



Delegation for relations with India

D-IN_PV(2013)0424

MINUTES

of the meeting of 24 April 2013, from 15:00 to 16:00
Brussels

The meeting opened at 15:10 on Wednesday, 24 April 2013, with Graham Watson (Chair) in the chair.

1. Adoption of the draft agenda (PE 503.500)

The draft agenda was adopted without amendment.

2. Adoption of the draft minutes of the meeting of 20 March 2013 (PE 503.492)

The draft minutes were adopted without amendment.

3. Chair's announcements

Sir Graham Watson apologised for the absence of interpretation which was "unacceptable" and informed Members that he would make a protest to the Secretary General, in the light of the latter's decision to require delegations to schedule their meetings on Thursday afternoons if they wished to have interpretation. He noted that priority was being given to the trilogues and committees but the time schedule proposed for delegations was not suitable because many Members were already in their constituencies on Thursdays afternoons.

The Chair welcomed all those present, including Mr Giuseppe Busini, from the Indian Unit at EEAS; Ms Soumya Chandrashekharachari from the Indian embassy; and Ms Renita Bhaskar and John Hesketh Richards from DG Trade.

Sir Graham reminded members of the proposal of Mr Langen, Chair of the ASEAN delegation, to invite four Members from each of the six Asian G20 countries to an

interparliamentary meeting in Brussels. It was hoped that this meeting could take place on 29 and 30 May. Members of the delegation for relations with India would receive more information if the meeting were confirmed.

Sir Graham Watson also reminded Members of the visit of Mrs Meira Kumar, the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, to the European Parliament on Monday 8 and Tuesday 9 July. Six members of the Indian Parliament and the Secretary General would accompany her and there would be a meeting and dinner with President Schulz. Sir Graham asked Members to try to be present and stated that further details would be sent out as soon as possible.

4. Current state of play of EU-India relations

Mr Busini informed Members that - apart from the trade meetings which he left to his Commission colleagues - no other high level meetings had taken place since those between High Representative Ashton and the Indian Minister for External Affairs, Mr Salman Khurshid on 30 January and the Joint Commission of 4 February.

He noted that at the end of March, EU Member States, in close cooperation with the European Commission and EEAS, had finalised a common agenda on migration and mobility. This political framework document had been transmitted at the beginning of April to the Indian authorities. The EU was now looking forward to the Indian comments on this document, especially since migration and mobility were a very important aspect of EU-India cooperation.

Mr Busini also informed Members that the EU had started preparing the Summit with India. It should be held at the beginning of the summer, but no date had yet been agreed. Similarly, no date had been set for the Human Rights dialogue, which had already been postponed several times.

Sir Graham expressed his concern about the alarming increase in the use of death penalty in India and recalled that he had written on behalf of the delegation to the Indian Ambassador about the case of Mr Devinder Pal Singh Bhullar. In response, Mr Busini noted that the EU representative in India had asked for an appointment with the Ministry of Home Affairs to discuss this issue, but no date had yet been arranged.

Ms Bhaskar from DG Trade updated Members about the current state of play following the ministerial meeting on 15 April between Trade Commissioner de Gucht and the Indian Minister for Commerce and Industry, Mr Anand Sharma. She noted that this meeting had come at a crucial moment, since both sides recognised that it was time to conclude the negotiations. It had given some guidance to the negotiators on the various outstanding issues. Discussions had been positive but there were still some important gaps that need to be filled before an agreement could be reached.

These issues mainly concerned the services, insurance and banking sectors, as well as the final package and the issue of alcoholic spirits. Significant advances were required if both sides wanted to reach an agreement by July or September, notably at the technical level, as well as progress from the Indian side on banking and insurance. Nevertheless, some progress had been made, as India seemed increasingly committed

to carry out its economic reforms. An insurance bill should soon be adopted by the Parliament, however, it would compromise the final stage of the negotiations if India could not carry through certain domestic reforms and make commitments on certain sectors. If there was progress during the session of the Indian Parliament session - which was scheduled to end on 10 May - a second ministerial meeting could take place in June. Summarising, Ms Bhaskar declared that there was a firm commitment on both sides to move ahead but there were still uncertainties about the possibility of concluding an agreement within the planned timeframe.

Mrs Kolarska-Bobinska raised the issues of generic medicines, intellectual property rights and the Indian commitment to tackling climate change. In response, Ms Bhaskar recalled that the question of generic medicines had been raised in 2010 by civil society organisations, concerned that the FTA would hamper access to medicine. Both sides agreed that there would be no pressure to change their domestic legislation regarding medicine and that nothing would hinder such access.

In response to Mrs McIntyre's question about inter-corporate transfers, Ms Bhaskar noted that the services package had not been finalised and that negotiations on this matter were still ongoing. She added it was one of India's "offensive interests".

5. Final preparations for the Working Group visit to Delhi and Kolkata 29 April to 3 May 2013

Sir Graham Watson referred Members to the latest version of the programme. He noted that the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce was the body bringing together Indian MPs who were particularly interested in relations with Europe. The working dinner with this body was therefore an opportunity to meet with parliamentary counterparts. He noted too that temperatures of 40 degrees were forecast.

With regards to the visit to Kolkata, it was hoped to arrange formal meetings with the Speaker of the State Legislative Assembly and with the State Minister but this was still to be confirmed.

In response to Mrs Collin-Langen who asked about the transfer from the airport to hotel in Delhi, the secretariat informed Members that negotiations with the hotel for the transfer were still ongoing. Members were also advised to change currency in advance.

Sir Graham noted that discussions were underway regarding slots for bilateral meetings between members and their national embassies.

A dossier with background briefing and other logistical information was distributed. Members were informed that any other material would be sent by email before departure or distributed in Delhi.

6. Any other business

There was no other business.

7. **Date and place of the next meeting**

Sir Graham noted that members would be given details about the next delegation meeting as soon as possible.

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 PREZENTĀ/
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/Deputāti/Nariai/Képviselők/ Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Birgit Collin-Langen, Anthea McIntyre, Matteo Salvini,
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Supplenti/ Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantys nariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleantī/Náhradníci/Namestniki/ Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
Kinga Gál, Hubert Pirker, 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/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 kutse/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 predsedu/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 (*)
Bashkar , Richards (DG Trade)
Европейска служба за външна дейност/Европска служба 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 veiksmy tarnyba/Európai Külügyi Szolgálat/Servizz Ewropew għall-Azzjoni Esterna/Europese dienst voor extern optreden/Europejska Służba Działañ Zewnętrznych/Serviço Europeu para a Acção Externa/Serviciul european pentru actiune externă/Európska služba pre vonkajšiu činnost/Evropska služba za zunanje delovanje/Euroopan ulkosuhdehallinto/Europeiska avdelningen för yttre åtgärd (*)
Busini
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/Istituzjonijiet oħra/Andere instellingen/Inne instytucje/Outras Instituições/Alte instituții/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/Iní účastníci/Drugi udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare

Soumya (Indian Embassy) - Adriaenssens (Eurochambers/EBTC) - Jadot (IRS) - Tobias, Crippa, Steffen, Eberlen, Terry , Phillips, Hillman (MEP's assistants)

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

PPE	Jarecka, Bernhard, Mitsopoulou, Marciniak
S&D	Williams, Contreras, Casas
ALDE	
ECR	De Jong
Verts/ALE	Meyer
GUE/NGL	
EFD	
NI	

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/Talmanens 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/Ġeneralsekretära 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/Direktorat 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	Lutz (INTA)
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/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/ Secretariado da comissão/Sekretariat comisie/Sekretariat odbora/Valiokunnan sihteeristö/Utskottssekretariatet	
Boden	
Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asyistent/Pomočnik/ Avustaja/Assistenten	
Mollet	

- * (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair(wo)man/Président/Priekšsēdētājs/Pirmininkas/
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Membbru/Lid/Członek/Membro/Membro/Člen/Poslanec/Jäsen/Ledamot
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