



Delegation for relations with the Mercosur countries

DMER_PV(2013)0321

MINUTES

of meeting of 21 March 2013, from 9.15 to 10.45
Brussels

The meeting opened at 9.15 on Thursday 21 March 2013, with Nuno Melo, Vice-Chair of the delegation, in the chair.

1. **Adoption of draft agenda** (PE 474.362v02)

The draft agenda was adopted.

2. **Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 6 December 2012**
(PE474.360v01)

The minutes were approved.

3. **Adoption of the revised programme of activities for 2013**

The revised programme of activities for 2013 was adopted.

4. **Progress of negotiations on the EU-Mercosur Association Agreement following the ministerial meeting of 26 January 2013 in Santiago (Chile). Exchange of views with: H.E. Walter Cancela, Ambassador of Uruguay to the European Union; Adrianus Koetsenruijter, Head of the Mercosur Countries Unit of the European External Action Service; and Matthias Jorgensen, Acting Head of Unit of the Commission's DG for Trade.**

Mr Cancela stressed that the new force driving the negotiation process towards the EU-Mercosur Association Agreement should be the commitment formed by the exchange of offers of access to the two parties' markets. Problems with the exchange of offers had led to the stalling of negotiations in 2004, and it had not been until 2010 in Madrid that it was possible to resume negotiations.

There had been improvements, but not yet an exchange of offers, which was constantly postponed; thus it was necessary for everyone to commit to making this exchange a reality no later than the third quarter of 2013. At any rate, Mercosur had already started work, holding a technical meeting in Montevideo on 1 March 2013, at which a programme of work had been adopted. The ambassador added that, in spite of the institutional problems currently faced by Mercosur, and no doubt also by the European Union as a result of the economic crisis, the political will was there to make progress in the negotiations. Furthermore, the private sector was very much in favour of the rapid signature of the EU-Mercosur Association Agreement.

Adrianus Koetsenruijter welcomed the optimism which had prevailed at the last ministerial meeting on 26 January 2013 in Santiago, and the fact that negotiations had resumed on a positive note, in line with the wishes of the two blocs as a whole. He stressed that the question at issue was indeed the negotiation of an Association Agreement, which therefore went beyond the scope of trade relations between the two parties and included, for example, security issues, social dialogue and high-level cooperation on science and education. Finally, he hoped to see Paraguay rejoin Mercosur following its forthcoming elections, and Venezuela, as an important regional partner, also become a permanent member.

Matthias Jorgensen mentioned that, since 2010, there had been progress in a number of negotiating areas, both in the political and commercial field. However, to make further progress he felt it was necessary to make the exchange of offers of market access. He congratulated the two parties on the work already done and stressed the need to prepare well for the above-mentioned exchange, recalling the impasse in negotiations in 2004 when the parties' offers did not live up to each other's expectations.

The following spoke: Agustín Dias de Mera, Jean-Pierre Audy and Ana Miranda.

Ms Miranda (Verts/ALE – ES), on behalf of her Group, expressed the Group's sadness at the death of the Venezuelan President Hugo Chávez Frías.

The guests, Walter Cancela, Adrianus Koetsenruijter and Matthias Jorgensen, replied to Members' questions.

5. **State of play of the EU-Brazil Strategic Partnership following the recent EU-Brazil summit. Exchange of views with Luciano Mazza de Andrade, Head of the Economic Affairs and Trade Department of the Brazilian Embassy to the EU, and Adrianus Koetsenruijter, Head of the Mercosur Countries Unit of the European External Action Service.**

Mr Mazza de Andrade recalled that, during the Sixth EU-Brazil summit on 24 January 2013, several political and economic matters had been touched on and

that a broadly positive evaluation of the meeting as a whole had been given by President Roussef, President Van Rompuy and President Barroso. He also added that a new boost needed to be given to some important topics within the Strategic Partnership, of which he listed the following: environment and climate change, renewable energy and biofuels, agriculture, human rights, and the high-level dialogue on international peace and security. He then mentioned the priorities of the Brazilian side, including education and research, science, technology and innovation. He also stressed the importance of mobility for students from both sides of the Atlantic. In this connection he informed Members of the Memorandum of Understanding signed at the summit which would enable around 100 Brazilian researchers to be hosted at the European Union's Joint Research Centre.

Adrianus Koetsenruijter also welcomed the positive outcome of the Sixth EU-Brazil summit. He then informed Members that the summit had also touched on international foreign policy, in particular the situation in the Middle East, Syria, Guinea-Bissau and Mali. The European Union and Brazil had found points of convergence on these matters.

6. Preparation of the visit by a delegation working group to Uruguay and Argentina (29 April to 3 May 2013)

The Chair informed Members of the composition of the delegation working group which would visit Uruguay and Argentina from 29 April to 3 May 2013. The working group also intended to meet the two countries' most senior authorities. The programme of the visit was still being drawn up. This visit would be the subject of a debate at the delegation's next meeting.

7. Other business

The Chair informed Members that the following documents were on the meeting file:

- Joint communiqué of the Presidents of the Mercosur States following the meeting of 7 December 2012;
- Report of the visit of the delegation working party to Brazil (28 October - 1 November 2012).

Finally, the Chair informed Members that, following an invitation from the Paraguayan authorities, an ad hoc European Parliament delegation, chaired by Mr Ignacio Salafranca, would be present during the general elections on 21 April 2013.

8. Date and place of next meeting

The Chair announced that the next meeting of the delegation was due to be held on 24 April 2013 from 10.15 to 11.45 in Brussels.

The meeting closed at 10.30.

**ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/
ANWESENHEITSLISTE/ΚΟΗΛΟΛΙΓΑΤΕ ΝΙΜΕΚΙΡΙ/ΚΑΤΑΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/
LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĒJUMU REĢISTRŠ/DALYVIŲ SAŖAŠAS/JELENLÉTI
IV/REGISTRU TA'ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELLIST/LISTA OBECNOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/LISTĂ DE
PREZENȚĂ/ PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIŇ/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA**

<p>Бюро/Mesa/Předsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/Biuras/Elnökség/Prezydium/Birou/Předsednictvo/Předsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)</p>
<p>Nuno Melo (VP); Jean-Pierre Audy (VP)</p>
<p>Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Μέλη/Members/Députés/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/Képviselek/Membri/Leden/Poslowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter</p>
<p>Edite Estrela, Ana Miranda</p>
<p>Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavadojuantys nariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter</p>
<p>Agustín Diaz de Mera, Silvia-Adriana Ticau Excuses: Mme Izaskun Bilbao Barandia</p>

<p>187 (2)</p>
<p>193 (3)</p>
<p>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)</p>
<p>.</p>

<p>Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaatlejad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Osservatori/Novērotāji/Stebėtojai/Megfigyelők/Osservatori/Waarnemers/Observatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Opazovalci/Tarkkailijat/Observatörer</p>

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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 pozvanie predsedu/ Na povabilo predsednika/ Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/ På ordförandens inbjudan
Walter Cancela, Embajador de Uruguay ante la UE; Luciano Mazza de Andrade, de la Embajada de Brasil ante la UE; Adrianus Koetsenruijter, Jefe de la División "Países de Mercosur" del Servicio Europeo de Acción Exterior, Matthias Jorgensen, Jefe a.i. de la Unidad "Relaciones comerciales con América Latina" de la DG TRADE - Comisión Europea

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 (*)
Lorena de la Cruz (DG Trade)
Европейска служба за външна дейност/Европска служба pro vnější činnost/EU-Udenrigstjenesten/Europäischer Auswärtiger Dienst/Euroopa välisestistus/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 Działañ 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 (*)
Matteo Gomirato (EEAS)
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 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 osallistajat/Övriga deltagare

Mario Sandoval (Embajador Paraguay); Raul Silvero (Emb Paraguay); Doris Roman (Emb Paraguay); Osvaldo Marsico (Emb Argentina); José Arbilla (Emb Argentina); Rhoral Fonseca (Emb Venezuela); Martin Alvez (Emb Uruguay); Carlos Sgarbi (Emb Uruguay); Mikhail Kokorev (Emb Russia); Rui Cunha (APEX-Brasil); Orlando Rossi (Parlamento Latinoamericano)

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PPE	Juan Salafranca; Miriam Orsagova
S&D	Odília Henriques
ALDE	Itziar Munoa Salaverria
ECR	Bartosz Szajda
Verts/ALE	
GUE/NGL	
EFD	
NI	Sergio Servellon

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Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/ Directorate-General/Direction générale/Direzione generale/Generāldirektorāts/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/Direttorat Generali/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	Jesper Tvevad
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Pedro Neves; Javier Fernández Fernández, Jozsef Blaszauer	
Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Paġis/Padėjėjas/Asszisztens/Asyent/Pomočnik/ Avustaja/Assistenten	
Francisco Cabral	

- * (P) =
 Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair(wo)man/Président/Priekšsēdētājs/
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- (F) = Длъжностно
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 nsteman