

*Delegation for relations with the countries of Central America***DCAM_PV(2010)0217_01****MINUTES**
of the meeting of 17 February 2011, from 10.00 to 11.30
Strasbourg

The meeting opened at 10.15 on Thursday, 17 February 2011, with Emine Bozkurt (Chair) in the chair.

1. Adoption of draft agenda

The draft agenda was adopted (PE 446.737).

2. Approval of minutes of meetings of

- **30 November 2010 (PE 446.735)**
- **6 December 2010 (PE 446.736)**

The minutes were approved.

3. Chair's announcements

The Chair informed Members that the Conference of Presidents, at its meeting of 10 February, had decided to approve the DCAM working group visit to Costa Rica (immediately after the visit to Nicaragua).

In view of the fact that another visit to Costa Rica, of an institutional nature, was due to take place in 2012, the working group would only hold a few meetings with the Costa Rican Government, to discuss the most important and current topics: the border conflict between Nicaragua and Costa Rica, the institutional situation within the Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA) and the EU-Central America association agreement.

4. Preparation of the DCAM Working Group visit to Nicaragua and Costa Rica (21-25 February 2011)

The Chair reminded Members that the draft programme for the working group visit was included in the folder which they had been given. The working group would consist of the Chair and the following Members: Inés Ayala (S&D), Agustín Díaz de Mera (PPE), Rosa Estarás (PPE) and Verónica Lope (PPE).

The Nicaraguan and Costa Rican Ambassadors, Lautaro Sandino Montes and Tomás Dueñas, respectively, expressed their satisfaction at the working group's visit, which they said would help to strengthen the links between the EU and Central America.

Speakers: Emine Bozkurt (Chair), Carlos Iturgaiz (Vice-Chair) and Ilda Figueiredo (Vice-Chair).

5. Report on the DCAM Working Group visit to El Salvador (19-21 July 2010)

The DCAM working group, chaired by Emine Bozkurt, Chair, and made up of Carlos Iturgaiz (PPE), Ilda Figueiredo (GUE/NGL), Boguslan Sonik (PPE), Edvard Kozusnik (CRE), Slavi Binev (NI), Helmut Scholz (GUE/NGL) and Constanze Krehl (S&D), had visited El Salvador from 19 to 21 July 2010.

The Chair emphasised that the visit had coincided with the first anniversary of the investiture of President Mauricio Funes, of the Farabundo Martí National Liberation Front. (*Frente Farabundo Martí de Liberación Nacional*). His swearing-in in June 2009 had demonstrated the success of the transition to democracy after 20 years of uninterrupted government by the *Alianza Renovadora Nacional*.

The visit to El Salvador had included meetings with representatives of the government (the minister for external relations and the vice-minister for the economy), the parliament (National Assembly), the Supreme Electoral Court, the National Security Council and the regional integration bodies Parlacen and SIECA.

The debate focused on the rise in drug-trafficking and organised crime and the new perspectives for cooperation and political dialogue opened up by the EU-Central America association agreement signed in Madrid in May 2010.

6. Debate on the institutional situation within the SIECA

The Secretariat for Central American Economic Integration (SIECA) was a legally-registered regional technical body whose main role was to provide the Central American Integration System (SICA) with technical and administrative assistance relating to the process of Central American economic integration. The SIECA was headed by a Secretary-General appointed by the Council of Ministers for Economic Integration (COMIECO). On 16 December 2010, a document was drafted in Belize at the instigation of the foreign ministers of Guatemala and El Salvador, calling for the replacement of the SIECA

Secretary-General, Yolanda Mayora de Gaviria, from El Salvador, and urging the COMIECO to appoint Ernesto Torres Chico (also Salvadoran) in her place. The document was signed by the presidents of Guatemala, El Salvador and Honduras, and by the Nicaraguan minister for the economy; the following day it was also signed by the Costa Rican minister for foreign affairs, who had received it by fax.

According to the Costa Rican authorities, the Costa Rican Ministry of Foreign Trade was not consulted about the contents of the document, nor was it included in the draft agenda for the Presidents' meeting, nor was the matter formally recorded in the minutes. For all these reasons, Costa Rica considered the decision to be invalid and communicated this view to the foreign ministers and other members of COMIECO, requesting that it be annulled. On 13 January 2011 Yolanda Mayora de Gaviria presented her resignation as Secretary-General of SIECA. The same day, the Guatemalan minister for the economy called an urgent meeting of COMIECO, for 15.00 the same day, in Guatemala. In the absence of the Costa Rican minister for foreign trade and in the presence of the trade ministers of Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras and Nicaragua, a decision was taken to accept the Secretary-General's resignation and appoint Mr Torres Chico in her place, as registered in Resolution 1-2011 (COMIECO). On 14 January 2011, Costa Rica sent another letter to the Central American trade ministers, rejecting the appointment of the new Secretary-General on the grounds that it was not legitimate, and requesting that the COMIECO be reconvened as soon as possible.

The ambassadors of Costa Rica, Nicaragua and El Salvador, Tomás Dueñas, Lautaro Sandino Montes and Edgar Hernán Varela, reaffirmed their position, regretting that the matter had gained international proportions and that Panama had suspended its membership of SIECA.

The Members belonging to DCAM had also expressed different views, with some of them considering that it was an issue solely concerning the Central American authorities, while others pointed to the extent of European cooperation (the EU ran major cooperation projects in Central America, channelled through SIECA, to a value of 36 million euros) and thought that the EU should be able to express its views on the matter.

Speakers: Emine Bozkurt (Chair), Carlos Iturgaiz (Vice-Chair), Ilda Figueiredo (Vice-Chair), Edvard Kozusnik and Raúl Romeva.

7. Date and place of next meeting

The next meeting of the Delegation would take place on 20 April 2011, from 15.00 to 16.30, in Brussels.

The meeting closed at 11.30.

**ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/
ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/ΚΑΤΑΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/
LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĒJUMU REĢISTRS/DALYVIŲ SĀRAŠAS/JELENLÉTI IV/
REĢISTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŚCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/LISTÁ DE PREZENTĀ/
PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA**

Biuro/Mesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/Biuras/Elnökség/Prezydium/Birou/Předsedníctvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidet (*)
Emine Bozkurt (P), Carlos José Iturgaiz Angulo (VP), Ilda Figueiredo (VP)
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Μέλη/Members/Députés/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/Képviselők/Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputati/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Edvard Kožušník, Raül Romeva i Rueda, Joanna Katarzyna Skrzylewska
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavadojantys nariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
Gianluca Susta

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 punt/Punt Agenda/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/Stebētojai/Megfigyelők/Osservaturi/Waarnemers/Obserwatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Opazovalci/Tarkailijat/Observatörer

По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Esimehe kutsel/Mε πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair(wo)man/Sur l'invitation du président/ Su invito del presidente/Peć priekšsēdētāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmuininkui 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

Tomás Dueñas, Embajador de Costa Rica; Edgar Hernán Varela, Embajador de El Salvador; Lautaro Sandino Montes, Embajador de Nicaragua

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

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

Други институции/Otras instituciones/Ostatní orgány a instituce/Andre institutioner/Andere Organe/Muud institutsioonid/Аллаа өзүүчүү/Other institutions/Autres institutions/Altre istituzioni/Citas iestädes/Kitos institucijos/Más intézmények/Istituzzjonijiet ohra/Andere instellingen/Inne instytucje/Outras Instituições/Alte institüüid/Iné institúcie/Druge institucije/Muut toimielimet/Andra institutioner/organ

Други участници/Otros participantes/Ostatní účastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/Επίσης Παρόντες/Other participants/Autres participants/Altri partecipanti/Citi klātesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Parteicipanti ohra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Altı participantı/Iní účastníci/Drugi udelezenci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare

Секретариат на политическите групи/Secretaría de los Grupos políticos/Sekretariát politických skupin/Gruppernes sekretariat/Sekretariat der Fraktionen/Fraktsionide sekretariaat/Γραμματεία των Πολιτικών Ομάδων/Secretariats of political groups/Secrétaireat des groupes politiques/Segreteria gruppi politici/Politiske grupu sekretariáts/Frakciju sekretoriai/Képviselőcsoportok titkársága/Segretarjat gruppi politici/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secr. dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupín/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristöt/Gruppernas sekretariat

PPE	Juan Salafranca, Miriam Orsagova
S&D	
ALDE	
ECR	
Verts/ALE	Gaby Küppers
GUE/NGL	
EFD	
NI	Sergio Servellon

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	
Кабинет на генералния секретар/Gabinete del Secretario General/Kancelář generálního tajemníka/Generalsekretærens Kabinet/Kabinett des Generalsekretärs/Pesekretäribüro/Γραμματέα/Secretary-General's Office/Cabinet du Secrétaire général/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/Generalsekretära kabinets/Generalinio sekretoriaus kabinetas/Főtitkári hivatal/Kabinet tas-Segretarju Generali/Kabinet van de secretaris-generaal/Gabinet Sekretarza Generalnego/Gabinete do Secretário-Geral/Cabinet Secretar General/Kancelária generálneho tajomníka/Urad generalnego sekretarja/Pääsihteerin kabinetti/Generalsekreterarens kansli	
Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/Directorate-General/Direction générale/Direzione generale/Generaldirektoräts/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/Direttorat Ĝeneralni/Directoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direcção-Geral/Direcții Generale/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/Pääsasto/Generaldirektorat	
DG PRES	
DG IPOL	
DG EXPO	
DG COMM	
DG PERS	
DG INLO	
DG TRAD	
DG INTE	
DG FINS	
DG ITEC	
Правна служба/Servicio Jurídico/Právní služba/Juridisk Tjeneste/Juristischer Dienst/Õigusteenistus/Νομική Υπηρεσία/Legal Service/Service juridique/Servizio giuridico/Juridiskais dienests/Teisēs tarnyba/Jogi szolgálat/Servizz legali/Juridische Dienst/Wydział prawnny/Serviço Jurídico/Serviciu Juridic/Právny servis/Pravna služba/Oikeudellinen yksikkö/Rättstjänsten	
Секретариат на комисията/Secretaría de la comisión/Sekretariát výboru/Udvalgssekretariatet/Ausschussekretariat/Komisjoni sekretariaat/Γραμματεία επιτροπής/Committee secretariat/Secrétaire de la commission/Segreteria della commissione/Komitejas sekretariāts/Komiteto sekretoriatas/A bízottság titkársága/Segretarjat tal-kumitat/Commissie secretariaat/Sekretariat komisi/Secretariado da comissão/Secretariat comisie/Sekretariat odbora/Valiokunnan sihteeristö/Utskottsekretariatet	
Javier Fernández Fernández, Pedro Neves	
Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Bonõć/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asystent/Pomočník/Avustaja/Assistenter	
Rosa Licop Cabo	

- * (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair(wo)man/Président/Priekšsēdētājs/Pirmininkas/Elnök/'Chairman'/Voorzitter/Przewodniczący/Președinte/Predsednik/Puheenjohtaja/Ordförande
 (VP) = Заместник-председател/Vicepresidente/Mistopředseda/Næstformand/Stellvertretender Vorsitzender/Aseesimees/Avtitroedros/Vice-Chair(wo)man/Vice-Präsident/Priekšsēdētāja vietnēks/Pirmininko pavaduotojas/Alelnök/Viči 'Chairman'/Ondervoorzitter/Wiceprzewodniczący/Vice-Presidente/Vicepreședinte/Podpredseda/Varapuheenjohtaja/Vice ordförande
 (M) = Член/Miembro/Člen/Medlem./Mitglied/Parlamendiilige/Mélyoč/Member/Membre/Membro/Deputāts/Narys/Képviselő/Memburu/Lid/Czlonék/Membro/Člen/Poslanec/Jäsen/Ledamot
 (F) = Должностнолице/Funcionario/Úředník/Tjenestemand/Beamter/Ametnik/Yπάλληλος/Official/Fonctionnaire/Funzionario/Ierēdnis/Pareigūnas/Tiszviselő/Ufficjal/Ambtenaar/Urzędnik/Funcionário/Funcionar/Úradník/Uradnik/Virkamies/Tjänstemän