



EU-Mexico Joint Parliamentary Committee

D-MX_PV(2014)1023_01

MINUTES

of meeting of 23 October 2014, from 09.00 to 10.15
Strasbourg

The meeting opened at 09.00 on Thursday, 23 October 2014 with Teresa Jiménez-Becerril Barrio (Chair) in the chair.

1. Adoption of draft agenda (PE 503.030)

The draft agenda was adopted in the form shown in these minutes.

2. Approval of minutes of meeting of 26 February 2014 (PE 503.021)

The minutes were approved.

3. Chair's announcements

The Chair said that a letter had been sent to the President of the European Parliament requesting that the XVIII EU-Mexico Joint Parliamentary Committee be held in Mexico between 2 and 4 December so that the schedule of activities for the second half of 2014 could be carried out as adopted by the delegation at its constituent meeting. Members would be informed as soon as the Conference of Presidents took a decision.

4. Exchange of views on the draft programme of activities for the first half of 2015

The Chair reported that the schedule of activities for the first half of 2015 would be prepared on the basis of the decision taken by the Conference of Presidents on the request to hold the XVIII EU-Mexico Joint Parliamentary Committee in Mexico between 2 and 4 December.

5. Exchange of views on the current state of relations between the EU and Mexico, and challenges and opportunities for Parliament's eighth parliamentary term, with:

- **His Excellency Juan José Gómez Camacho, Ambassador of Mexico to the European Union**
- **Kenneth Bell, Head of Unit, Mexico and Central America, EEAS**

In introducing the debate, the Chair reminded members that, in the 14 years since the entry into force of the global agreement, major political, social and economic changes had taken place for both parties. At the meeting in Santiago de Chile, senior representatives of the two sides had decided to explore ways of comprehensively updating the global agreement and its three central components to take account of these changes.

Consequently, one of the main tasks of the EU-Mexico Joint Parliamentary Committee during the current parliamentary term is to contribute to the process of updating the agreement and to improve the monitoring of its implementation.

In his speech, the **Ambassador of Mexico to the European Union**, His Excellency Juan José Gómez, discussed the events of the night of 26 to 27 September 2014 in Iguala, emphatically condemning the deaths of 6 people and the disappearance of 43 trainee teachers. In response to these acts, the President of Mexico had ordered the country's law enforcement agencies to work closely with the students' families and their representatives in an effort to locate the missing students and to take all necessary measures to protect ordinary Mexicans and bring the perpetrators to justice.

Furthermore, federal forces had taken control of 13 towns in the area to guarantee the safety of local residents and all local police officers had been questioned. On the strength of the evidence, 52 people had been detained, including members of public security forces, local government employees and cartel members.

To ensure transparency, developments in the investigation were being monitored by parliamentary committees – composed of members of all the political parties represented in Mexico's Congress – working closely with international organisations such as the UN.

The Ambassador then highlighted the progress made by the Mexican Government in the field of human rights and the consolidation of the rule of law, together with developments in implementing a single-command police force, reforming the legal system and modernising intelligence systems. He focused on the government's determination to comply with international law and the partnerships that Mexico had developed with international human rights organisations.

The Ambassador concluded his speech by referring to the motion for a resolution tabled in the European Parliament on the events in Iguala. He stressed that Parliament's initiative would encourage Mexico to keep working towards justice and safety for its citizens and chimed with the government's determination to investigate the Iguala crimes and punish the culprits.

Kenneth Bell, **Head of Unit, Mexico and Central America, EEAS**, began his speech with a reminder that Mexico had been the first Latin American country to sign an association agreement with the EU – the Global Agreement – based on three components: political dialogue, trade and cooperation. The agreement had boosted investment and trade flows between both parties, and had strengthened political dialogue, too. The 2008 Strategic Partnership had also made for closer cooperation in multilateral forums and sectoral dialogue

in various fields.

Mr Bell commented that, over the 14 years that the Global Agreement had been in force, the world had changed considerably and new agreements had been signed with a number of partners. Political, economic and social circumstances in the EU and Mexico had also changed drastically, and, as a result, both parties acknowledged that the Global Agreement needed to be updated and modernised. The revision clauses had still not provided enough impetus with regard to trade and there was also scope to improve economic and political relations. He also pointed out that a range of subjects, such as peace missions, needed to be addressed at a multilateral level. Given that most of these improvements called for a new agreement, a dialogue with Mexico had been instigated – on the basis of a decision by senior EU and Mexican representatives – to study the options available and exchange views on the scope for updating the agreement.

In that connection, he noted that the role of the joint parliamentary committee within the framework of the Global Agreement was a key issue.

In conclusion, Mr Bell expressed his support for the victims of the kidnappings in Iguala, mentioning that a declaration by the Member States requesting a comprehensive investigation into what happened had been published the previous week. The shared responsibility for fighting drug trafficking made ongoing dialogue and cooperation essential.

Speakers: Agustín Díaz de Mera, Danuta Jazłowiecka, Josep-Maria Terricabras, Ulrike Lunacek, Bogdan Wenta, Thomas Mann, Lola Sánchez Caldentey, Javier Couso Permuy, Betariz Becerra Basterrechea

6. Other business

None.

7. Date and place of next meeting

The next ordinary meeting of the delegation would take place in Brussels on 13 November 2014, from 14.00 to 15.30.

The meeting closed at 10.30.

**ПРИСЪСТВЕН ЛИСТ/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/
ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/KATAΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/
LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/POPIS NAZOČNIH/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĒJUMU REĢISTRŠ/DALYVIŲ SAŖAŠAS/
JELENĹTI ÍV/REGĪSTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/
LISTĂ DE PREZENȚĂ/PREZENČNĂ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LĂSNĂOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA**

Буро/Мesa/Pfedsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Predsjedništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/ Biuras/Elnökség/Prezydium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)
Teresa Jiménez-Becerril Barrio, José Blanco López, Pina Picierno
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Μέλη/Members/Députés/Zastupnici/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/ Kérviseleők/Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Marie-Christine Arnautu, Beatriz Becerra Basterrechea, Joëlle Bergeron, Marc Joulaud, Verónica Lope Fontagné, Thomas Mann, James Nicholson, Lola Sánchez Caldentey, Josep-Maria Terricabras
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Zamjenici/ Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantysnariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/ Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
Javier Couso Permuy, Agustín Díaz de Mera García Consuegra, Danuta JazłowieckaBogdan Brunon Wenta

200 (2)	
Clara Eugenia Aguilera García, José Inácio Faria, Ulrike Lunacek, Alessia Maria Mosca	
206 (3)	
53 (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/Τοčka dnevnog reda/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkės punktas/Napirendi pont/Punt Agenda/Agendapunt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Punct de pe ordinea de zi/Bod programu schôdze/Τοčka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Föredragningslista punkt)	
S.E. Juan José Camacho Gomez (Emb. Mexico),	5
Kenneth Bell, Jefe de Unidad Desk Mexico, EEAS	5

Наблюдатели/Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaatlejad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Promatrači/Osservatori/Novērotāji/Stebėtojai/Megfigyelők/Osservatori/Waarnemers/Obszery/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Opazovalci/Tarkkailijat/Observatörer

S.E. Santiago Oñate (Amb Mexique auprès Conseil de l'Europe), Alejandro Martinez Peralta (Conseil Europe), Diego Sandoval Pimentel (Conseil Europe), Alejandro Negrin (Ministère Aff Extérieures Mexique), Yvette Stinson (Amb Mexique auprès UE), Luis Elizondo (Amb.Mexique auprès UE)

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/Na poziv predsjednika/Su invito del presidente/Pēc priekšsēdētāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmininkui pakvietus/Az elnök meghívására/Fuq stedina tač-'Chairman'/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

Kenneth Bell (Jefe Unidad Desk Mexico, EEAS)

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

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

Европейска служба за външна дейност/Servicio Europeo de Acción Exterior/Европска служба про внѣjší činnost/ EU-Udenrigstjenesten/Europäischer Auswärtiger Dienst/Euroopa välisteenistus/Ευρωπαϊκή Υπηρεσία Εξωτερικής Δράσης/European External Action service/Service européen pour l'action extérieure/Europiska služba za vanjsko djelovanje/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 Služba 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 (*)

M. Visentin

Други институции/Otras instituciones/Ostatní orgány a instituce/Andre institutioner/Andere Organe/Muud institutsioonid/Άλλα θεσμικά όργανα/Other institutions/Autres institutions/Druge institucije/Altre istituzioni/Citas iestādes/Kitos institucijos/Más intézmények/Istituzzjonijiet oħra/Andere instellingen/Inne instytucje/Outras Instituições/Alte instituții/Iné inštitúcie/Muut toimielimet/Andra institutioner/organ

Други учасници/Otros participantes/Ostatní účastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/Επίσης Παρόντες/Other participants/Autres participants/Drugi sudionici/Altri partecipanti/Citi klātesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Partecipanti ohra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Alți participanți/Ini účastníci/Drugi udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare

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PPE	Juan Salafranca, Miriam Orsagova
S&D	Savignat
ALDE	Itziar Muñoa
ECR	Lindsay Gilbert
Verts/ALE	Gabby Koppers
GUE/NGL	
EFDD	
NI	

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Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoaraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/ Directorate-General/Direction générale/Glavna uprava/Direzione generale/Generāldirektorāts/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/ Direttorat Generali/Direktoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direcção-Geral/Direcții Generale/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/Päaosasto/Generaldirektorat	
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Radka Hejtmankova, Javier Fernández	
Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asystent/Pomočnik/ Avustaja/Assistenten	
Rosa-María Licop Cabo	

- * (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair(wo)man/Président/Predsjednik/Priekšsēdētājs/
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 Funzionario/Ierēdnis/Pareigūnas/Tisztviselő/Ufficial/Ambtenaar/Urządник/Funcionário/Funçionar/Úradník/Uradnik/Virkamies/
 Tjänsteman