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*Delegation to the Euro-Latin American Parliamentary Assembly*

*Delegation for relations with the countries of Central America*

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**DCAM\_PV(2017)0323\_1**

## **MINUTES**

of the meeting of 23 March 2017, 9.45-11.00

Brussels

The meeting opened at 9.55 on Thursday, 23 March 2017, with Sofia Sakorafa (DCAM Chair) and Ramón Jáuregui Atondo (DLAT chair) presiding.

**1. Adoption of draft agenda PE576.449v01-00**

The agenda was adopted as shown in these minutes.

**2. Chair's announcements**

Co-Chair Sofia Sakorafa recalled the Delegation visit in Panama from 30 March to 1 April 2016, which gave delegation members a good opportunity to get a very comprehensive picture of the country.

**3. Exchange of views with H.E. Isabel de Saint Malo de Alvarado, Vice-President and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Panama, on common global challenges and Panama's commitment to transparency and good tax governance**

Ms Isabel de Saint Malo de Alvarado, Vice-President and Foreign Minister of the Republic of Panama outlined the positive relationship of Panama and the European Union, who share the same values of democracy, multilateralism, the rule of law, human rights, sustainable development, peace and freedom of expression.

Ms de Saint Malo stressed the strategic importance of the alliance between the EU and Latin America. To breathe new life into this alliance, she called for implementing the nine recommendations formulated by the Foreign Affairs Ministers of both regions at their Summit in June 2015. She said that a true Strategic Association is needed to fulfil the obligations of the Agenda 2030, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change and the Addis Ababa Agreement on Financing for Development.

The Vice-President expressed her hope that the III CELAC-EU Summit in El Salvador in October 2017 will be an excellent opportunity to reinvigorate this strategic alliance.

She proposed that in the fringes of this Summit a meeting between the EU and SICA (Central American Integration System) should also be held.

As regards the fight against tax evasion, tax fraud and money laundering, the Vice-President assured MEPs that the Panamanian government has always strived to comply with the highest standards of international cooperation. As a reward for their efforts, the country was taken off the grey list of the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering (FATF), in February 2016.

Ms de Saint Malo admitted that for some time Panama paid less attention to the question of tax evasion, but is now back on track especially in regards to the implementation of the automatic exchange of fiscal information. The first automatic exchanges will begin in January 2018 in accordance with the obligation to implement the Common Reporting Standards (CRS) promoted by the Global Forum of the OECD.

The Vice-President stressed that Panama is doing the necessary work to not be included in the list of non-cooperative countries drawn up by the G-20 nor in the planned list of the European Union. As regards the Base erosion and profit shifting (BEPS) project, Panama is preparing for the revision by the Forum of Countering Harmful Tax Practices, scheduled to take place in 2017.

Ms de Saint Malo drew attention to the Committee of Independent Experts established by Panama's President Juan Carlos Varela in April 2016 in order to "analyze the service platform for the purpose of formulating recommendations that be incorporated as best practices, to achieve the transparency objectives required by the international community". This Committee published its final report on 18 November 2016 and its recommendations are currently being implemented.

*Speakers:* Ernest Urtasun (Greens/EFA, Spain), Luis de Grandes Pascual (EPP, Spain), Renate Weber (ALDE, Romania), José Inácio Faria (EPP, Portugal), Mireille d'Ornano (ENF, France), José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra (EPP, Spain)

#### **4. Any other business**

There was no other business.

#### **5. Date and place of next meeting**

The next ordinary DCAM Meeting takes place on 27 April 2017 in Brussels.

The meeting closed at 10.55.

**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/  
JELENLÉTI ÍV/REGISTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBECNOŠCI/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/  
LISTĂ DE PREZENȚĂ/PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA**

Бюро/Меса/Pfedsednictvo/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Predsjetništvo/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/ Biuras/Elnökség/Prezydium/Birou/Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)
DLAT: Ramón Jáuregui Atondo (P), Ernest Urtasun (2nd VP)  DCAM: Sofia Sakorafa (P), Gabriel Mato (1st VP)
Членове/Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Μέλη/Members/Députés/Zastupnici/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/ Kérvíselők/Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Deputați/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
DLAT: Pilar Ayuso, Mireille D'Ornano, José Inácio Faria, Evelyne Gebhardt, Luis de Grandes Pascual, Verónica Lope Fontagné, Salvatore Domenico Pogliese, Renate Weber,
Заместници/Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Zamjenici/ Supplenti/Aizstājēji/Pavaduojantysnariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvervangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Supleanți/Náhradníci/ Namestniki/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter
DLAT: Enrique Guerrero Salom  Excused: Isabella De Monte

200 (2)
José Manuel Fernandes, Juan Fernando López Aguilar, José Ignacio Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra
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/Točka dnevnog reda/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkēs punktas/Napirendi pont/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/Promatrači/Osservatori/Novērotāji/Stebėtojai/Megfigyelők/Osservatori/Waarnemers/Observatorzy/Observadores/Observatori/Pozorovatelia/Opazovalci/Tarkkailijat/Observatörer

По покана на председателя/Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Εσιμεhe 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 pozvanie predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan

H.E. Isabel de Saint Malo de Alvarado, Vice-President and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Panama

Съвет/Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nõukogu/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 (\*)

DG TAXUD: Beatriz Laranjeira, Nerea Artamendi Erro

Европейска служба за външна дейност/Servicio Europeo de Acción Exterior/Европска служба про vnější 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 veiksmų tarnyba/Európai Külügyi Szolgálat/Servizz Ewropew ghall-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 činnosť/Evropska služba za zunanje delovanje/Euroopan ulkosuhdehallinto/Europeiska avdelningen för yttre åtgärd (\*)

Diego Santiago Rivero, Fernando Ponz Cantó, Gonzalo Sans Sanchez, Sylvain Schultze

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 účastnici/Drugi udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare

Publio Cortés, Director General of Revenues, Ministry of Economy and Finance of the Republic of Panama;  
 Nicole Wong, Director General of Foreign Policy, Ministry of Foreign Relations of the Republic of Panama;  
 Monica de León, Director General of Information and Public Relations, Ministry of Foreign Relations of the Republic of Panama;  
 Adriana De Diego, Executive Assistant of the Vice President, Ministry of Foreign Relations of the Republic of Panama;  
 Enzo Sam, Lawyer from the Directorate of International Economic Relations, Ministry of Foreign Relations of the Republic of Panama;  
 Nicholas Cox (Mission of Barbados to the EU); Francisco J. Coy (Mission of Colombia to the EU), Shery Fakh (Mission of Colombia to the EU); Istvan Alfaro Solano (Ambassador of Costa Rica to the EU); Julia Emma Villatoro-Tario (Mission of El Salvador to the EU), Rubén Hasbén (Mission of El Salvador to the EU); José Alberto Briz Gutiérrez (Ambassador of Guatemala to the EU), Myriam de la Roca (Mission of Guatemala to the EU); Roberto Ochoa Madrid (Ambassador of Honduras to the EU), José E. Atalar (Mission of Honduras to the EU); Rita Vargas (Mission of Mexico to the EU); Lautaro Sandino (Mission of Nicaragua to the EU); Alfonso Young (Mission of Panama to the EU), Iván Rolla (Mission of Panama to the EU); Enrique Franco (Mission of Paraguay to the EU); Claudia García de Paredes (Mission of Peru to the EU); Colin Michael Connelly (Ambassador of Trinidad and Tobago to the EU); Valeria Czukasi (Mission of Uruguay to the EU); Enrique Campoverde (Mission of Venezuela to the EU); Orlando Rossi (Rep. of Parlantino)

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/Tajništva klubova zastupnika/Segreteria gruppi politici/Politisko grupu sekretariāts/Frakcijų sekretoriai/Képviseletcsoportok titkársága/Sekretarjat gruppi politici/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secr. dos grupos políticos/Secretariate grupuri politice/Sekretariát politických skupin/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristö/Gruppernas sekretariat

PPE	Glogowski, Rizza, Giesemann
S&D	Ruiz Huelamo, Skaerbaek
ECR	Machaj Branchu
ALDE	Munoa Salaverria
Verts/ALE	Küppers
GUE/NGL	Criado Garcia, Grondona, Albarracin
EFDD	
ENF	
NI	Salagnac

Кабинет на председателя/Gabinete del Presidente/Kancelář předsedy/Formandens Kabinet/Kabinett des Präsidenten/Presidendi kantselei/Γραφείο Προέδρου/President's Office/Cabinet du Président/Ured predsednika/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/Ured glavnog tajnika/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/Generalsekretära kabinets/Generalinio sekretoriaus kabinetas/Főtitkári hivatal/Kabinett tas-Segretarju Ġenerali/Kabinet van de secretaris-generaal/Gabinet Sekretarza Generalnego/Gabinete do Secretário-Geral/Cabinet Secretar General/Kancelária generálního tajomníka/Urad generalnega sekretarja/Pääsihteerin kabinetti/Generalsekreterarens kansli

Генерална дирекция/Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoaraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/Directorate-General/Direction générale/Glavna uprava/Direzione generale/Generāldirektorāts/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/Direktorat Generali/Direktoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direcção-Geral/Direcții Generale/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/Päaosasto/Generaldirektorat	
DG PRES DG IPOL DG EXPO DG EPRS DG COMM DG PERS DG INLO DG TRAD DG INTE DG FINS DG ITEC DG SAFE	Koutoulakou (PANA Secretariat), Gatterer (PANA Secretariat) Perez Navas (DEVE Secretariat), Rodriguez Sarro (INTA Secretariat)  Tournier
Правна служба/Servicio Jurídico/Právni služba/Juridisk Tjeneste/Juristischer Dienst/Öigusteenistus/Νομική Υπηρεσία/Legal Service/Service juridique/Pravna služba/Servizio giuridico/Juridiskais dienests/Teisės tarnyba/Jogi szolgálat/Servizz legali/Juridische Dienst/Wydział prawny/Serviço Jurídico/Serviciu Juridic/Právny servis/Oikeudellinen yksikkö/Rättstjänsten	
Секретариат на комисията/Secretaría de la comisión/Sekretariát výboru/Udvalgssekretariatet/Ausschusssekretariat/Komisjoni sekretariaat/Γραμματεία επιτροπής/Committee secretariat/Secrétariat de la commission/Tajništvo odbora/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	
Fernández-Fernández, Weixler	
Сътрудник/Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/Asszisztens/Asystent/Pomočnik/Avustaja/Assistenten	
Cabral	

- \* (P) = Председател/Presidente/Předseda/Formand/Vorsitzender/Esimees/Πρόεδρος/Chair(wo)man/Président/Predsjednik/Priekšsēdētājs/Pirmininkas/Elnök/Chairman/Voorzitter/Przewodniczący/Preşedinte/Predseda/Predsednik/Puheenjohtaja/Ordförande
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- (M) = Член/Miembro/Člen/Medlem/Mitglied/Parlamendiliige/Μέλος/Member/Membre/Član/Membro/Deputāts/Narys/Képvisező/Membru/Lid/Członek/Membro/Membru/Člen/Poslanec/Jäsen/Ledamot
- (F) = Длъжностно лице/Funcionario/Úředník/Tjenestemand/Beamter/Ametnik/Υπάλληλος/Official/Fonctionnaire/Dužnosnik/Funcionario/Ierēdnis/Pareigūnas/Tisztviselő/Ufficial/Ambtenaar/Urządник/Funcionário/Funçionar/Úradník/Uradnik/Virkamies/Tjänsteman