EU budget impasse: debate with Barroso and Belgian presidency

MEPs will debate the deadlock over the 2011 EU budget with Commission President José Manuel Barroso and the Belgian Council presidency, and will vote on a resolution drawn up by the political group leaders.

A ban on disguised advertising of prescription drugs

Patients are set to be given better information on prescription drugs, under new draft EU legislation. The EP Environment Committee has tabled amendments to draw a clearer line between advertising and information on such drugs, in order to foil disguised advertising. But pharmaceutical companies will have to provide reliable, non-commercial information when asked.

Keeping toxic substances out of electrical goods

Parliament is set to vote on Tuesday on improving safety rules for the many electronic gadgets and electrical appliances sold in the EU. The new rules will mean blacklisted substances will be banned from a wider range of these goods.

Trichet on the ECB's 2009 work and on currency war

As the debt crisis continues to pressure some Eurozone countries, European Central Bank president Jean-Claude Trichet will participate in Monday’s plenary joint debate on the work of the ECB in 2009 and latest developments on the international currency exchanges.

MEPs debate Commission's strategic priorities

MEPs will debate the Commission work programme for 2011 with Commission President José Manuel Barroso.

2010 EP Cinema Prize to be awarded on Wednesday

On Wednesday at 11.45am Parliament's Prezident Jerzy Buzek will award this year's LUX Cinema Prize to the winning film, as selected by MEPs.

Georgia's President Saakashvili to address Parliament

Georgia's relations with the EU will come under the spotlight when President Mikheil Saakashvili addresses a formal sitting of MEPs on Tuesday. Mr Saakashvili is also due to meet Foreign Affairs Committee MEPs.

Long-term plan for anchovy stocks in the Bay of Biscay

State aid to coal mines must be halted more gradually

Climate: MEPs urge can-do attitude in Cancun

EU aid for unemployed in Netherlands and flood victims in Ireland

Democracy in Ukraine back on the agenda

Anti-counterfeiting accord: MEPs to set conditions

Definitive minimum VAT rate by 2015

Green light for Moldova to take part in EU programmes

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- Draft agenda
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- EP Live

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Plenary sessions

EU budget impasse: debate with Barroso and Belgian presidency

MEPs will debate the deadlock over the 2011 EU budget with Commission President José Manuel Barroso and the Belgian Council presidency, and will vote on a resolution drawn up by the political group leaders.

Negotiations between Parliament and the EU Council of Ministers on next year’s budget reached an impasse on Monday after a refusal by a minority of governments to discuss how to involve Parliament in talks on the EU financing system.

The EP negotiating team had reiterated its willingness to accept the level of spending proposed by the Council (an increase in 2011 payments of 2.91 per cent), while it had already capped commitments (which determine payments) at a below-inflation figure of 1 per cent.

However, the MEPs also repeated their desire to open talks about how Parliament can be involved in a review of the EU budget financing system in order to make it less crisis-prone, as well as to include some flexibility in the budgets.

Parliament’s negotiating team was led by President Jerzy Buzek. The rapporteurs were, for the general budget, Sidonia Jędrzejewska (EPP, PL), for the budget of the institutions, Helga Trüpel (Greens/EFA, DE) and, for working methods regarding the long term budget framework, Reimer Böge (EPP, DE).

Procedure: Resolution from the Conference of Presidents
Debate: Tuesday 23 November
Vote: Wednesday 24 November

Further information:
- Q&A about the budget negotiations
- Press release from the failed negotiations (16.11.2020)
- Q&A on the basics of the EU budget
- Profile of Sidonia Elżbieta JĘDRZEJEWSKA (EPP, PL)
- Profile of Helga TRÜPEL (Greens/EFA, DE)
- Profile of Reimer BÖGE (EPP, DE)
A ban on disguised advertising of prescription drugs

Patients are set to be given better information on prescription drugs, under new draft EU legislation. The EP Environment Committee has tabled amendments to draw a clearer line between advertising and information on such drugs, in order to foil disguised advertising. But pharmaceutical companies will have to provide reliable, non-commercial information when asked.

MEPs wish to specify which data must be made available to the public by pharmaceutical firms, which information is to be optional and through which channels it is to be supplied. They also want Member States to be required to provide information on medicines on dedicated websites.

The basic aim of the legislation is to ensure the availability of good-quality, objective, reliable and non-promotional information on medicines. Parliament deals with the proposals in two reports drafted by Christofer Fjellner (EPP, SE).

Compulsory and optional information to be supplied by pharmaceutical firms

The Environment Committee says pharmaceutical companies should be required to provide the latest authorised summary of a product's characteristics, the latest authorised labelling and package leaflet and the latest publicly accessible version of the assessment report by the competent authorities. All this would be optional under the Commission proposal.

In addition, pharmaceutical companies may provide the public with other well-defined non-promotional information, for example on the environmental impact of the product or on prices or pack changes, although they would need prior approval from the relevant authorities.

All this information would have to be supplied both in printed and electronic form (notably on approved websites). MEPs want it to be available in formats appropriate for the blind and partially-sighted as well.

No unsolicited information

The Commission is proposing that information from pharmaceutical companies on prescription drugs should not be broadcast on radio or TV. The Environment Committee voted that it should also not be published in newspapers or magazines.

Printed material from drug manufacturers may be sent to members of the public only if they have made a specific request for information, says another committee amendment.

Member States' obligation to provide information

MEPs add a new article to the legislation, obliging Member States to ensure that "objective, unbiased information" is available to the general public on medicinal products sold in that Member State. This information too would have to be made available in electronic form (on dedicated websites set up by the Member State) and in printed form and in a format accessible to people with disabilities.

Procedure: Ordinary legislative procedure (1st reading)
Debate: Monday 22 November
Vote: Wednesday 24 November
## Plenary sessions

### Further information:

- Report on information on prescription drugs (directive)
- Report on information on prescription drugs (regulation)
- Press release on committee vote
- Profile of rapporteur Christofer Fjellner (EPP, SE)
- Legislative Observatory file on the directive
- Legislative Observatory file on the regulation
Plenary sessions

Keeping toxic substances out of electrical goods

Parliament is set to vote on Tuesday on improving safety rules for the many electronic gadgets and electrical appliances sold in the EU. The new rules will mean blacklisted substances will be banned from a wider range of these goods.

The update to the directive on the restriction of hazardous substances directive (RoHS), recently agreed in principle by Parliament and Council, now awaits formal approval by the two institutions.

A number of hazardous substances, such as lead and mercury, are already banned from certain types of electrical and electronic goods. Under the new rules, following a transition period to allow industry to adjust, these will apply to all such appliances except those specifically excluded from the scope of the legislation (such as photovoltaic solar panels). The rules will also allow for certain hazardous substances to be permitted if there is an absence of effective alternatives.

Some MEPs, including rapporteur Jill Evans (Greens/EFA, UK), are concerned about the possible long-term health effects of nanomaterials - an emerging technology already applied in some electrical goods (for example, nanosilver is used as an anti-bacterial agent in some new fridges). While the agreement does not follow the EP Environment Committee's recommendation to ban certain nanomaterials from electrical goods, it does state that the Commission should pay specific attention to very small substances.

The updated legislation will be relevant beyond Europe's borders, since manufactured goods imported to the EU will need to meet the requirements. Furthermore, many electrical goods bought in the EU later end up in developing countries, either for reuse or illegally as waste. Improved safety rules here can therefore also provide health benefits elsewhere.

Separate draft legislation to update rules on Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) has not yet found agreement between Council and Parliament and will not be up for a plenary vote in Strasbourg as originally scheduled.

Procedure: Ordinary legislative procedure (1st reading)
Debate: Monday 22 November
Vote: Wednesday 24 November

Further information:

- Press release after Environment Committee vote (2 June 2010)
- Report: restriction of the use of certain hazardous substances in electrical/electronic equipment
- Report on waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE)
- Profile of rapporteur Jill EVANS (Greens/EFA, UK)
As the debt crisis continues to pressure some Eurozone countries, European Central Bank president Jean-Claude Trichet will participate in Monday's plenary joint debate on the work of the ECB in 2009 and latest developments on the international currency exchanges.

On Tuesday MEPs will vote on a resolution on the ECB's performance and particularly its reaction to the economic crisis.

In view of the persistent problem of indebtedness, the draft resolution urges the ECB to purchase government debt in a similar way to what is happening in the UK and the US. It also highlights the problems caused when credit rating agencies judge Member States' indebtedness and calls on the Commission to be more ambitious with its proposal for controlling how these agencies operate.

The draft text also stresses that a robust economic governance system is essential for true economic and monetary union and that the emphasis has until now been too narrowly focused on monetary aspects.

Procedure: Own-initiative
Debate: Monday 22 November
Vote: Tuesday 23 November

Further information:
- Draft resolution on the ECB annual report 2009
- Profile of rapporteur Burkhard Balz (EPP, DE)
MEPs will debate the Commission work programme for 2011 with Commission President José Manuel Barroso.

The programme's five priorities are "sustaining Europe's social market economy", "restoring growth for jobs", "pursuing the citizens' agenda", "Europe pulling its weight on the global stage" and "making the most of EU policies". This year, for the first time, MEPs had a say in the programme before the Commission adopted it in October.

Procedure: Statement by President of European Commission
Debate: Tuesday 23 November
Vote: December plenary

Further information:
- The Commission's work programme for 2011
2010 EP Cinema Prize to be awarded on Wednesday

On Wednesday at 11.45am Parliament's President Jerzy Buzek will award this year's LUX Cinema Prize to the winning film, as selected by MEPs.

The three films still in contention are Akadimia Platonos by Filippos Tsitos (Greece and Germany), Die Fremde by Feo Aladag (Germany) and Illégal by Olivier Masset-Depasse (Belgium).

This annual prize is awarded to films that illustrate or question the founding values of European identity, explore Europe's cultural diversity or bring insights to the debate on EU integration.

As for the previous winners — Auf der anderen Seite (2007), Le silence de Lorna (2008) and Welcome (2009) — the winning film will receive funding from the European Parliament for subtitling into all official EU languages, for an adaptation of the original version for visually- or hearing-impaired people and for the production of a 35 mm print per EU member state or for the DVD release.

The directors and producers of the three competing films as well as some of the main actors are planning to attend the ceremony. Journalists will have the opportunity to interview them on Wednesday before and after the ceremony.

Award of Lux Prize
11.45-12.00, Wednesday 24 November

To schedule interview slots, please contact:
Written Press: Robertas Pogorelis
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Further information:
- LUX Prize website
- Video trailers of the competing films
Plenary sessions

Georgia's President Saakashvili to address Parliament

Georgia's relations with the EU will come under the spotlight when President Mikheil Saakashvili addresses a formal sitting of MEPs on Tuesday. Mr Saakashvili is also due to meet Foreign Affairs Committee MEPs.

Mr Saakashvili was elected Georgia's third President in January 2004 and re-elected in 2008.

Georgia is negotiating visa facilitation and readmission agreements with the EU. The Civil Liberties Committee recommended in October that the European Parliament approve these agreements in plenary session. The vote will probably be taken in December.

Formal sitting
12 noon, Tuesday 23 November

Further information:
• 2008 Parliament resolution on the situation in Georgia:

Long-term plan for anchovy stocks in the Bay of Biscay

A long-term plan for the management of anchovy stocks in the Bay of Biscay will be put to a vote by MEPs in Strasbourg.

New rules will set the level of total allowable catches and distribute quotas between France and Spain.

Parliament will also decide whether to approve a fisheries agreement with the Solomon Islands.

In addition, MEPs will debate a multi-annual plan for the exploitation of Atlantic horse mackerel as well as restrictions on fishing for flounder and turbot in the Baltic Sea. Lastly, Parliament is expected to endorse the compromise reached with the Council on the use of alien and locally absent species in aquaculture.

Procedure: ordinary legislative procedure (1st reading) x 4 reports
Procedure: Consent (EU-Solomon Islands Fisheries
Debate: Monday 22 November
Vote: Tuesday 23 November
Plenary sessions

Further information:

- Draft report: Long-term plan for the anchovy stock in the Bay of Biscay
- Draft report: Multi-annual plan for the western stock of Atlantic horse mackerel
- Prohibition of highgrading and restrictions on fishing for flounder and turbot in the Baltic Sea
- Draft report: Use of alien and locally absent species in aquaculture
- EU-Solomon Islands Fisheries Partnership Agreement
- Profile of rapporteur Izaskun Bilbao Barandica (ALDE, ES) - Anchovy report
- Profile of rapporteur João Ferreira (GUE/NGL, PT) - Use of alien and locally absent species report
- Profile of rapporteur Pat the Cope Gallagher (ALDE, IE) - Atlantic horse mackerel report
- Profile of rapporteur Marek Józef Gróbarczyk (ECR, PL) - Flounder and turbot report
- Profile of rapporteur Maria do Céu Patrão Neves (EPP, PT) - EU-Solomon Islands fisheries agreement

State aid to coal mines must be halted more gradually

Member States should be allowed to grant state aid to ease the closure of uncompetitive coal mines for longer than the European Commission is proposing, says the Economics Committee.

MEPs suggest prolonging the deadline for closing the coal production units until 31 December 2018 - four years later than the Commission wants - to reduce the social impact of the closures. Parliament is being consulted on this legislation and will vote on the committee's report on Tuesday.

Procedure: Consultation
Debate/Vote: Tuesday 23 November

Further information:

- Report on State aid to facilitate the closure of uncompetitive coal mines
- Profile of rapporteur Bernhard Rapkay (S&D, DE)

Climate: MEPs urge can-do attitude in Cancun

Major progress is needed at the upcoming UN climate talks in Cancún, Mexico, according to a draft resolution by the Environment Committee. Agreement is needed in particular on forest protection, climate aid to developing countries and technology transfer.

The resolution will also address the current debate within the EU on stepping up its target to 30% greenhouse gas reductions by 2020, a move that would yield economic benefits, according to the Environment Committee.

The European Parliament's official delegation of 15 MEPs will attend the latter stages of the climate conference in Cancún. They are led by delegation chair Jo Leinen (S&D, DE) and vice-chair Karl-Heinz Florenz (EPP, DE).

Cancun Climate Change Conference (29 November-10 December)
Procedure: Council + Commission statements with resolution
Debate: Wednesday 24 November
Vote: Thursday 25 November
EU aid for unemployed in Netherlands and flood victims in Ireland

On Tuesday Parliament will vote on plans to grant financial assistance to former print and publishing employees in the Netherlands and people hit by the 2009 floods in Ireland.

An amount of €10.5 million from the European Globalisation Adjustment Fund is being proposed to aid over 3,000 people in the Netherlands who lost their jobs in the printing and publishing sector last year due to the economic crisis.

A figure of €13 million would come from the EU Solidarity Fund to compensate people in Ireland hit by the severe floods in November 2009.

The reports were drafted by Barbara Matera (EPP, IT) on the Netherlands, and Reimer Böge (EPP, DE) and László Surján (EPP, HU) on Ireland.

Procedure: Budgetary procedure
Vote: Tuesday 23 November 2010 (Surján report Wednesday 24 November)

Democracy in Ukraine back on the agenda

Parliament will vote on Thursday on a resolution on the political situation in Ukraine.

A resolution drafted jointly by the EPP, ALDE, Greens/EFA and ECR groups, which spoke of "worrying signs of erosion of democracy", was on the agenda for Parliament's October session but a majority of MEPs decided to postpone the vote until after Ukraine's local elections on 31 October.

In a discussion on 27 October with Ukrainian foreign minister Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, MEPs of the Foreign Affairs Committee repeatedly voiced concern about transparency and fairness in the local elections, the recent restrictive law reforms and the growing lack of media freedom in the country.

Procedure: Resolution
Debate: Wednesday 24 November
Vote: Thursday 25 November
Anti-counterfeiting accord: MEPs to set conditions

The controversial Anti-Counterfeiting Trade Agreement (ACTA) will once again come under the spotlight next week when Parliament adopts resolutions on the final agreement reached by negotiators in Tokyo (from 23 September to 2 October).

The aim of the new multilateral ACTA agreement between the EU, the US, Australia, Canada, Japan, Mexico, Morocco, New Zealand, Singapore, South Korea and Switzerland is to strengthen the enforcement of intellectual property rights and to help combat the counterfeiting and piracy of goods such as luxury clothing, music and films.

However, critics of the agreement say that since China and Russia – the largest sources of international counterfeiting and piracy – have not signed up, this makes the deal almost worthless.

Parliament's consent is needed for the agreement to take effect. Following a debate on latest developments with EU Trade Commissioner Karel De Gucht on 20 October, MEPs will vote on a resolution in which they will set out conditions for their final approval.

Procedure: Resolution
Debate: 20 October
Vote: Wednesday 24 November

Definitive minimum VAT rate by 2015

The Economics Committee is recommending that Parliament support an extension of the temporary minimum VAT rate of 15% until 2015 but also that the EU move towards a definitive system by the end of this period.

The opinion by the Economics Committee also addresses the wider picture of the review of the general VAT strategy. It urges the Commission to launch this procedure by 2013 and to develop a system that boosts the single market and effectively tackles VAT fraud, currently amounting to around €100 billion per year.

Procedure: Consultation
Debate: Monday 22 November
Vote: Tuesday 23 November
Plenary sessions

Further information:

- Procedure file: Value added tax VAT: duration of the obligation to respect a minimum standard rate
- Profile of rapporteur David Casa (EPP, MT)

Green light for Moldova to take part in EU programmes

MEPs will vote in Strasbourg on plans for Moldova to take part in several Community programmes and agencies, such as transport, food safety, customs and aviation safety, thus helping this EU neighbouring country in its efforts to reform and modernise.

Moldova will contribute financially to the EU budget depending on the agencies and programmes it decides to join and which programmes are open for its participation.

Procedure: Consent
Vote: Wednesday 24 November

Further information:

- Report on the Protocol to the Partnership and Cooperation Agreement between the EC and Moldova
- Profile of rapporteur Graham Watson (ALDE, UK)
- Procedure file - EC/Moldova Partnership and Cooperation Agreement

EP verdict on Ombudsman's 2009 activities

On Thursday Parliament will give its annual verdict on the work of the European Ombudsman over the previous year.

The Ombudsman's role is to investigate cases of maladministration in the EU institutions, such as refusals to grant citizens access to documents, abuses of power and cases of discrimination.

MEPs welcome the fact that in 56% of the 318 cases closed by the Ombudsman in 2009, the institution concerned settled the matter, compared to 36% in 2008. Parliament will also vote on a draft resolution on a complaint received by the Ombudsman concerning the Commission's refusal to disclose information on an exchange of letters with the car manufacturer Porsche AG.

Nikiforos Diamandouros of Greece has been the European Ombudsman since January 2003. The Ombudsman's office was established in 1995.

Procedure: own-initiative
Debate/Vote: Thursday 25 November
Plenary sessions

Further information:
- European Ombudsman's annual report 2009
- Draft resolution on the European Ombudsman's annual report 2009
- Resolution on Ombudsman's special report on complaint 676/2008RT (EC-Porsche correspondence)
- Profile of Mariya Nedelcheva (EPP, BG), rapporteur for the Ombudsman activities in 2009
- Profile of Chrysoula Paliadeli (S&D, EL), rapporteur for the EC-Porsche AG resolution
- European Ombudsman's website

Removing legal barriers facing individuals and businesses

Obstacles thrown up by differences between national legal systems must be tackled so that Europe's citizens can benefit fully from European integration, says a draft report by the Legal Affairs Committee. Family law and the need to cut red tape for small businesses are among the main issues, believe MEPs.

This report is Parliament's response to the Action Plan Implementing the Stockholm Programme presented by the Commission in 20 April 2010, which seeks to deliver an area of freedom, security and justice for Europe's citizens.

Procedure: own-initiative
Debate: Monday 22 November
Vote: Tuesday 23 November

Further information:
- Report on civil, commercial, family and private international law aspects of the Action Plan
- Profile of rapporteur Luigi Berlinguer (S&D, IT)

Haiti cholera outbreak: MEPs to debate need for urgent aid

MEPs will hear a Commission statement on Monday afternoon and debate developments in earthquake-ravaged Haiti, where the cholera death toll recently topped 1,000 people.

Haiti is to hold presidential and legislative elections on 28 November, but voters are proving hard to identify, because many deaths went unrecorded after the 12 January 2010 earthquake, which killed over 250,000 people. Without a death certificate, no name can be removed from the electoral list.

Procedure: Commission statement
Debate: Monday 22 November (no resolution)
Plenary sessions

Bees and CAP reform

MEPs will call on the Commission to step up support to beekeepers when the EU common agricultural policy is next revamped. They will also ask what the reforms carried out so far have done to reduce red tape for EU farmers.

Bee mortality is rising just as the number of beekeepers in Europe is falling. These developments are particularly worrying as 84% of plant species and 76% of EU food production depend on bee pollination.

Procedure: Two oral questions (beekeeping sector + resolution and CAP no resolution)
Debate: Tuesday 23 November
Vote: Thursday 24 November

Further information:
- Press release on committee vote (beekeeping sector)
- Oral question on the beekeeping sector
- Oral question on the simplification of CAP

EU energy strategy: MEPs to debate priorities

Parliament votes on Thursday on proposed priorities for the EU’s future energy strategy. It is likely to argue that these should include applying existing legislation in full, promoting energy projects and strengthening EU external energy policy.

MEPs view success in creating a single energy market as essential, and stress that energy efficiency is a cost-effective way to cut energy dependency, combat climate change, create jobs and curb energy bills.

Procedure: Own-initiative
Debate: Wednesday 24 November
Vote: Thursday 25 November

Further information:
- Press release on committee vote
- Profile of rapporteur Lena Barbara Kolarska-Bobinska (EPP, PL)

Western Sahara: MEPs to look at alleged human rights abuses

On Wednesday Parliament will discuss alleged human rights violations in the Western Sahara. The debate will be followed up with a resolution at the plenary session in December.

The Moroccan security forces are reported to have launched an assault on the Gadaym Izik camp on 8 November, resulting in a number of casualties and disappearances. Journalists, NGOs and MEPs have since been prevented from entering the area.

Council and Commission statements
Debate: Wednesday 24 November
Public service broadcasters need more money and less political interference

Public service TV and radio channels in some EU Member States need proper financial backing, as well as safeguards for their editorial independence, says a draft resolution to be put to the vote in Strasbourg.

The draft resolution calls on EU Member States “to end political interference regarding the content of services offered by public broadcasters”, noting that some “still fail to respect European standards on freedom of expression, media pluralism, and the independence, remit and funding of public service media”.

EU Member States should “provide appropriate, proportionate and stable funding for public service media”, and those that do not should be held accountable, say MEPs. They also call for EU measures to guarantee the transparency of ownership of private broadcasters and ensure that “all individuals in all regions have equal access to public service broadcasting”.

Procedure: own-initiative
Debate: Monday 22 November
Vote: Tuesday 23 November

Annual review of ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly

Parliament will vote on Tuesday on a resolution on the work done by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly in 2009.

In the annual review for 2009 of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, drafted by the Development Committee, MEPs welcome the past efforts of this body as a forum for dialogue but urge it now to monitor closely the ongoing negotiations for Economic Partnership Agreements between EU and ACP countries, which envisage the mutual opening up of markets.

In addition, looking ahead to the EU-Africa summit being held in Libya in late November, MEPs deplore the fact that “the JPA was not properly consulted during the drafting of the Joint EU-Africa Strategy and hope that the Assembly will be actively involved in the implementation of that strategy.”

The Joint Parliamentary Assembly (JPA) is the parliamentary forum for open, democratic and in-depth dialogue between the European Union and the African Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries.

Procedure: own-initiative
Vote: Tuesday 23 November
Economic governance and outcome of EU and G20 summits

MEPs will debate the outcome of the EU Summit held 28–29 October with the President of the European Council, Herman Van Rompuy, and the European Commission.

The summit endorsed the final report of the task force on economic governance which sets out principles for a permanent crisis mechanism, possibly requiring a treaty change. MEPs will also discuss the result of the Seoul G20 summit of 11-12 November where an action plan to boost growth and jobs was adopted.

*Procedure: European Council + Commission statements*
*Debate: 9am, Wednesday 24 November*

Closer ties between EU and African countries

Ahead of the Tripoli summit between the EU and the African continent, MEPs are set to call for more political commitment to the Africa-EU Strategy, greater parliamentary involvement, capacity-building for the institutions of the African Union and a more results-based approach to the EU-Africa partnership.

Before the summit, on 27 November, MEPs and Members of the Pan-African Parliament will participate in the parliamentary pre-summit where they will present recommendations to the heads of states on the Millennium Development Goals, food security, human rights, good governance and other matters.

At its December plenary session Parliament will vote on a resolution to take stock of the results achieved in Tripoli.

*Procedure: Resolution*
*Debate: Wednesday 24 November*
*Vote: December plenary*
Agenda for new skills and jobs

On Tuesday, MEPs will debate the "Agenda for New Skills and Jobs", to be presented to Parliament that day by the Commission. This agenda, part of the EU 2020 strategy, aims to identify specific measures to foster employability and raise employment rates.

Procedure: Commission statement
Debate: Tuesday 23 November

Further information:
• Europe 2020 Strategy:

Floods in Europe and Chinese Nobel Peace Prize

On Tuesday morning the session begins with statements by President Buzek and EP political group leaders on the recent flooding in various parts of Europe, including Italy and Belgium. MEPs will then respond to Council and Commission statements on the 10th anniversary of the UN Security Council resolution on women and peace and security.

Tuesday's night session will begin with a Commission statement and debate on Liu Ziaobo, the Chinese Nobel Peace Prize winner.

Human rights and democracy issues

On Thursday MEPs will discuss the conduct of elections in Burma and the recent release of Aung San Suu Kyi, the 1990 Sakharov Prize laureate. There will also be a debate on the death penalty in Iraq, including the case of Tariq Aziz, and attacks against Christian communities in that country, and a debate on plans to make Chinese the main language of instruction in Tibet.