дейност/Evropská služba pro vnější činnost/EU-Udenrigstjenesten/Europäischer Auswärtiger Dienst/Euroopa välis teenistus/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 acțiune externă/Európska služba pre vonkajšiu činnost/Evropska služba za zunanje delovanje/Euroopan ulkosuhdehallinto/Europeiska avdelningen för yttre åtgärd (*)
Serrano, Wilkinson
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 instituții/Iné inštitúcie/Druge institucije/Muut toimeelimet/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 ohra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Alți participanți/Iní účastníci/Drugi udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare

Pirker (HRWF), Rochet, Saffar (APA), Nair (Indian Embassy), Ayub (Pakistan Embassy), Schwalba-Hoth (former MEP), Tramboo (ICHR), Thiels (E.A.J.C.W.), Jadot (JRS)

Palamakumbura, Nutte, Eberlen, Bowler Nara, Bernhard, Bartl, Mohorič, de Lastenne (MEP's assistants). Roddies, Herschbard, Mugabo, Šinklovec (trainees)

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/Fracijų sekretoriai/Képviseletcsoportok titkársága/Sekretarjat gruppi političi/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secr. dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupin/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristö/Gruppernas sekretariat

PPE	Bastiaansen, Knauss, Sanchez, Oppermann
S&D	
ALDE	
ECR	De Jongh
Verts/ALE	Datar
GUE/NGL	Rentzellas
EFD	
NI	

Кабинет на председателя/Gabinete del Presidente/Kancelář předsedy/Formandens Kabinet/Kabinett des Präsidenten/Presidendi kanteleli/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

Кабинет на генералния секретар/Gabinete del Secretario General/Kancelář generálního tajemníka/Generalsekretærens Kabinet/Kabinett des Generalsekretärs/Peasekretäri büroo/Γραφείο Γενικού Γραμματέα/Secretary-General's Office/Cabinet du Secrétaire général/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/Ģenerālsekretāra kabinets/Generalinio sekretoriaus kabinetas/Főtitkári hivatal/Kabinett tas-Segretarju Generali/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

Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/ Directorate-General/Direction générale/Direzione generale/Generāldirektorāts/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/Direttorat Ġenerali/Direktoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direcção-Geral/Direcții Generale/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/ Pääosasto/Generaldirektorat	
DG PRES DG IPOL DG EXPO DG COMM DG PERS DG INLO DG TRAD DG INTE DG FINS DG ITEC	Nuttin, Yang
Правна служба/Servicio Jurídico/Právní služba/Juridisk Tjeneste/Juristischer Dienst/Öigusteenistus/Νομική Υπηρεσία/Legal Service/ Service juridique/Servizio giuridico/Juridiskais dienests/Teisės tarnyba/Jogi szolgálat/Servizz legali/Juridische Dienst/Wydział prawny/ Serviço Jurídico/Serviciu Juridic/Právny servis/Pravna služba/Oikeudellinen yksikkö/Rättstjänsten	
Секретариат на комисията/Secretaría de la comisión/Sekretariát výboru/Udvalgssekretariatet/Ausschusssekretariat/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/ Secretariado da comissão/Sekretariat comisie/Sekretariat odbora/Valiokunnan sihteeristö/Utskottssekretariatet	
Boden	
Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asystent/Pomočnik/ Avustaja/Assistenten	
Mollet	

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