

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



BUREAU

MINUTES

of the extraordinary meeting of

02-05-2018

Paul-Henri SPAAK Building - Room 6B001

Brussels

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MINUTES

of the extraordinary meeting of Wednesday, 2 May 2018
from 18:30 to 20:30 hours

Paul-Henri SPAAK Building - Room 6B001

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of the extraordinary meeting of Wednesday, 2 May 2018

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Mr Antonio TAJANI, President of the European Parliament, opened the meeting at 18.36 hours.

Present

Antonio TAJANI, President

Vice-Presidents

Ms McGUINNESS
Mr LIBERADZKI
Mr WIELAND
Mr KRASNODEŹBSKI
Mr VALCÁRCEL SISO
Ms GEBHARDT
Mr TELIČKA
Ms JÁRÓKA
Mr PAȘCU
Mr PAPADIMOULIS
Ms HAUTALA
Mr CASTALDO

Excused

Mr SASSOLI
Ms GUILLAUME

Quaestors

Ms MORIN-CHARTIER
Mr KOVATCHEV
Mr MAŇKA
Ms BEARDER

Excused

Mr KARSKI

Other Members present

Mr VERHOFSTADT

Also Present

Mr WELLE, Secretary-General
Mr WINKLER, Deputy Secretary-General and Director-General DG PRES

European Commission:

Mr BARNIER
Mr GALUDEC
Mr RIEKELES

List of officials present at the meeting:

Private Office of the President

Mr CANGA FANO
Mr CHIOCCHETTI
Mr CAPOGROSSO
Ms CHOMICKA
Ms BOLYA

Private Office of the Secretary-General

Mr MANGOLD
Mr SORENSEN
Ms ALTENBERG
Mr SCHONARD

Private Office of the Deputy Secretary-General

Mr JAVELLE

Secretariat

DG Presidency (PRES)	Mr	LANE
DG Internal Policies (IPOL)	Ms	DE VICENTE
DG External Policies (EXPO)	Mr	AGUIRIANO NALDA
DG Parliamentary Research Services (EPRS)	Mr	TEASDALE
DG Information (COMM)	Mr	DUCH-GUILLOT /
	Ms	COLARD
DG Personnel (PERS)	Mr	KNUDSEN
DG Infrastructure and Logistics (INLO)	Ms	LINNUS
DG Logistics and Interpretation for Conferences (LINC)	Mr	GHEYSEN
DG Finance (FINS)	Mr	KLETHI / Mr BAAS
DG Innovation, Technical Support (ITEC)	Mr	PETRUCCI
DG Security and Safety (SAFE)	Mr	CAROZZA
Legal Service	Mr	DREXLER, Jurisconsult
Director for the Relations with the Political Groups	Mr	SCHWETZ / Mr McLAUGHLIN
Conference of President's Secretariat	Ms	WOLLNY

Political group secretariats

Ms	ROIG LINANA	(EPP)
Mr	HORNAK	(S&D)
Mr	WOODARD	(ECR)
Ms	BOVEINGTON-FAURAN	(ALDE)
Ms	CAUSSIEU	(ALDE)
Ms	PANTAZIDOU	(GUE/NGL)
Mr	BROUWER	(GREENS/EFA)
Mr	PITTARELLO	(EFDD)
Mr	HOLZFEIND	(ENF)

Vice-Presidents' and Quaestors' assistants

Ms	O'HEA	Ms	McGUINNESS
Mr	VOGT	Mr	LIBERADZKI
Mr	COBUCCI	Mr	SASSOLI
Mr	WEGMANN	Mr	WIELAND
Ms	BARREIRA	Ms	GUILLAUME
Ms	DYMOWSKA	Mr	KRASNODEBSKI
Ms	HERRERO ESTALAYO	Mr	VALCÁRCEL SISO
Ms	PAPENBERG	Ms	GEBHARDT
Mr	KLEEMANN	Mr	TELIČKA
Ms	SZARAZ	Ms	JÁRÓKA
Mr	ALATOPOULOS	Mr	PAPADIMOULIS
Ms	HEIKKILA	Ms	HAUTALA
Mr	VALLUCCI	Mr	CASTALDO
Mr	RICHARD	Ms	MORIN-CHARTIER
Mr	IVANOV	Mr	KOVATCHEV
Ms	KUCHTIKOVA	Mr	MAŇKA
Mr	NORTH	Ms	BEARDER
Mr	SKOCZEK	Mr	KARSKI

Mr TZIORKAS, Mr PETERS, Mr ADLER, Ms MURRAY and Ms GRIMA acted as secretary to the meeting.

1. Adoption of draft agenda

The Bureau,

- noted the draft agenda and adopted it as shown in these minutes (PE 620.078/BUR).

From 18.30 to 19.30

2. United Kingdom withdrawal from the EU - Exchange of views with Michel BARNIER, European Commission Chief Negotiator for the United Kingdom Exiting the European Union, and Guy VERHOFSTADT, Chair of ALDE and Brexit coordinator of Parliament's Conference of Presidents

The Bureau, with debate,

- took note of the following documents:
 - Invitation letter dated 24 April 2018 from President TAJANI to Mr BARNIER, European Chief Negotiator for the United Kingdom exiting the European Union (PE 620.105/BUR);
 - Invitation letter dated 24 April 2018 from President TAJANI to Mr VERHOFSTADT, Chair of ALDE and Brexit coordinator of Parliament's Conference of Presidents (PE 620.106/BUR);
 - Administrative and Budgetary Decisions taken by the Commission at its 2249th meeting on Wednesday 28 March 2018 - concerning British personnel; (PE 620.101/BUR);
 - Guidelines adopted at the EU-27 European Council meeting on 23 March 2018 (PE 620.102/BUR);
 - European Parliament resolution of 14 March 2018 on the framework of the future EU-UK relationship (P8_TA(2018)0069), (PE 620.103/BUR);
 - European Parliament resolution of 5 April 2017 on negotiations with the United Kingdom following its notification that it intends to withdraw from the European Union (P8_TA(2017)0102),
 - European Parliament resolution of 3 October 2017 on the state of play of negotiations with the United Kingdom (P8_TA(2017)0361),
 - European Parliament resolution of 13 December 2017 on the state of play of negotiations with the United Kingdom (P8_TA(2017)0490);
 - Draft Withdrawal Agreement, published by the European Commission on 19 March 2018, on the withdrawal of the United Kingdom of Great Britain

and Northern Ireland from the European Union and the European Atomic Energy Community (PE 620.098/BUR);

- Joint report dated 8 December 2017 from the negotiators of the European Union and of the United Kingdom on the progress achieved in the first phase of negotiations under Article 50 TEU (PE 612.773/CPG);
- Letter dated 29 March 2017, from Ms MAY, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, to Mr TUSK, President of the European Council, notifying the European Council of the United Kingdom's intention to withdraw from the European Union, under Article 50 TEU (PE 602.158/CPG);
- heard the President welcome to the meeting Mr BARNIER and Mr VERHOFSTADT, underlining that the Bureau was a governing body consisting of Vice-Presidents and Quaestors elected directly by the Plenary and even though it was mainly responsible for the internal organisation of Parliament and administrative issues it also played a crucial role on key political issues such as Brexit; recall that as he had already announced he would appoint an ad-hoc Brexit Working Group of the Bureau to look into the consequences of Brexit on the internal organisation of Parliament;
- heard Mr BARNIER, European Commission Chief Negotiator for the United Kingdom Exiting the European Union, present the state of play of the negotiations on the UK withdrawal from the EU and the future relationship between the EU and the UK noting *inter alia* that:
 - the European Commission and he personally enjoyed an excellent cooperation with Parliament's Brexit Steering Group with which he was having nearly weekly meetings,
 - 75% of the draft withdrawal agreement presented by the European Commission on 19 March 2018 had been agreed; the negotiations on some specific issues, such as Euratom, ongoing procedures before the European Courts or geographical indications, were still difficult; one open item was the question of dispute settlement which was an essential question for any international agreement; another open item was the question of the Irish

border; there would neither be an agreement on withdrawal nor on transition without an operational agreement on Ireland,

- he had been in Ireland recently meeting a lot of stakeholders from both sides of the border; the border had to remain open even though the internal market would end at the border; the backstop solution proposed by the EU was that Northern Ireland would remain in the customs union but that backstop had not been accepted by the UK so far; the solution proposed by the EU for Northern Ireland was a specific solution for a unique situation and was not applicable to the UK beyond Northern Ireland,
 - the Commission had done a scoping exercise concerning possible scenarios for the future relations with the UK in several areas such as free trade, socio-economic cooperation, police and judicial cooperation as well as foreign, security and defence policy; in principle, existing programmes for third countries should be taken as a basis for the future relations with the UK,
 - based on the red lines expressed by the UK government only a free trade agreement such as those with Canada and South Korea were possible blueprints for the future relations with the UK; however, if the UK government changed its positions the EU was ready to move to other options;
- heard Mr VERHOFSTADT, Chair of ALDE and Brexit coordinator of Parliament's Conference of Presidents, point out the very close cooperation between Mr BARNIER and Parliament's Brexit Steering Group, which was composed of all political groups who supported Parliament's resolutions on Brexit; underline the large majorities by which the four Brexit resolutions were adopted by Parliament; note the four priorities of the Brexit Steering Group:
- firstly, securing the rights of citizens including their practical implementation,
 - secondly, the Ireland issue, where Parliament shared exactly the same position as Mr BARNIER,

- thirdly, decide about the future EU-UK relations under the umbrella of an association agreement which would streamline the approval procedure as well as the governance,
 - fourthly, give a commitment to Parliament's staff of British nationality, including temporary and contract agents, that they would be able to remain and advance in their career;
- heard Ms BEARDER, Quaestor, enquire about possible options for keeping the Irish border open, the rights of fishing in Irish waters after Brexit, the freedom of movement for Brits in the EU after Brexit and the timeline of the negotiations on the future relationship between the EU and the UK;
- heard Ms McGUINNESS, Vice-President, enquire about the sequencing of the negotiations and whether any negotiations on a future customs partnership would already take place now as well as whether the negotiating parties would get over the first hurdle in June;
- heard Ms GEBHARDT, Vice-President, support the Commission on not ceding any ground on the timeline; report that the two main concerns from citizens of her constituency were, firstly, what would happen with citizens who had made use of free movement and, secondly, that there wouldn't be any "forum shopping", i.e. no rights without any obligations; request that Parliament show the same generosity as the Commission and keep temporary and contract staff employed in Parliament due to their high expertise;
- heard Mr PAPADIMOULIS, Vice-President, draw attention to the resolutions adopted by Plenary on Brexit which should be the Parliament roadmap; stress the need to keep the Irish border open and the Good Friday agreement in force; maintain EP staff of UK nationality as they were employed as Union citizens;
- heard Mr MAŇKA, Quaestor, underline that the EU must remain strong and united in the Brexit negotiations;
- heard Mr LIBERADZKI, Vice-President, express his great appreciation for the work of Messrs BARNIER and VERHOFSTADT; enquire what would happen if the timetable was not respected by the UK and no agreement was reached at the end;

- heard Mr VALCÁRCEL SISO, Vice-President, enquire about the state of play concerning the geographical indications;
- heard Mr KRASNODEBSKI, Vice-President, point out that European citizens had different expectations on Brexit: on the one hand, defending the rights of citizens after Brexit and, on the other hand, the best possible relations with the UK after Brexit; propose to treat temporary and contract staff of UK nationality in the same way as officials of the same nationality while assessing their work from a positive standpoint;
- heard Mr CASTALDO, Vice-President, underline the importance of governance and dispute resolution and enquire for the base model for that; enquire about the potential impact on the ongoing Brexit negotiations of introducing a visa system comparable to that of the United States;
- heard Mr BARNIER thank all members of the Bureau and the services supporting the work of the EP steering group on Brexit for the excellent cooperation with the Commission Task Force; note that the future of the Irish border had not been resolved yet but that it was unacceptable to leave the people on both sides of the border hanging; note that a transition period was needed for further negotiations on the future relationship which could only be finalised after the withdrawal of the UK; point out that the UK proposals for a future customs partnership were not acceptable; note that the free movement of UK citizens was part of the future relations between the UK and the EU; underline that there would be no cherry picking on the internal market rules; stress that the EU proposal to include Northern Ireland into the EU's regular customs territory was very generous; underline that a no deal scenario would mean a hard Brexit, which was highly undesirable, but the EU should be prepared for it;
- heard the President thank Messrs BARNIER and VERHOFSTADT for their participation in the extraordinary meeting of the Bureau and wish them all the best for the continuation of the negotiations.

From 19.30 to 20.30

3. Adoption of the Minutes of the ordinary Bureau meeting of 16 April 2018

The Bureau.

- approved the Minutes of the ordinary Bureau meeting of 16 April 2018 held in Strasbourg (PE 618.956/BUR).

4. Communications by the President

4.1. Rainbow flag

The Bureau,

- heard the President inform members of the Bureau that, during its meeting of 12 April, the Conference of Presidents agreed to fly on Parliament's buildings the rainbow flag on the occasion of the "International Day against homophobia, biphobia and transphobia" on next 17 May; he had asked the competent services to implement this decision in the most technically and financially appropriate manner, on the basis of the requirements of the Conference of Presidents.

4.2. Citizens' consultations.

The Bureau,

- heard the President inform that the European Council of 23 February discussed the *citizens' consultations* in view of the upcoming elections and that many Member States were in favour; stress that in line with the institutional communication strategy adopted by the Bureau in November 2017, he had asked the Secretary-General to link Parliament to this initiative; propose to use existing structures and activities in order to optimise the use of resources; propose to launch a consultation of young people using the platform of the European Youth Event, to be held in June in Strasbourg; among others, the consultation could also make use of the network of about one thousand schools gathered in the 'Ambassador schools' programme and the experience of academic establishments such as the *École nationale d'Administration*, with which Parliament has a cooperation partnership, or other research centres and universities.

5. The Administrative consequences of Brexit - Note from the Secretary-General

The Bureau, with debate,

- took note of the note dated 25 April 2018 from the Secretary-General on the administrative consequences of Brexit (PE 620.096/BUR);
- heard the President introduce the matter by recalling that the withdrawal of the United Kingdom from the European Union will have a significant budgetary and administrative impact on the Parliament, and that it was necessary to clarify, *inter alia*, the situation of British nationals working in the Institution, the use of the English language, the future of the EP Liaison Office in London and in Edinburgh, the consequences for Parliament's public procurement and possibly other areas, which had yet to be identified; in the light of these challenges, suggest to set up an *ad hoc* Working Group of the Bureau, the composition of which would be decided by the Bureau at its ordinary meeting of 28 May 2018;
- heard the Secretary-General present his note, explaining that the expected administrative consequences of Brexit within the remits of all Parliament's Directorates-General had been identified and divided into four main areas, namely: staff of UK nationality, language services, the Parliament liaison offices in the UK and public procurement contracts; further elaborate on his note stressing, in particular that:

EP staff of UK nationality

- the question of staff was the most sensitive of the four areas as members of staff were not employed as representatives of their Member States, but as EU public servants; officials of UK nationality had taken at an early stage a decision to come and work in the EU institutions for Europe as European officials; this has not changed, there are no doubts about their loyalty, and therefore his note clearly foresees that no one be dismissed if the UK withdraws from the EU on 30 March 2019, on the ground that they will no longer possess the nationality of a Member State,
- additionally, of the 111 EP officials of only UK nationality who were likely to be in service on 30 March 2019, two thirds work in language services, as translators, interpreters, lawyer-linguists and staff with certain communication functions; should they leave Parliament after Brexit, it would

not be possible to replace them and guarantee the continuation of their services for the smooth functioning of Parliament; thus, Parliament relies on these officials,

- the issue, raised in the European Commission, of certain sensitive functions which could not be dealt with by non-EU nationals, such as free trade agreements, does not have the same relevance to the European Parliament,
- in view of the above considerations, the decision to maintain UK nationals as EP staff would also apply, in principle, to temporary and contract agents, with the exception that in the case of the two latter categories, the Staff Regulations explicitly require an assessment and individual decision by the competent authority authorised to conclude contracts of employment in order to continue the employment of each temporary and contract agent, noting that these decisions, to be taken as soon as possible in order to provide these staff categories with the necessary certainty for their personal planning, could be justified in the interest of the service by the fact that these agents are necessary for the proper functioning of the Institution,
- thus, to the extent possible, officials, temporary and contract agents of UK nationality should be treated the same way as EU officials, a position that he had stressed from an early stage also to the Secretary-Generals of the other institutions,
- from a legal point of view the situation was slightly different with regard to temporary agents employed by political groups; whereas the administration could call on political groups to apply a similar principle to temporary agents employed by them, it could not take any decisions; the decision would be taken solely by the Chairs of the political groups who acted as appointing authority for these agents, noting that while Parliament was formally the appointing authority for contract agents of the political groups, it acted on the explicit wish and instructions from the political groups, without any margin for discretion, whose Chairs were therefore *de facto* responsible for the employment also of UK nationals of this category of group staff,
- this created a number of different situations; there is staff of UK nationality employed by political groups with no Members elected in the UK and there

is staff of both UK and non-UK nationality employed by a political group composed by 44% of Members elected in the UK, which would raise the issue of the staff size of political groups after Brexit and at which point this should be adapted: 1 April, 1 July or 1 January. It is not a decision relating to the nationality of the staff but to the size of political groups in terms of Members, considering that this could diminish in one case of up to 50% and in another of up to 25%; thus, the presence of UK nationals as staff varied greatly among the political groups and therefore, independently of the number of UK nationals who are members of staff in each group, a decision on the date from which the political group secretariats would have to be re-sized according to the political developments would have to be taken by the political authority, which would have also to decide to which extent this would affect staff of UK or non-UK nationality,

- regarding Accredited Parliamentary Assistants, the current rules for the termination of employment would apply for assistants of Members whose mandate was terminated, regardless of the specific reason for which the Members did not return to Parliament (e.g. because of Brexit or simply because of non-re-election), noting that Members who were elected to the next Parliament could employ UK nationals as assistants according to the rules currently in force for the employment of non-EU nationals as assistants (e.g. some assistants are from Latin America),
- Accredited Parliamentary and Local Assistants, both of UK and non-UK nationality, who are working for a Member elected in the UK would be equally affected on 30 March 2019 when their Member would cease to be a MEP but this was related to the fact that an assistant's contract is linked to and therefore terminated once the mandate of his/her Member has come to an end, for whatever reason this happens, and not because the assistant would be a UK national,

Use of the English language

- English had been decided by the Council as an official language already at an early stage, incidentally the first decision taken by the EU, and there was no indication so far, also after consultation with the Secretary-General of the Council, that the Council had any plans to reverse this decision,

- English was thus expected to continue as an official language of the European Union,
- this would require exploring alternative ways of recruiting English-speaking staff with sufficient proficiency for the language services (e.g. from Ireland),

EP Liaison Offices

- regarding the preservation of the EP liaison office in London and in Edinburgh, recall that the EP office in Washington D.C. was an example of another EP office located outside the EU,
- 3 million EU citizens would be residents in the United Kingdom after Brexit, which could justify maintaining the office in London and probably also in Edinburgh; the European External Action Service should be invited to share the office facilities in the United Kingdom with the Parliament, as it has been the case with the European Commission,

Public procurement

- regarding public procurement, there were three questions to be considered, all of which were currently being examined by the Legal Service:
 - existing contracts with UK-based companies, for which the future status will depend on whether or not specific provisions are adopted as part of the Withdrawal Agreement,
 - new contracts with UK-based companies, which will be considered under the regime for contracts with companies from third countries,
 - the VAT exemption for the European Union Institutions' procurement from companies within the EU, which is likely to no longer be applicable to contracts with UK-based companies,
- heard the Secretary-General sum-up his presentation by noting that Brexit could also be an opportunity to consider further improvements in the efficiency of the services, by gaining synergy effects with e.g. the Economic and Social Committee and the European Committee of the Regions, in areas such as information technologies, security and languages services, noting that this theme, along with the other main areas he had described, could be the subject

of further discussion in the ad hoc Working Group proposed by the President, which would then report back to the Bureau;

- held a thorough exchange of views, with the participation of Mr WIELAND, Ms GEBHARDT, Ms JÁRÓKA, Mr VALCÁRCEL SISO, Mr PAPADIMOULIS, Mr LIBERADZKI, Mr PAȘCU, Mr CASTALDO, Ms McGUINNESS, Vice-Presidents, Ms BEARDER and Ms MORIN-CHARTIER, Quaestors, who:
 - thanked the Secretary-General for the detailed explanations he had provided, expressing overall support for his note, while stressing the complex nature and the urgency of the matter at hand,
 - strongly and unanimously welcomed the proposal to maintain Parliament officials of UK nationality in service, and to provide clarity for, temporary and contract agents of UK nationality by way of individual decisions in the interest of the service, remarking that this should be communicated to the agents concerned,
 - took note of the explanation provided regarding the situation of members of staff in the political group secretariats who are UK nationals as well as of political groups which are overwhelmingly composed of Members elected in the UK,
 - took note of the specific situation of Members' assistants who either are UK nationals working for a non-UK Member and thus not necessarily affected by Brexit or work for a UK Member but are not necessarily UK nationals and thus are possibly affected by Brexit,
 - while expressing the view that no preferential treatment should be given to Members who left the Parliament as a consequence of Brexit, as opposed to Members who were not re-elected, enquired about the status of the pension fund for Members, and the pension rights of Members' assistants, who in some cases would be lacking some months of service to complete a full five year mandate at the time of Brexit,
 - supported maintaining English as an official language and expressed some concern at the challenges linked to the future recruitment of competent English language staff from the EU Member States,

- expressed overall support to maintain the presence of the European Parliament in the United Kingdom, if appropriate, on the basis of a clear policy on Parliament offices in third countries, with some Bureau members having doubts regarding the office in Edinburgh,
 - expressed the view that sensitive services, such as telecommunications, currently provided *inter alia* by British Telecom, should be given thorough consideration in the framework of procurement by Parliament, asking to establish a full list of contracts with UK-based companies currently in force,
 - welcomed the prospect of using Brexit as an opportunity to innovate and to make certain services in Parliament more efficient and explore synergies with the advisory bodies,
 - expressed their support for the proposal to set up an ad hoc Working Group of the Bureau on the administrative consequences of Brexit with a few members being in favour of a larger representation of Bureau members in this working group to encompass all Bureau's political groups;
- heard the President express his support for an inclusive working group;
- heard the Secretary-General, in response to questions, explain that:
- the communication to staff about future employment conditions needed to be based on the decisions taken by Parliament's political authorities, reiterating that the decisions needed for temporary and contract agents should be taken soon, in order to provide clarity for the staff members concerned, and that citizenship would not be used as a reason for terminating a contract,
 - staff members with a double citizenship, one of which being that of the United Kingdom, would not be subject to any legal change, since the only the citizenship of the Member State would be considered,
 - the possibility for Members to employ UK nationals as assistants also extended to local assistants,
 - the duration of service of Members' assistants varied, because employment could begin, and be terminated, at any time during the mandate of each Member, noting that it was difficult, for legal reasons, to remedy the problem

that, in some cases, assistants were only a few months short of reaching a certain number of years in service,

- regarding the Pension Fund, the current assessment was that it would not be part of the Withdrawal Agreement,
 - on the question of offices, it seemed likely that the External Action Service would maintain the offices in London, Edinburgh and Belfast, which meant that the Parliament would likely have the possibility of a partnership as far as the continued operation of the Edinburgh office was concerned, but that the latter remained an open question for further consideration in the ad hoc working group following today's exchange of views,
 - the question of certain sensitive external service providers to Parliament from UK-based companies, *inter alia* in the field of telecommunications, would be evaluated closely in the light of a new legal situation,
 - in the case of the non-conclusion of a Withdrawal Agreement with the United Kingdom, the EU budget for 2019, as currently planned, could become void, which would also impact the functioning of the European Parliament,
 - concerning the setting-up of an ad hoc working group of the Bureau, his note was simply identifying the areas and competences mostly affected by Brexit but the Bureau could decide to enlarge the remit and composition of this working group;
- endorsed the overall strategic approach towards the administrative consequences of Brexit set out in the note of the Secretary-General, including in relation to EU officials of UK nationality within Parliament's administration, Parliament's linguistic services, Parliament's offices in the United Kingdom, and public procurement;
 - supported the proposal to establish an ad-hoc working group of the Bureau in this area on the basis of the note, the composition and remit of which would be decided at a next meeting further to a proposal from the President;
 - entrusted the Secretary-General with regularly informing and consulting the ad-hoc working group of the administrative preparations and readiness for Brexit,

and to make proposals to the Bureau in this field, where necessary.

6. Urgent matters and any other business

There were none.

7. Date and place of next meeting

The Bureau,

- decided to hold its next ordinary meeting on **Monday, 28 May 2018** from **18:30 to 20:30**, in **Room R1.1** in the **Louise WEISS Building** in **Strasbourg**.

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The meeting closed at 20.31 hours.

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