

PART I

Proceedings of the sitting

IN THE CHAIR: Mr IMBENI
Vice-President

(The sitting opened at 9 a.m.)

1. Approval of Minutes

Mr Adam and Mr Imbeni had informed the service responsible that they had been present the previous day but that their names were not on the attendance register.

Mr Giansily, Mr Sisó Cruellas and Mr Schiedermeier stated that that they had been present the previous day but that their names were not on the attendance register.

The Minutes of the previous sitting were approved.

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The following spoke:

- Mr Giansily, who asked for clarification on the deadline for tabling amendments to the Economic Affairs Committee's recommendations concerning appointments to the Executive Board of the European Central Bank (A4-0182/98 to A4-0187/98, rapporteur Mrs Randzio-Plath) on the following day's agenda;
- Mr von Wogau, chairman of the Economic Affairs Committee, who acknowledged that the issue of tabling amendments to the text in question was controversial and suggested that Mr Giansily should table an oral amendment or a request for a separate vote on the parts of the text with which he was concerned.

2. Documents received

The President had received:

(a) *reports and recommendations from committees*

- * Report on the proposal for a Council Regulation (EC) concerning the compulsory indication on the labelling of certain foodstuffs produced from genetically modified organisms of particulars other

than those provided for in Directive 79/112/EEC (COM(98)0099 - C4-0227/98 - 98/0811(CNS) - Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection

Rapporteur: Mr Kenneth D. Collins
(A4-0181/98)

- Recommendation on the appointment of Dr W.F. Duisenberg as President of the European Central Bank (7993/98 - C4-0260/98) - Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy
Rapporteur: Mrs Randzio-Plath
(A4-0182/98)
- Recommendation on the appointment of Mr Eugenio Domingo Solans as member of the Executive Board of the European Central Bank (7993/98 - C4-0260/98) - Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy
Rapporteur: Mrs Randzio-Plath
(A4-0183/98)
- Recommendation on the appointment of Mrs Sirkka Hämäläinen as member of the Executive Board of the European Central Bank (7993/98 - C4-0260/98) - Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy
Rapporteur: Mrs Randzio-Plath
(A4-0184/98)
- Recommendation on the appointment of Mr Christian Noyer as Vice-President of the European Central Bank (7993/98 - C4-0260/98) - Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy
Rapporteur - Mrs Randzio-Plath
(A4-0185/98)
- Recommendation on the appointment of Mr Otmar Issing as member of the Executive Board of the European Central Bank (7993/98 - C4-0260/98) - Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy
Rapporteur - Mrs Randzio-Plath
(A4-0186/98)
- Recommendation on the appointment of Mr Tommaso Padoa Schioppa as member of the Executive Board of the European Central Bank (7993/98 - C4-0260/98) - Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy
Rapporteur - Mrs Randzio-Plath
(A4-0187/98)

(b) *from Members:*

(ba) *motions for resolutions (Rule 45)*

- Ferrer on small and medium-sized businesses (B4-0430/98)

referred to responsible: ECON

- Ferrer on the impact of wars on children (B4-0431/98)

referred to responsible: CULT

- Ferrer on forestry policy in the European Union (B4-0432/98)

referred to responsible: ENVI

- Gerard Collins, Andrews, Crowley, Fitzsimons, Gallagher, Hyland, Killilea on Duty Free (B4-0433/98)

referred to responsible: ECON
opinion: TRAN

- Fernández-Albor on a programme for inter-university cooperation with the countries of Latin America (B4-0434/98)

referred to responsible: CULT

- Parigi, Amadeo, Angelilli, Azzolini, Baldi, Belleré, Boniperti, Caccavale, Cellai, Colli, Farassino, Fayot, Ferri, Fini, Fontana, Marinucci, Mezzaroma, Moretti, Muscardini, Musumeci, Nencini, Pasty, Podesta, Ripa di Meana, Santini, Secchi, Tajani, Tatarella, Todini, Trizza, Viceconte on human rights and the right to health (B4-0436/98)

referred to responsible: ENVI

- Parigi, Aglietta, Amadeo, Angelilli, Azzolini, Baldi, Barzanti, Belleré, Boniperti, Caccavale, Cellai, Colli, Farassino, Ferri, Fini, Fontana, Marinucci, Mezzaroma, Moretti, Muscardini, Musumeci, Nencini, Pasty, Podesta, Ripa di Meana, Santini, Secchi, Tajani, Tatarella, Todini, Trizza, Viceconte on the question of recognition for the 'Di Bella treatment' (B4-0437/98)

referred to responsible: ENVI

- Izquierdo Rojo on the risk of disaster posed by derelict mines in Alquife (B4-0461/98)

referred to responsible: ENVI
opinion: RTDE

(bb) the following proposed modification to the Rules of Procedure (Rule 163)

- Vecchi, on Rule 7(2) (B4-0435/98)

referred to responsible: RULE

3. Texts of agreements forwarded by the Council

The President had received certified true copies from the Council of the following documents:

- agreement in the form of an exchange of letters amending the agreement in the form of an exchange of letters between the European Community and Romania on the reciprocal establishment of tariff quotas for certain wines;
- protocol establishing the fishing possibilities and financial compensation provided for in the

agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Cape Verde concerning fishing off Cape Verde, for the period from 6 September 1997 to 5 September 2000;

- agreement in the form of an exchange of letters concerning the provisional implementation of the protocol establishing the fishing possibilities and financial compensation provided for in the agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Cape Verde concerning fishing off Cape Verde, for the period from 6 September 1997 to 5 September 2000.

4. Topical and urgent debate (motions for resolutions tabled)

The President announced that he had received from the following Members or political groups requests for the inclusion in the debate on topical and urgent subjects of major importance of motions for resolutions pursuant to Rule 47(1):

- Eisma, Gasòliba i Böhm and Vallvé, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on the Doñana ecological disaster (B4-0492/98);
- Bertens and Gasòliba i Böhm, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on the political assassination of Bishop Juan Jose Gerardi in Guatemala (B4-0493/98);
- André-Léonard and Fassa, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on the Democratic Republic of Congo (B4-0494/98);
- Monfils, André-Léonard and Fassa, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on the situation in Vietnam and the cases of Doan Viet Hoat, Nguyen Dan Que and Thick Khonh Tanh (B4-0495/98);
- Bertens and André-Léonard, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on the sale of organs from executed prisoners in China (B4-0496/98);
- Bianco, D'Andrea, Castagnetti, Burtone, Carlo Casini, Graziani, Colombo Svevo, Ebner, Filippi, Poggiolini, Secchi and Viola, on behalf of the PPE Group, on the hydrogeological disaster in the Italian provinces of Salerno, Avellino and Caserta (B4-0497/98);
- Günther, Tindemans, Maij-Weggen, Schiedermeier and Oomen-Ruijten, on behalf of the PPE Group, on the situation in Sudan (B4-0498/98);
- Ewing, Macartney and Vandemeulebroucke, on behalf of the ARE Group, on the safety at the Dounreay nuclear installation in Caithness, Scotland, and the transfer of HEU from Georgia (B4-0499/98);
- Dupuis, Dell'Alba and Hory, on behalf of the ARE Group, on the sale of organs of persons sentenced to death in China (B4-0500/98);
- Dupuis and Dell'Alba, on behalf of the ARE Group, on Nagaland (B4-0501/98);
- Macartney and Hory, on behalf of the ARE Group, on the Code of Conduct for Arms Exports (B4-0502/98);
- Dupuis, Dell'Alba and Hory, on behalf of the ARE Group, on the situation in Vietnam and the cases of Doan Viet Hoat, Nguyen Dan Que and Thick Khonh Tanh (B4-0503/98);

- Macartney and Weber, on behalf of the ARE Group, on the possible recommissioning of Slovakia's Mochovce nuclear plant (B4-0504/98);
- McKenna, Schroedter, Gahrton, Hautala, Telkämper and Aelvoet, on behalf of the V Group, on a European Code of Conduct for Arms Exports (B4-0505/98);
- Telkämper and Aelvoet, on behalf of the V Group, on the situation in Sudan (B4-0506/98);
- Roth and Aelvoet, on behalf of the V Group, on the sentencing of the Mayor of Istanbul by the Diyarbakir State Security Court (B4-0507/98);
- Roth, Aelvoet, Schörling, Gahrton, Lannoye, Holm and Lindholm, on behalf of the V Group, on the severe toxic spill disaster in Doñana National Park, Spain (B4-0508/98);
- Bloch von Blottnitz and Voggenhuber, on behalf of the V Group, on the commissioning of the Mochovce nuclear power plant (B4-0509/98);
- Aglietta, Tamino and Ripa di Meana, on behalf of the V Group, on the death penalty in China and the traffic in organs of persons sentenced to death (B4-0510/98);
- Aglietta, Orlando and Kerr, on behalf of the V Group, on Tibet (B4-0511/98);
- Bloch von Blottnitz, on behalf of the V Group, on contaminated shipments of nuclear materials (B4-0512/98);
- Kreissl-Dörfler, Müller, McKenna, Aelvoet and Roth, on behalf of the V Group, on the murder of Eduardo Umana Mendoza in Colombia (B4-0513/98);
- Telkämper, McKenna and Van Dijk, on behalf of the V Group, on human rights in Malaysia (B4-0514/98);
- Flemming, Pimenta, Mombaur, Langen and Oomen-Ruijten, on behalf of the PPE Group, on the start up of the Mochovce nuclear power plant (B4-0515/98);
- Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra, Ferrer and Oomen-Ruijten, on behalf of the PPE Group, on the murder of Juan Gerardi, Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of Guatemala City (B4-0516/98);
- Langen and Oomen-Ruijten, on behalf of the PPE Group, on Turkey (B4-0517/98);
- von Habsburg, Friedrich, Habsburg-Lothringen, Schiedermeier, Ferber, Mombaur, Günther, Koch, Posselt and Oomen-Ruijten, on behalf of the PPE Group, on human rights in Georgia (B4-0518/98);
- Habsburg-Lothringen and Oomen-Ruijten, on behalf of the PPE Group, on the traffic in human organs in China (B4-0519/98);
- Oostlander and Oomen-Ruijten, on behalf of the PPE Group, on a code of conduct for arms exports (B4-0520/98);
- Valverde López, Arias Cañete, Galeote Quecedo, Hernández Mollar and Oomen-Ruijten, on behalf of the PPE Group, on the environmental disaster caused by the breach in the tailings dam at the Aznalcollar mines (Seville), in the vicinity of the Doñana national park (B4-0521/98);
- Bertens and Frischenschlager, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on a code of conduct for arms exports

(B4-0522/98);

- Vinci, Pettinari, Ojala, Svensson, Sierra González, Miranda, Alavanos and Ephremidis, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, on the political situation in Sudan and the serious humanitarian crisis in southern Sudan (B4-0523/98);
- Papayannakis, Campos and Sjöstedt, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, on the Mochovce nuclear power plant (B4-0524/98);
- González Álvarez, Novo, Marset Campos, Gutiérrez Díaz, Sornosa Martínez, Ainardi, Eriksson, Seppänen, Alavanos and Ephremidis, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, on the murder of Bishop Gerardi in Guatemala (B4-0525/98);
- Puerta, Sornosa Martínez, Wurtz, Svensson, Ojala, Novo, Alavanos and Ephremidis, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, on the murders in Colombia (B4-0526/98);
- Miranda, Puerta, Wurtz, Eriksson, Seppänen and Sornosa Martínez, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, on violence against landless peasants in Brazil (B4-0527/98);
- Ribeiro, Ainardi, Jové Peres, Gutiérrez Díaz, Sjöstedt, Theonas, Ojala and Alavanos, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, on the world march against child labour (B4-0528/98);
- González Álvarez, Wurtz, Papayannakis and Carnero González, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, on a code of conduct for arms exports (B4-0529/98);
- Vinci, Pettinari, Bertinotti, Manisco, Castellina, Puerta and Moreau, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, on the floods in Campania (Italy) (B4-0530/98);
- González Álvarez, Marset Campos, Puerta, Sierra González, Mohamed Alí, Jové Peres, Sjöstedt, Eriksson, Svensson, Papayannakis and Moreau, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, on the environmental disaster in the Doñana area (B4-0531/98);
- Eisma, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on the ruling against the Mayor of Istanbul (B4-0532/98);
- Bertens, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on the unrest in Indonesia (B4-0533/98);
- Bertens and Fassa, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on the situation in Sudan (B4-0534/98);
- Fassa, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on the tragedy in the Campania region of Italy (B4-0535/98);
- Eisma, Frischenschlager and Plooij-van Gorsel, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on the commissioning of the Mochovce nuclear power plant (B4-0536/98);
- Bertens and Larive, on behalf of the ELDR Group, on the political situation in Tibet following the death of a Tibetan hunger striker in New Delhi (B4-0537/98);
- Dupuis and Dell'Alba, on behalf of the ARE Group, on Tibet (B4-0538/98);
- Hory, Macartney, Taubira-Delannon, Dupuis, Saint-Pierre and Pradier, on behalf of the ARE Group, on the situation in Sudan (B4-0539/98);
- Pomés Ruiz, Valdivielso de Cué and Oomen-Ruijten, on behalf of the PPE Group, on the latest terrorist attacks by ETA (B4-0540/98);

- Newens, on behalf of the PSE Group, on the situation in Sudan (B4-0541/98);
- Graenitz, on behalf of the PSE Group, on the planned start-up of the Mochovce nuclear power plant (B4-0542/98);
- Karamanou and d'Ancona, on behalf of the PSE Group, on respect for human and political rights in Turkey (B4-0543/98);
- Cabezón Alonso, on behalf of the PSE Group, on the murder of Bishop Juan Gerardi in Guatemala (B4-0544/98);
- Titley and Harrison, on behalf of the PSE Group, on human rights in Malaysia (B4-0545/98);
- Titley and Wiersma, on behalf of the PSE Group, on a EU code of conduct on arms exports (B4-0546/98);
- Schulz and van Lancker, on behalf of the PSE Group, on Melchior Wathelet (B4-0547/98);
- Aparicio Sánchez, Izquierdo Rojo, Pérez Royo and Díez de Rivera Icaza, on behalf of the PSE Group, on the discharge of toxic waste in the Doñana area and the serious social and ecological implications thereof (B4-0548/98);
- Colajanni, Occhetto, De Giovanni and Augias, on behalf of the PSE Group, on floods in Campania (B4-0549/98);
- Miranda de Lage, on behalf of the PSE Group, on the murders in Colombia (B4-0550/98);
- Azzolini, Pasty, Caccavale, Marra and Viceconte, on behalf of the UPE Group, on the flooding of 5 May in Campania (Italy) (B4-0551/98);
- Pasty and Andrews, on behalf of the UPE Group, on the situation in Sudan (B4-0552/98);
- Estevan Bolea and Oomen-Ruijten, on behalf of the PPE Group, on the murder of Eduardo Umana Mendoza in Colombia (B4-0553/98);
- Ullmann, Aelvoet, Roth, Gahrton, McKenna, Telkämper, Ripa di Meana, Schroedter, Kerr and Hautala, on behalf of the V Group, on the case of Mordechai Vanunu (B4-0554/98);
- Aelvoet, Gahrton, Kreissl-Dörfler, Müller, Ripa di Meana, Telkämper and Ullmann, on behalf of the V Group, on the murder of Bishop Juan Gerardi in Guatemala (B4-0555/98);
- Aelvoet and Lannoye, on behalf of the V Group, on Melchior Wathelet (B4-0556/98);
- Telkämper, McKenna and Aglietta, on behalf of the V Group, on death sentences in Myanmar (Burma) (B4-0557/98);
- Roth and Kreissl-Dörfler, on behalf of the V Group, on the expulsion of a 13-year-old child and parents by the Bayern authorities (B4-0558/98);
- Tamino, Aglietta, Orlando and Ripa di Meana, on behalf of the V Group, on the flooding in Campania (Italy) (B4-0559/98);

The President announced that, pursuant to Rule 47(2), first subparagraph, Parliament would be

informed at the end of the morning's sitting of the list of subjects to be included on the agenda for the next debate on topical and urgent subjects of major importance to be held from 3 to 6 p.m. on Thursday 14 May.

5. Decision on request for urgent procedure

The next item was the vote on the following request for urgent procedure on the proposals for Council Decisions concerning:

- I. the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities and for the dissemination of research results for the implementation of the Fifth Framework Programme of the European Community (1998-2002) (COM(97)0587 - C4-0015/98 - 97/0309(SYN)) **I
- II. the rules for the participation of undertakings, research centres and universities and for the implementation of the Fifth Framework Programme of the European Atomic Energy Community (Euratom)(1998-2002) (COM(97)0587 - C4-0016/98 - 97/0310(CNS)) *

The Committee on Research, which was responsible, was in favour of the request.

Mr Monti, Member of the Commission, spoke.

Parliament agreed to the request.

The item was included in the agenda for the sitting of Wednesday 27 May 1998.

The deadline for tabling amendments was 12 noon on Wednesday 20 May 1998.

6. Capital adequacy and investment services (announcement concerning failure to reach agreement in conciliation)

The President made the following announcement, pursuant to Rule 78(1), concerning the proposal for a European Parliament and Council Directive amending Directive 93/6/EEC (capital adequacy) and Directive 93/12/EEC (investment services) (95/0188(COD)):

"Since the entry into force of the Treaty on European Union the codecision procedure has proved its worth: it has enabled Parliament and the Council to adopt jointly legislative acts in the interest of European citizens covering a very wide range of subjects. To date 124 acts have been completed under this procedure, including 77 for which no recourse to the Conciliation Committee provided for by Article 189b of the EC Treaty was necessary. Meetings of the Conciliation Committee were necessary to seek agreement for the other 47 texts.

Over the last four years there has only been disagreement within the committee on one occasion: in July 1994 on the subject of voice telephony (ONP). Now, however, another conciliation procedure has ended in disagreement. In a letter dated 3 April 1998 (C4-0228/98), the co-presidents of the Conciliation Committee concerning the proposal for a Directive establishing a committee on securities (95/0188(COD)) informed the Parliament and the Council that the committee had been unable to approve a joint text in the 8-week period available to it. Despite considerable efforts, it was impossible to bridge the gap between the two institutions, in particular with regard to the type of committee to be chosen for the act (commitology).

As far as the continuation of the procedure is concerned, the Council has said that it does not intend to

confirm its common position. Consequently, in line with Article 189b(6) of the EC Treaty, the proposed act is deemed not to be adopted. While regretting this setback in the Conciliation Committee, I should point out that this is a possibility provided for in the Treaty itself.

In deciding not to confirm its common position, the Council has opted not to take up one of the prerogatives it enjoys under the current codecision procedure. I welcome this decision, which anticipates the application of new procedural rules which will be binding once the Amsterdam Treaty comes into force. For the first time, Parliament and Council can establish the lack of agreement within the Conciliation Committee as the final stage in a codecision procedure. This illustrates the fact that the two institutions are now on an equal footing, two branches of a genuine Community legislature. This equality will be reinforced once the new procedural rules come into force.

Evidently the two institutions are still far apart on the question of commitology. I hope that this failure to reach an agreement will encourage them to seek common ground when discussing the new Commission proposal due to be submitted at the beginning of June. Parliament will certainly aim to do so but without dropping its fundamental requirements concerning a simplification of committee procedures and the need to ensure that implementing measures are monitored by the two branches of the legislature in a balanced and efficient manner."

The following spoke on this announcement: Mrs Fontaine, co-chairman of the Conciliation Committee, Ms Oddy, rapporteur on the subject, and Mr Monti, Member of the Commission.

7. Control of synthetic drugs (debate)

Mr Pirker introduced his report, drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs, on the communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on the control of new synthetic drugs (designer drugs) (COM(97)0249 - C4-0244/97) (A4-0157/98).

The following spoke: Mr Burtone, draftsman of the opinion of the Committee on the Environment, Mrs Heinisch, draftsman of the opinion of the Committee on Culture, Mrs d'Ancona, on behalf of the PSE Group, Mrs De Esteban Martín, on behalf of the PPE Group, Mrs Schaffner, on behalf of the UPE Group, Mr Wiebenga, on behalf of the ELDR Group, Mrs Pailler, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, Mr Cohn-Bendit, on behalf of the V Group, Mr Dupuis, on behalf of the ARE Group, Mr Buffetaut, on behalf of the I-EDN Group, Mrs Angelilli, Non-attached Member, and Mrs Matikainen-Kallström.

IN THE CHAIR: Mr AVGERINOS
Vice-President

The following spoke: Mr Andrews, Mrs Lindholm, Mr Vanhecke, Mr Haarder, Mr Elliott and Mrs Gradin, Member of the Commission.

The President closed the debate.

Vote: Item 16.

8. 1999 preliminary draft budget (presentation)

Mr Liikanen, Member of the Commission, presented the preliminary draft general budget for the 1999 financial year.

The following spoke: Mrs Dührkop Dührkop, rapporteur, and Mr Liikanen.

The President closed the item.

9. Advertising tobacco products *II (debate)**

Mr Cabrol introduced the recommendation for second reading, on behalf of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection, on the common position adopted by the Council with a view to adopting a European Parliament and Council Directive on the approximation of the laws, regulations and administrative provisions of the Member States relating to the advertising and sponsorship of tobacco products (C4-0034/98 - 00/0194(COD)) (A4-0150/98).

The following spoke: Mr Janssen van Raay, draftsman of the opinion of the Committee on Legal Affairs, Mrs Díez de Rivera Icaza, on behalf of the PSE Group, Mrs Grossetête, on behalf of the PPE Group, Mrs Hermange, on behalf of the UPE Group, Mrs Kestelijn-Sierens, on behalf of the ELDR Group, and Mrs González Álvarez, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group.

IN THE CHAIR: Mr MARINHO
Vice-President

The following spoke: Mr Tamino, on behalf of the V Group, Mr Pradier, on behalf of the ARE Group, Mr Blokland, on behalf of the I-EDN Group, Mr Needle, Mr Florenz, Mr Kaklamanis, Mr Monfils, Mrs Ojala, Mr Ullmann, Mr Macartney, Mr des Places, Mrs Roth-Behrendt, Mr Gerard Collins, Mrs Oomen-Ruijten, Mr Sichrovsky, Mrs Kirsten M. Jensen, Mrs Thyssen, Mrs Marinucci, Mrs Palacio Vallelersundi, Mrs Lienemann, Mr Filippi, Mr Apolinário, Mrs Jackson, Mrs Myller, Mrs Schleicher, Mr White, Mr Nassauer, Mr Correia, Mr Nassauer, who pointed out that documents and items were being distributed outside the Chamber in order to influence the way Members voted on the Rothley recommendation on biotechnological inventions and asked whether this state of affairs was compatible with the Rules of Procedure (the President replied that an inquiry would be undertaken), Mrs Hardstaff, Mrs Malone and Mr Flynn, Member of the Commission.

The President closed the debate.

Vote: Minutes of 13.5.1998, Part I, Item 13.

IN THE CHAIR: Mr ANASTASSOPOULOS
Vice-President

The following spoke: Mr Killilea who asked that the persons who were demonstrating and distributing tracts at Parliament's entrance should be immediately removed, Mr Perry and Mr Antony who both agreed with Mr Killilea's remarks and Mrs Roth who asked pursuant to what Rule Mr Killilea had

spoken and challenged his assertions.

10. Appointments to Executive Board of European Central Bank (deadline)

The President announced that the deadline for tabling amendments to the recommendations of the Committee on Economic Affairs concerning appointments to the Executive Board of the European Central Bank (A4-0182/98 to A4-0187/98), which could only be made to the recitals, would be 8 p.m. that evening.

VOTING TIME

11. Extension to UK of Directive on burden of proof in sex discrimination cases * (Rule 99) (vote)

Proposal for a Council Directive on the extension of Council Directive 97/80/EC on the burden of proof in cases of discrimination based on sex to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (COM(98)0084 - C4-0186/98 - 98/0066(CNS)).
(*Simple majority*)

referred to responsible: WOME
opinion: ESOC

– PROPOSAL FOR A DIRECTIVE COM(98)0084 - C4-0186/98 - 98/0066(CNS)

Parliament approved the Commission proposal (*Part II, Item 1*).

12. Request for waiver of Mr Ribeiro Campos' immunity (vote)

Palacio Vallelersundi report - A4-0155/98
(*Simple majority*)

– PROPOSAL FOR A DECISION

Parliament adopted the decision (*Part II, Item 2*).

13. Request for waiver of Mr Rosado Fernandes' immunity (vote)

Wijsenbeek report - A4-0154/98
(*Simple majority*)

– PROPOSAL FOR A DECISION

Parliament adopted the decision (*Part II, Item 3*).

14. Legal protection of biotechnological inventions *II (vote)**

Recommendation for 2nd reading by Mr Rothley - A4-0170/98
(*Qualified majority*)

Members of the V Group unfurled a banner to demonstrate their opposition to the Directive on which Parliament was voting.

The President gave instructions for the banner to be removed.

The following spoke on the demonstration: Mr Provan, Mr Tamino, Mr Rack, Mr Giansily, Mrs Oomen-Ruijten and Mrs Roth, and Mr De Vries who called for the House to move on to the vote.

– COMMON POSITION OF THE COUNCIL C4-0132/98 - 95/0350(COD):

The President announced that he had received a proposal for a declaration of intended rejection of the common position, tabled by the V Group, Mrs Sierra González and Mr Manisco, pursuant to Rule 69 (am. 26/rev.).

Parliament rejected the proposal by RCV (PSE, V):

Members voting:	534
For:	78
Against:	432
Abstentions:	24

Amendments rejected: 3; 16; 17; 15; 9; 18; 19; 12; 20; 13; 21; 10; 22; 23; 1; 24; 2; 11; 5; 6; 29, all by RCV

Amendments fallen: 14; 8; 27; 25; 28

Amendment cancelled: 7

Amendment withdrawn: 4

Amendment ruled inadmissible: 30

The following spoke during the vote:

- the President announced before the vote started that Mr Eisma was not a signatory to am. 9.
- Mr Pasty, after the declaration of intended rejection had been put to the vote, called for the sitting to be suspended to allow order to be re-established;
- Mr Graefe zu Baringdorf spoke on am. 6.

Results of RCVs:

am. 3 (V):

Members voting:	528
For:	96
Against:	383
Abstentions:	49
am. 16 (V):	
Members voting:	509
For:	95
Against:	360
Abstentions:	54
am. 17 (V):	
Members voting:	531
For:	86
Against:	381
Abstentions:	64
am. 15 (V):	
Members voting:	536
For:	153
Against:	352
Abstentions:	31
am. 9 (V):	
Members voting:	532
For:	221
Against:	294
Abstentions:	17
am. 18 (V):	
Members voting:	530
For:	135
Against:	363
Abstentions:	32
am. 19 (V):	
Members voting:	523
For:	166
Against:	327
Abstentions:	30
am. 12 (V):	
Members voting:	533
For:	152
Against:	350
Abstentions:	31
am. 20 (V):	
Members voting:	535
For:	97
Against:	379
Abstentions:	59

am. 13 (V):
Members voting: 534
For: 168
Against: 348
Abstentions: 18

am. 21 (V):
Members voting: 515
For: 70
Against: 386
Abstentions: 59

am. 10 (V):
Members voting: 537
For: 186
Against: 331
Abstentions: 20

am. 22 (V):
Members voting: 538
For: 110
Against: 392
Abstentions: 36

am. 23 (V):
Members voting: 533
For: 92
Against: 365
Abstentions: 76

am. 1 (V):
Members voting: 534
For: 189
Against: 320
Abstentions: 25

am. 24 (V):
Members voting: 535
For: 188
Against: 319
Abstentions: 28

am. 2 (V):
Members voting: 530
For: 212
Against: 295
Abstentions: 23

am. 11 (V):
Members voting: 533
For: 154
Against: 341
Abstentions: 38

am. 5 (V):
Members voting: 520
For: 156
Against: 347
Abstentions: 17

am. 6 (V):
Members voting: 533
For: 176
Against: 327
Abstentions: 30

am. 29 (V):
Members voting: 535
For: 185
Against: 313
Abstentions: 37

The President declared the common position approved (*Part II, Item 4*).

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◦ ◦

The following spoke on the demonstration which the V Group had organized in the Chamber: Mr Perry, Mr d'Abouville, Mr Falconer, Mrs Palacio Vallelersundi and Mr Cohn-Bendit.

15. Second banking directive (vote)

Wijsenbeek report - A4-0152/98
(*Simple majority*)

– MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

Parliament adopted the resolution (*Part II, Item 5*).

◦
◦ ◦

Mrs Roth, leader of the V Group, informed the House that an attack had just been carried out against the Ankara office of the Committee for the Defence of Human Rights in which Mr Akin Birdal, President of the Turkish Association for the Defence of Human Rights, had been seriously injured. She expressed the hope that he would not succumb to his injuries (on behalf of Parliament the President also expressed this hope).

16. Control of synthetic drugs (vote)

Pirker report - A4-0157/98
(Simple majority)

– MOTION FOR A RESOLUTION

Amendments adopted: 8 by EV (273 for, 234 against, 11 abstentions); 21 by EV (251 for, 246 against, 12 abstentions); 7 (3rd part) by EV (256 for, 232 against, 11 abstentions); 1 by EV (264 for, 215 against, 18 abstentions); 24 by EV (267 for, 230 against, 2 abstentions); 2

Amendments rejected: 18 by EV (232 for, 278 against, 4 abstentions); 9 by EV (208 for, 300 against, 11 abstentions); 19 by RCV; 4; 3 by EV (223 for, 272 against, 11 abstentions); 10; 11 by EV (219 for, 269 against, 18 abstentions); 12; 20 by EV (218 for, 269 against, 20 abstentions); 13; 14; 7 (1st part) by EV (236 for, 258 against, 7 abstentions); 7 (2nd part); 15; 5 (1st part) by EV (214 for, 273 against, 8 abstentions); 5 (2nd part); 6 by EV (221 for, 252 against, 8 abstentions); 16; 22; 23

Amendment fallen: 17

The different parts of the text were adopted in order, recital C (2nd part) by EV (268 for, 214 against, 27 abstentions);

The following spoke during the vote:

- on the split vote on am. 7 and on the vote on para. 8: the rapporteur, Mrs d'Ancona, the rapporteur, Mrs Aelvoet and Mr Swoboda;

Separate votes: paras. 17 and 18; 22; 27 (V)

Split votes:

recital B (V):

- 1st part: up to "weekends"
- 2nd part: remainder

recital C (PSE):

- 1st part: up to "and a "with it" image"
- 2nd part: remainder

am. 7 (PSE):

- 1st part: up to "must ensure that"
- 2nd part: up to "must also ensure"
- 3rd part: remainder

am. 5 (PSE):

- 1st part: up to "enforcement"
- 2nd part: remainder

para. 14 (PSE):

- 1st part: text without the words "and police"
- 2nd part: these words

Results of RCVs:

am. 19 (ELDR):

Members voting:	520
For:	155
Against:	340
Abstentions:	25

para. 3 (PPE):

Members voting:	515
For:	301
Against:	204
Abstentions:	10

para. 6 (PPE):

Members voting:	495
For:	448
Against:	42
Abstentions:	5

Parliament adopted the resolution by RCV (PPE):

Members voting:	497
For:	425
Against:	51
Abstentions:	21

(Part II, Item 6).

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Explanations of vote were made by the following Members:

Palacio Vallelersundi report - A4-0155/98

- *orally*: Fabre-Aubrespy, on behalf of the I-EDN Group

Wijsenbeek report - A4-0154/98

- *orally*: Fabre-Aubrespy, on behalf of the I-EDN Group

Wijsenbeek report - A4-0152/98

- *in writing*: Theonas

Rothley recommendation for second reading - A4-0170/98

- *orally*: Breyer, on behalf of the V Group, Graefe zu Baringdorf, Banotti, Hallam, Posselt (Mr Posselt also spoke following the remarks by Mrs Banotti concerning the provisions of the Rules of Procedure applying to explanations of vote.)
- *in writing*: Nicholson, on behalf of the I-EDN Group; Martinez,; McKenna; Telkämper; Lindqvist; Graenitz; Cushnahan; Löow, Andersson, Waidelich; Delcroix; Hulthén, Theorin, Ahlqvist, Wibe; David W. Martin; Spiers; Lis Jensen, Bonde, Sandbæk; des Places

Pirker report - A4-0157/98

- orally: McKenna and Posselt
- in writing: Lindqvist; Bébéar; Holm; Deprez; Cushnahan; Reding; Ahern; Andersson, Lööw, Hulthén, Ahlqvist, Wibe, Theorin, Waidelich; Lucas Pires; Le Gallou; Eriksson, Svensson, Sjöstedt; Novo; Kirsten M. Jensen, Blak, Sindal, Iversen

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Corrections to votes/Members not voting although present

Mr Janssen van Raay had informed the Chair that he was present but had not participated in any of the roll-call votes.

Rothley recommendation for second reading - A4-0170/98

At the end of the vote, Mr Perry announced that he was present but had not participated in any of the roll-call votes.

- am. 26/rev. (declaration of intended rejection of common position)
 - Intended to vote for: Mr Frischenschlager
- am. 9:
 - Intended to vote for: Mrs Banotti
- am. 19:
 - Intended to vote for: Mr Posselt
- am. 24:
 - Intended to vote for: Mrs Peijs
- am. 2:
 - Intended to vote for: Mrs Ryyänen
 - Intended to vote against: Mr Nordmann
- am. 5:
 - Intended to vote for: Mr Wibe

Pirker report - A4-0157/98

- am. 19:
 - Intended to vote against: Mr Paasilinna
- am. 3:
 - Intended to vote against: Mrs Carlsson, Mr Lindqvist
- para. 6:
 - Intended to vote for: Mrs Ahern
- para. 9:
 - Intended to vote for: Mrs Soltwedel-Schäfer
- final vote:
 - Intended to vote for: Mr Brok and Mr Lindqvist

END OF VOTING TIME

17. Topical and urgent debate (list of subjects selected)

The President informed Parliament that, in accordance with Rule 47(2), the list of subjects for the debate on topical and urgent subjects of major importance to be held on Thursday had been drawn up.

This list contained 46 motions for resolutions grouped together as follows:

I. SITUATION IN SUDAN

B4-0498/98 by the PPE Group
B4-0506/98 by the V Group
B4-0523/98 by the GUE/NGL Group
B4-0534/98 by the ELDR Group
B4-0539/98 by the ARE Group
B4-0541/98 by the PSE Group
B4-0552/98 by the UPE Group

II. MOCHOVCE NUCLEAR PLANT

B4-0504/98 by the ARE Group
B4-0509/98 by the V Group
B4-0515/98 by the PPE Group
B4-0524/98 by the GUE/NGL Group
B4-0536/98 by the ELDR Group
B4-0542/98 by the PSE Group

III. HUMAN RIGHTS

Guatemala

B4-0493/98 by the ELDR Group
B4-0516/98 by the PPE Group
B4-0525/98 by the GUE/NGL Group
B4-0544/98 by the PSE Group
B4-0555/98 by the V Group

Colombia

B4-0513/98 by the V Group
B4-0526/98 by the GUE/NGL Group
B4-0550/98 by the PSE Group
B4-0553/98 by the PPE Group

Turkey

B4-0507/98 by the V Group
B4-0517/98 by the PPE Group
B4-0532/98 by the ELDR Group
B4-0543/98 by the PSE Group

Malaysia/Indonesia

B4-0514/98 by the V Group
B4-0533/98 by the ELDR Group
B4-0545/98 by the PSE Group

IV. CODE OF CONDUCT ON ARMAMENTS

B4-0502/98 by the ARE Group
B4-0505/98 by the V Group
B4-0520/98 by the PPE Group
B4-0522/98 by the ELDR Group
B4-0529/98 by the GUE/NGL Group
B4-0546/98 by the PSE Group

V. ENVIRONMENTAL DISASTERS

Doñana National Park
B4-0492/98 by the ELDR Group
B4-0508/98 by the V Group
B4-0521/98 by the PPE Group
B4-0531/98 by the GUE/NGL Group
B4-0548/98 by the PSE Group

Italy
B4-0497/98 by the PPE Group
B4-0530/98 by the GUE/NGL Group
B4-0535/98 by the ELDR Group
B4-0549/98 by the PSE Group
B4-0551/98 by the UPE Group
B4-0559/98 by the V Group

In accordance with Rule 47(3), the overall speaking time for Thursday's debate had been allocated as follows, subject to modification of the list:

For one of the authors: 1 minute
Members: 60 minutes in total

In accordance with Rule 47(2), second subparagraph, any objections to this list, which would have to be tabled and justified in writing by a political group or at least 29 Members, had to be tabled by 8 p.m. that evening. The vote on these objections would be taken without debate at the beginning of the next day's sitting.

(The sitting was suspended at 1.45 p.m. and resumed at 3 p.m.)

IN THE CHAIR: Mr LUCAS PIRES
Vice-President

18. Water quality **II (debate)

The next item was the recommendation for second reading drawn up by Mr Kenneth D. Collins, on behalf of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection, on the common position adopted by the Council with a view to the adoption of a Council Directive on the quality of water intended for human consumption (C4-0083/98 - 95/0010(SYN)) (A4-0146/98).

The following spoke: Mrs Grossetête, on behalf of the PPE Group, and Mrs Baldi, on behalf of the UPE Group.

Mr Kenneth D. Collins, rapporteur, introduced the recommendation for second reading.

The following spoke: Mrs Kirsten M. Jensen, on behalf of the PSE Group, Mrs Dybkjær, on behalf of the ELDR Group, Mr Miranda, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, Mr Lannoye, on behalf of the V Group, Mr Kronberger, Non-attached Member, Mr Apolinário, Mrs Jackson, Mr Ephremidis, Mrs Myller, Mrs Matikainen-Kallström, Mrs Bjerregaard, Member of the Commission, and Mrs Matikainen-Kallström, Mrs Baldi, Mrs Grossetête, Mr Ephremidis, Mr Miranda, Mrs Flemming and the rapporteur,

who all put questions to the Commission which Mrs Bjerregaard answered.

The President closed the debate.

Vote: Minutes of 13.5.1998, Part I, Item 14.

19. Limit values for pollutants in air - Combating acidification - Sulphur content of liquid fuels **I (debate)

The next item was a joint debate on three reports drawn up on behalf of Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection.

Mrs Pollack introduced her report on the proposal for a Council Directive relating to limit values for sulphur dioxide, oxides of nitrogen, particulate matter and lead in ambient air (COM(97)0500 - C4-0662/97 - 97/0266(SYN)) (A4-0161/98).

Mrs Hulthén introduced her report on the communication to the Council and the European Parliament on a Community strategy to combat acidification (COM(97)0088 - C4-0436/97) (A4-0162/98).

Mrs Hautala introduced her report on the proposal for a Council Directive relating to a reduction of the sulphur content of certain liquid fuels and amending Directive 93/12/EEC (COM(97)0088 - C4-0283/97 - 97/0105(SYN)) (A4-0174/98).

The following spoke: Mr Lange, draftsman of the opinion of the Committee on Research, Technological Development and Energy, Mrs Matikainen-Kallström, draftsman of the opinion of the Committee on Research, Technological Development and Energy, Mr Bowe, on behalf of the PSE Group, Mrs Flemming, on behalf of the PPE Group, Mr Cabrol, on behalf of the UPE Group, Eisma, on behalf of the ELDR Group, Mr Seppänen, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, Mr Gahrton, on behalf of the V Group, Mr Amadeo, Non-attached Member, and Mrs Graenitz.

IN THE CHAIR: Mr David W. MARTIN
Vice-President

The following spoke: Mrs Grossetête, Mr Virgin, Mrs Schleicher, Mr Schnellhardt, Mrs Estevan Bolea and Mrs Bjerregaard, Member of the Commission.

The President closed the debate.

Vote: Minutes of 13.5.1998, Part I, Items 17 (A4-0161/98 and A4-0174/98) and 20 (A4-0162/98).

20. Eco-label award scheme **I (debate)

Mr Poggiolini introduced his report, drawn up on behalf of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection, on the proposal for a Council Regulation on a revised Community eco-label award scheme (COM(96)0603 - C4-0157/97 - 96/0312(SYN)) (A4-0119/98).

The following spoke: Mrs Van Putten, on behalf of the PSE Group, Mr Sjöstedt, on behalf of the

GUE/NGL Group, Mrs Hautala, on behalf of the V Group, Mrs Myller, Mrs Hulthén and Mrs Bjerregaard, Member of the Commission.

The President closed the debate.

Vote: Minutes of 13.5.1998, Part I, Item 18.

(The sitting was suspended at 5.25 and resumed at 5.30 p.m.)

IN THE CHAIR: Mr GUTIÉRREZ DÍAZ
Vice-President

21. Membership of Parliament

The President announced that the British authorities had informed him that Mrs Linda McAvan had been elected Member of Parliament to replace Mr West with effect from 12 May 1998.

He welcomed the new Member and drew attention to the provisions of Rule 7(4).

22. Agenda

At the request of the political groups, the President proposed adding to the agenda for the following day, to follow the Tindemans report (A4-0171/98 - Item 27 in agenda), a Council statement with questions on nuclear testing in India. No more than 30 minutes would be allocated for this item.

Parliament agreed to this proposal.

23. Question Time (Commission)

Parliament considered a number of questions to the Commission (B4-0464/98).

Mr Wijsenbeek referred to Rule 41 and Annex II of the Rules of Procedure and pointed out that on 30 March he had addressed a question to Mr Kinnock, Member of the Commission, which was No. 77 on the list and had very little chance of being called; he called for the question, concerning an area for which Mr Van Miert, Member of the Commission, was also responsible, to be moved up the list to enable Mr Van Miert to answer it (the President replied that it was the responsibility of the Commission to allocate questions to its various Members).

1st part

Question 39 by Mrs Ferrer: Free movement and transport of goods

Mr Monti, Member of the Commission, answered the question and supplementaries by Mrs Ferrer, Mr Sjöstedt and Mr von Habsburg.

Question 40 by Mr Watson: Ticket allocation system for the 1998 World Cup

Mr Van Miert, Member of the Commission, answered the question and supplementaries by Mr Watson, Mrs Larive and Mr De Coene.

Mr Wijzenbeek referred to his previous remarks and asked the President to call Question 77 at that stage (the President replied that the order for calling questions had already been established and he was neither able nor willing to modify the order; he would however raise the problem with the President of Parliament and the Commission).

Question 41 by Mrs Kestelijn-Sierens: Sale of drugs via the Internet

Mr Bangemann, Member of the Commission, answered the question and a supplementary by Mrs Kestelijn-Sierens.

Questions 42 and 43 would receive written answers.

Second part

Question 44 by Mr Howitt: Disability and development cooperation

Mr Pinheiro, Member of the Commission, answered the question and a supplementary by Mr Howitt.

Question 45 by Mr Posselt: Burden-sharing in staffing

Mrs Gradin, Member of the Commission, answered the question and a supplementary by Mr Posselt.

Question 46 by Mrs Kjer Hansen: Protection of the Community's financial interests

Mrs Gradin answered the question and a supplementary by Mrs Kjer Hansen.

Question 47 by Mr Watts: Failure of Member States to transpose EU transport directives

Mr Kinnock, Member of the Commission, answered the question and supplementaries by Mr Watts and Mr McMahan.

Question 48 by Mrs McIntosh: Lorry Blockade in France

Mr Kinnock answered the question and supplementaries by Mrs McIntosh, Mr Wijzenbeek and Mrs Hardstaff.

Question 49 by Mr Camisón Asensio: 'Open skies' agreements with the United States

Mr Kinnock answered the question and a supplementary by Mr Camisón Asensio.

Mr Konrad spoke on the conduct of Question Time.

Question 50 by Mr Andersson: Transport links in the Öresund region

Mr Kinnock answered the question and a supplementary by Mr Andersson.

Question 51 by Mrs Theorin: Rail transport

Mr Kinnock answered the question and a supplementary by Mrs Theorin, to whom he undertook to send a more detailed reply in writing.

Questions 52 to 119 would receive written answers.

The President closed Question Time to the Commission.

(The sitting was suspended at 7.05 p.m. and resumed at 9 p.m.)

IN THE CHAIR: Mr VERDE i ALDEA
Vice-President

24. Europe of Knowledge (debate)

Mr Perry introduced his report, drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Culture, Youth, Education and the Media, on the Commission communication to the Council, the European Parliament, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions: Towards a Europe of Knowledge (COM(97)0563 - C4-0649/97) (A4-0166/98).

The following spoke: Mr Hatzidakis, draftsman of the opinion of the Committee on Employment and Social Affairs, Mr Elchlepp, on behalf of the PSE Group, Mrs Heinisch, on behalf of the PPE Group, Mrs Guinebertière, on behalf of the UPE Group, Mrs Rynänen, on behalf of the ELDR Group, Mr Alavanos, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, Mrs Leperre-Verrier, on behalf of the ARE Group, Mr Sichrovsky, Non-attached Member, Mr Papakyriazis, Mrs Vaz da Silva, Mrs Poisson, Mr Evans, Mrs Todini, Mrs Tongue and Mrs Cresson, Member of the Commission.

The President closed the debate.

Vote: Minutes of 13.5.1998, Part I, Item 21.

25. Protection of minors in audiovisual and information services * (debate)

Mr Whitehead introduced his report, drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Culture, Youth, Education and the Media, on the proposal for a Council Recommendation concerning the protection of minors and human dignity in audiovisual and information services (COM(97)0570 - C4-0670/97 - 97/0329(CNS)) (A4-0153/98).

The following spoke: Mr Carlo Casini, draftsman of the opinion of the Committee on Legal Affairs, Mrs Ahlqvist, on behalf of the PSE Group, Mr Añoveros Trias de Bes, on behalf of the PPE Group, Mrs Todini, on behalf of the UPE Group, Mrs Rynänen, on behalf of the ELDR Group, Mr Papayannakis, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, Mrs Tongue, Mrs Banotti, Mrs Daskalaki, Mrs Poisson and Mr Oreja, Member of the Commission.

The President closed the debate.

Vote: Minutes of 13.5.1998, Part I, Item 19.

26. EC-Mexico trade agreement * (debate)**

Mrs Miranda de Lage introduced her recommendation, drawn up on behalf of the Committee on External Economic Relations, on the proposal for a Council Decision concerning the conclusion of the interim agreement on trade and trade related matters between the European Community, on the one part, and the United Mexican States, on the other part (COM(97)0525 - 11619/1/97 rev.1 + 11620/1/97 rev.1 - C4-0024/98 - 97/0281(AVC)) (A4-0156/98).

The following spoke: Mr Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra, draftsman of the opinion of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and chairman of the delegation for relations with Central America and Mexico, Mr Newens, on behalf of the PSE Group, Mr Valdivielso de Cué, on behalf of the PPE Group, Mr Bertens, on behalf of the ELDR Group, Mrs González Álvarez, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, Mr Kreissl-Dörfler, on behalf of the V Group, Mr Van Dam, on behalf of the I-EDN Group, Mr Howitt, Mr Porto and Mr Marín, Vice-President of the Commission.

The President closed the debate.

Vote: Minutes of 13.5.1998, Part I, Item 15.

27. Community customs code *I (debate)**

Mrs Peijs introduced her report, drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy, on the proposal for a European Parliament and Council Regulation amending Regulation (EEC) No 2913/92 establishing the Community customs code (transit) (COM(97)0472 - C4-0489/97 - 97/0242(COD)) (A4-0149/98).

The following spoke: Mr Wibe, on behalf of the PSE Group, Mr Rübige, on behalf of the PPE Group, Mr Monti, Member of the Commission, Mrs Peijs, rapporteur, and Mr Rübige, who both put questions to the Commission which Mr Monti answered.

The President closed the debate.

Vote: Minutes of 13.5.1998, Part I, Item 16.

28. Agenda for next sitting

The President announced the following agenda for the sitting of Wednesday 13 May 1997:

9 a.m. - 1 p.m., 3 - 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. - 12 midnight:

9 a.m. - 12 noon:

- topical and urgent debate (objections)
- recommendations by the Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy on the appointments to the Executive Board of the European Central Bank
- joint debate on 9 oral questions on Euro-Mediterranean cooperation

12 noon

- voting time

3 p.m. - 5.30 p.m. and 9 p.m. - 12 midnight:

- Tindemans report on common defence policy
- Council statement on nuclear testing in India (followed by questions)
- Council and Commission statements on Kosovo (followed by debate)
- Caudron report on competitiveness of European industry
- E. Mann report on electronic commerce
- Hendrick recommendation on information in field of technical standards and regulations ***II
- W.G. van Velzen recommendation on operator number portability and carrier pre-selection ***II
- Kenneth D. Collins report on labelling of foodstuffs produced from genetically modified organisms
*

5.30 - 7 p.m.

- Question Time to the Council

(The sitting closed at 11.45 p.m.)

Julian PRIESTLEY
Secretary-General

Nicole FONTAINE
Vice-President