



Delegation for relations with the Mashreq countries

DMAS_PV(2011)0530_1

MINUTES

of the meeting of 30 May 2011, from 16.15 to 17.15
Brussels

The meeting opens at 16.15 on Monday, 30 May 2011, with Saïd El Khadraoui (Vice-Chair) in the chair.

1. Adoption of draft agenda (PE)

The draft agenda was adopted.

2. Adoption of the minutes of meeting of 13 April 2011 (PE)

The minutes were adopted.

3. Chairman's announcements

* The Chair welcomes Mr. Mingarelli and announces the visit of the Egyptian Minister of Foreign Affairs (Mr. El-Araby) to Strasbourg on 8 June 2011.

* He informs that Moroccan diplomat Youssef Amrani has been appointed as the new Secretary General of the Secretariat of the Union for the Mediterranean, post that he will officially take on 1 July 2011.

* As a last point, the Chair informs that the commission FEMM, DEVE, and AFET DROI will organise - in association with DMAG - a workshop on June 20 on the role of women in processes of democratic transition and economic reform in Arab societies.

4. Report on the Inter-parliamentary Meeting in Jordan, 27-29 April 2010

Jordan enjoys relative calm and stability compared to neighbouring Egypt and Syria. During the delegation's visit, the situation in Syria was a major concern.

The Delegation met with King Abdullah II, new Prime Minister Marouf Bakhit, Foreign Minister Nasser Judeh, and both Chambers of Parliament. The President of the Senate, Taher el Masri, is actually heading the Committee of National Dialogue, which is working on a new electoral law and a law on political parties.

Mr. El Khadraoui stressed that the successful implementation of the reforms will depend on acceptance by a society split between a Palestinian majority and East Bank tribes as well as an improvement of the economy based on creating employment. Jordan suffers from a high budgetary deficit which prevents it for instance from absorbing additional EIB loans.

The Delegation welcomed the obvious political will to comprehensive reform and encouraged its interlocutors to pursue on this path. At the same time, it had to make clear that the priority of future EU assistance will be given to well-performing countries. Therefore, the Jordanian demand of unconditional budgetary support had to be dismissed.

The Middle East Peace Process was also a standing subject of conversation. The question whether the EU succeeds in having a common position in September when it comes to recognising a Palestinian State at the UN is something that Middle Eastern Partners see as an ultimate test for the EU's credibility in Foreign Policy.

The Delegation followed up on last year's EP resolution on the Jordan Valley when it visited the EU-funded Eco Park project led by an NGO, "Friends of the Earth" and looked into the issue of water scarcity and rehabilitation of the Jordan river.

5. Exchange of views in the presence of Hugues Mingarelli, Managing Director at the EEAS on the situation in Syria and the reopening of Rafah.

On Syria, Mr Mingarelli holds that the EU should seek dialogue with the protestors and advice them. In parallel, the EU uses different channels to convince the Syrian regime of the need of a national dialogue, including through Turkey. With regard to the sanctions, "the EU has proceeded gradually as it wanted to give Assad a chance to react before targeting himself." Almost all cooperation activities with Syria are now on hold and the signature of the Association Agreement is frozen. Four EU Member States are currently seeking an UN Security Council resolution condemning Syria, but Russia is reluctant.

The Syrian crisis impacts on Lebanon (delaying the formation of a new government) and on Syrian relations with Hamas (pushing Hamas leader Khaled Meshal to softening his position in negotiations with Fatah and thus indirectly facilitating Palestinian reconciliation). Allegedly, Iran provides Syria with logistical support to crush the rebellion. Mr. Mingarelli also voices concerns about the worsening economic situation in Syria. He reminds that the EU welcomed Palestinian reconciliation. The new Palestinian government will be judged upon its acts, but should stick to the Quartet principles.

Concerning border issues with Egypt, the EU also welcomes the re-opening of Rafah which puts an end to collective punishment. EUBAM can rapidly be redeployed based on the 2005 Agreement on movement and access if the parties wish so. Saying this, he dismisses Mr. Obiols' question of whether a new legal frame for EUBAM is needed given the changed circumstances.

Part of the debate with the members focusses on the preparedness of the EU for the possible vote on recognising a Palestinian State at the UN in September. Mr. Mingarelli argues that "unilateral steps at the UN would complicate the situation" and sees the risk of a split within the EU on this issue despite ongoing discussions of Mrs. Ashton with the

Member States. The EU pushes for a Quartet meeting to be held end of June / early July to ask parties to resume negotiations.

6. Any other business

7. Date and place of the next meeting

The next meeting takes place in Brussels on 15 June.

The meeting closes at 17.15.

**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 SAŪAŠAS/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 (*)
Saïd El Khadraoui
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Μέλη/Members/Députés/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/Képviselők/ Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Raimon Obiols
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Supplenti/ Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantys nariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleantî/Náhradníci/Namestniki/ Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
Norbert Neuser, Antonyia Parvanova, Ivo Vajgl,

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/Darbotvarkés 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/Stebētōjai/Megfigyelők/Osservatori/Waarnemers/Obserwatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Opazovalci/ Tarkkailijat/Observatörer

<p>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</p>
<p>Hugues Mingarelle EEAS</p>

<p>Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nõukogu/Συμβούλιο/Council/Conseil/Consiglio/Padome/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/Conselho/Consiliu/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (*)</p>
<p>Комисия/Comisión/Komise/Kommissionen/Kommission/Euroopa Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Commissione/Komisija/Bizottság/Kummissjoni/Commissie/Komisja/Comissão/Comisie/Komisia/Komissio/Kommissionen (*)</p>
<p>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 (*)</p>
<p>Olmi, Korpisaakku</p>
<p>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</p>
<p></p>

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

Rayan Said - Lebanese Embassy, Hussein Sabbagh - Syrian Embassy, Ali Hadid, Jordan Embassy - Galit Peleg - Israel Embassy, Iman Yakout - Egypt Embassy

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 grupi polițici/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secr. dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupin/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristö/Gruppernas sekretariat

PPE	Jorge Soutullo
S&D	
ALDE	Isabella Marzullo
ECR	
Verts/ALE	Johannes Bade
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/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	
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 sekretariáat/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	
Stefan Krauss, Lars Nielsen	
Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asyistent/Pomočnik/ Avustaja/Assistenten	

- * (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair(wo)man/Président/Priekšsēdētājs/Pirmininkas/
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 Vice-Chair(wo)man/Vice-Président/Priekšsēdētāja vietnieks/Pirmininko pavaduotojas/Alelnök/Vici President/Ondervoorzitter/
 Wiceprzewodniczący/Vice-Présidente/Vicepreşedinte/Podpredsedna/Podpredsednik/Varapuheenjohtaja/Vice ordförande
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 Membro/Lid/Członek/Membro/Membro/Člen/Poslanec/Jäsen/Ledamot
- (F) = Длъжностно лице/Funcionario/Úředník/Tjenestemand/Beamter/Ametnik/Υπάλληλος/Official/Fonctionnaire/Funzionario/
 Ierēdnis/Pareigūnas/Tisztviselő/Ufficial/Ambtenaar/Urzednik/Funcionário/Funçionar/Úradník/Uradnik/Virkamies/Tjänsteman