

*Delegation for relations with the Mashreq countries***DMAS\_PV20121128\_1****MINUTES**  
of the meeting of 28 November 2012, from 11.30 to 12.30  
Brussels

The meeting opened at 11.30 on Wednesday, 28 November 2012, with Ms Said Khadraoui (Vice-Chair) in the chair.

- 1. Adoption of draft agenda (PE490.217)**  
The draft agenda was adopted
- 2. Adoption of the minutes of the meeting of 12 November 2012 (PE490.214)**  
The minutes were adopted
- 3. Chair's announcements**
- 4. Debriefing on the Egypt Task Force Mission on 13-14 November by Mr Sajjad Karim**

Mr Karim expressed his doubt about how important is EU for the Egyptians. Despite quite extensive efforts, the program was changing in the last minutes and there was observed reluctance on the Egyptian authorities to allow the EP Delegations to participate fully in some of the dialogues with civil society and human rights organizations. Prime Minister's absence in the last official dinner was also confirming this doubt. Considering the extensive efforts and generous commitments given by the EU, Egypt should be equally committed to live up to the expectations. Failing that EU's credibility would be at stake. During his meeting with the EU Delegation, President Mursi stressed his commitment to the Task Force and development of the cooperation, some of the reform process and constitutional process but there was no indication from him concerning his last constitutional declaration. Egyptians were also stressing their demand on the return of the assets held within in EU, especially in the UK.

## **5. Exchange of views on the Situation in Egypt and discussions on the new constitution.**

The guest speaker Assoc. Prof Elena Auon from ULB gave an overview regarding the major developments in Egypt politics since President Mursi was elected and debates over new constitution. The highlights of her presentation:

- President Mursi was actually elected by about 25% of the Egyptian electorate and his first months in post can be characterized to be between pragmatism and dogmatism.
- Following the pre-election attempts to limit the power of the future president by Supreme Council of the Armed forces (SCAF), Mursi managed to move the military off the center of the politics.
- Despite President Mursi's inclusive discourse, cabinet headed by Prime Minister Qandil is mainly dominated by Islamists and some patterns from the past, like police abuses, attempts to control media, drift towards authoritarianism, remains unchanged.
- According to recent poll named "Morsimeter" monitoring the performance of the President's first 100 days, the rate of the overall promises in progress is 25/54; overall promises achieved is 10/64 and people's satisfaction on what has been implemented so far is 39%.
- In view of the worrying economic indicators, President pursues a pragmatic approach to guarantee financial assistance from the US and Gulf countries and to develop ties with countries like China, Turkey and India.
- While President tries to keep its traditional ties with the West and the region countries, he made a cautious opening to Iran; criticizes Assad regime and pursuing a pragmatic policy with Israel by discretely coordinating operations in Sinai, playing key role in mediating between Israel&Hamas during operation "pillar of defence".
- Constitutional process has been interrupted since the beginning both by the SCAF (dissolution of the Parliament) or the constitutional court (unconstitutionality of the Constituent Assembly set up by the former parliament).
- Constituent Assembly was initially composed of 100 members but many liberal members have resigned in the last months. Despite walk-outs from the liberals, the Assembly still continues drafting the constitution and waiting the judicial ruling by the constitutional court on its constitutionality due on 2 December.
- The Constitutional process is criticized for lacking transparency and plurality as it is mainly dominated by Islamists. Major concerns about the draft that it bodes to a religious state, threatens human rights and fundamental freedoms, and allows expansion of presidential power. Less alarmist views comments that the final authority that would apply the Islamist principles would be the elected parliament and the civil courts. Although reference to Sharia was already there in the previous constitution, the change in the new period would be upon executors of the constitution, parliamentarians and judges.
- Although President's recent constitutional decree which gives him sweeping legislative powers over the judiciary oversight, provoked an outraged response from Egyptian liberals, there are still serious divisions among the society on this issue. While some view the move as necessary to stabilize and move forward, some see it as coup turning the president into a Pharaoh with unchecked powers. Egypt is at critical juncture. It is to be seen in the following days how Egypt will get out of this political crisis, by consensual solutions or by violent confrontation.

## **5. Any other business**

**6. Date and place of next meeting**

To be announced by the Secretariat

The meeting closed at 12.30.

**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 SARAŠAS/JELENLÉTI IV/  
 REĢISTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŚCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/LISTĀ DE PREZENTĀ/  
 PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA**

Бюро/Mesa/Predsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/Biuras/Elnökség/ Prezydium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)
Said El Khadraoui
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Μέλη/Members/Députés/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/Képviselők/ Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputati/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Karim Sajjad, Alexandra Thein
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Supplenti/ Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantys nariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplementos/Supleančí/Náhradníci/Namestníci/ Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
Marié-Thérèse Sanchez-Schmid

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/Hμερήσια Διάταξη Σημείο/Agenda item/Point OJ/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkēs punktas/ Napirendi punkt/Punt fuq l-agħenda/Agendapunkt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/ Točka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Föredragningslista punkt)	5
Elena Auon	

Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaattlejad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Osservatori/  
Nověrotáji/Stebetojai/Megfigyelök/Osservaturi/Waarnemers/Obserwatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Opozovalci/  
Tarkkailijat/Observatörer

По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des  
Vorsitzenden/Esimehe kutsel/Me 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 invitación președintelui/Na pozvanie  
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/Comissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komissia/Kommissionen (\*)

Европейска служба за външна дейност/Evropská služba pro vnitřní činnost/EU-Udenrigstjenesten/Europäischer Auswärtiger  
Dienst/Euroopa väliseenistus/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 ghall-Azzjoni Esterna/Europese dienst voor  
extern optreden/Europejska Służba Działalność Zewnętrznych/Serviço Europeu para a Accção Externa/Serviciul european pentru acțiune  
externă/Európska služba pre vonkajšiu činnosť/Evropska služba za zunanje delovanje/Euroopan ulkosuhdehallinto/Europeiska  
avdelningen för ytter åtgärd (\*)

Rochard

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 instituīji/Iné inštitúcie/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 klátesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Partećipanti ohra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Altı participantı/Iní účastníci/Druги удељенци/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare

Issa Abdelaziz, Ibrahim Adel, Karim Hegazy, Eakas Saaas, Ronny Noerens

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/Secrétaire des groupes politiques/Segreteria gruppi politici/Politisko grupu sekretariāts/Frakcijų sekretoriai/Képviselőcsoporthoz titkársága/Segretarjat gruppi političi/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secr. dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupín/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristöt/Gruppernas sekretariat

PPE	Jorge Soutulla, Virginia Millan de Silva
S&D	Jürgen Siil, Valborg Linden Josten
ALDE	Itziar Munoa
ECR	
Verts/ALE	Paolo Bergamaschi
GUE/NGL	
EFD	
NI	

Кабинет на председателя/Gabinete del Presidente/Kancelář předsedy/Formandens Kabinet/Kabinett des Präsidenten/Presidenti kantselei/Προφέτειο 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/Peasekretäribüro/Γραφείο Γενικού Γραμματέα/Secretary-General's Office/Cabinet du Secrétaire général/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/Generalsekretära kabinets/Generalinio sekretoriaus kabinetas/Főtitkári hivatal/Kabinett tas-Segretarju Ĝenerali/Kabinet van de secretaris-generaal/Gabinet Sekretarza Generalnego/Gabinete do Secretário-Geral/Cabinet Secretar General/Kancelária generálneho tajomníka/Urad generalného sekretarja/Pääsihteerin kabinetti/Generalsekretærrens kansli

Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/  
 Directorate-General/Direction générale/Direzione generale/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/Direktorat  
 Ģenerali/Directoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direcção-Geral/Direcții Generale/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/  
 Pääosasto/Generaldirektorat

DG PRES	
DG IPOL	
DG EXPO	Dariusz Serowka, Christian Meseth, Martin Castrillon
DG COMM	
DG PERS	
DG INLO	
DG TRAD	
DG INTE	
DG FINS	
DG ITEC	
Правна служба/Servicio Jurídico/Právní služba/Juridisk Tjeneste/Juristischer Dienst/Öigusteenistus/Νομική Υπηρεσία/Legal Service/ Service juridique/Servizio giuridico/Juridiskais dienests/Teisēs tarnyba/Jogi szolgálat/Servizz legali/Juridische Dienst/Wydział prawy/ 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 sekretariat/Secrétaire de la commission/Segreteria della commissione/Komitejas sekretariāts/Komiteto sekretoriatas/A bizottság titkársága/Segretarjat tal-kumitat/Commissiesekretariaat/Sekretariat komisji/Secretariado da comissão/Secretariat comisie/Sekretariat odbora/Valiokunnan sihteeristö/Utskottsssekretariatet	
Aydan Bahadir, Franziska Haiml	
Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Bonjóć/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asystent/Pomočník/Avustaja/Assisternt	

- \* (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair(wo)man/Président/Priekšsēdētājs/Pirmininkas/Elnök/President/Voorzitter/Przewodniczący/Președinte/Predsednik/Puheenjohtaja/Ordförande
- (VP) = Заместник-председател/Vicepresidente/Místopředseda/Næstformand/Stellvertretender Vorsitzender/Aseesimees/Avtutpróedrosz/Vice-Chair(wo)man/Vice-Präsident/Priekšsēdētāja vietnieks/Pirmininko pavaduotojas/Alelnök/Vičí President/Ondervoorzitter/Wiceprzewodniczący/Vice-Présidente/Vicepreședinte/Podpredseda/Podpredsednik/Varapuheenjohtaja/Vice ordförande
- (M) = Член/Miembro/Člen/Medlem./Mitglied/Parlamendiige/Méλoς/Member/Membre/Membro/Deputāts/Narys/Képviselő/Membri/Lid/Członek/Membro/Membru/Člen/Poslanec/Jäsen/Ledamot
- (F) = Должностно лице/Funcionario/Úředník/Tjenestemand/Beamter/Ametnik/Υπάλληλος/Official/Fonctionnaire/Funzionario/Ierēdnis/Pareigūnas/Tiszttviselő/Ufficjal/Ambtenaar/Urzédnik/Funcionário/Funcționar/Úradník/Uradnik/Virkamies/Tjänsteman