European Parliament
2014 - 2019

Committee of Inquiry into Money Laundering, Tax Avoidance and Tax Evasion

COORDINATORS' MEETING

Monday, 21 November 2016
19h00 to 21h00
Salvador de Madariaga (SDM) - S5
Strasbourg

Summary of Coordinators recommendations

Present:

Bureau: Werner Langen (Chair)
Ana Gomes (1st Vice-Chair)
Pirkko Ruohonen-Lerner (2nd Vice-Chair)
Fabio De Masi (3rd Vice-Chair)
Eva Joly (4nd Vice-Chair and substitute of Greens Coordinator)

Coordinators: Dariusz Rosati (EPP Coordinator)
Marcus Ferber (EPP Deputy Coordinator)
Peter Simon (S&D Coordinator)
Bernd Lucke (ECR Coordinator)
Michael Theurer (ALDE Coordinator)
Co-Rapporteurs: Jeppe Kofod (S&D)

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A. Adoption of draft agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

B. Chairs’ announcements

The Chair made the following announcements:

- Invitations to SK and MT Ministers of Finances for the PANA/ECON meeting of 26 January 2017
- Letter to the Conference of Presidents (CoP) on the decision to decline the mission to PANA Malta
- Letter to the President of FATF inviting him to the PANA meeting of 7 December 2016
- Feedback PANA hearings of 14 and 18 November:
  - 14 November: the statements made by Europol and Eurojust were disappointing
  - 16 November: the hearing with Professor Stiglitz was very satisfactory.

ITEMS FOR DECISION

C. PANA Missions and delegations

- Luxembourg - Wednesday 22 February 2017
  The Coordinators took note of the new date of 22 February 2017 proposed for this mission to Luxembourg.

- United Kingdom - 9 -10 February 2017
  This mission was authorised by the Conference of Presidents (CoP).

- Malta - Turquoise week 8 (February 2017)
  The Coordinators were informed that the CoP has rejected the request for this mission. Missions to the Presidency countries are systematically rejected, unless linked to “High Level Conferences”. The Chair was instructed to send a letter to the CoP, pointing out that the PANA visit to Malta is not focusing on the EU Presidency, but on Malta’s compliance with EU legislation within PANA’s mandate (notably AML, taxation).
For all three missions, the Coordinators were invited to submit proposals for stakeholders to meet, and to support PANA’s request to the COP via their group leaders.

- **United States - 20 to 24 March 2017**

The Coordinators took note that this mission to United States has been withhold by the CoP, awaiting a draft program and a decision on exact destination(s). The CoP limited the size of the delegation to 7 MEPs.

It was agreed to submit a detailed draft programme as soon as possible, as well as to ask the CoP to reconsider the size of the delegation to ensure appropriate political balance.

The Coordinators were invited to submit proposals for stakeholders to meet.

**D. Next committee meeting of 7 December 2016 pm**

Exchange of views with:

- Pierre Moscovici, Member of the European Commission responsible for Economic and Financial Affairs, Taxation and Customs - from 15.00 to 16.30

This meeting also foresaw exchanges of views with Peter Kažimír, Minister of Finance of the Slovak Republic, and Edward Scicluna, Minister of Finance of the Maltese Republic, as representatives of the outgoing and incoming EU Presidencies, but they both cannot make it due to earlier commitments. The Coordinators agreed to send an invitation proposing a new date (26 January 2017).

The Coordinators also agreed to invite again a representative of FATF. They also took note that this exchange of views will be followed by a Coordinators’ meeting, from 17.30-18.30.

**E. Public hearings with intermediaries (24 January, 9 February and 6 March)**

The Secretariat was tasked to prepare a draft programme to be sent to Coordinators in advance to the next Coordinators meeting of 7 December for decision, with proposals for the programme for the three hearings, taking into account that:

- there is a preference for mixed panels and to explore possibilities to do a case study. A maximum of 6 experts should be invited per hearing.
F. New request for a study

The EPP requested a study on identifying a typology (most frequent occurrence) of the offshore companies revealed by the Panama Papers. The aim of this study is not to follow the life cycle of an intermediary or a legal adviser but the life cycle of a shell company. The study should then identify one real company from that sample and produce the case study - who and when initiated creation of that company, who took this request over at the intermediary side, what documents were requested, who is real beneficial owner, for what purpose was company created and so on until when company was terminated (if applicable). It would be case study of chronological reconstruction with real names, with real supporting documents which are publicly available.

PolDep A confirmed it can deliver such a study.

They offer to provide a short paper (15 pages) by February 2017 to further explore this issue and to conduct a workshop in February 2017.

Finally, PoldeP A will be invited to explain the call for tender’s procedure on how experts are selected to the next Coordinators’ meeting.


G. Meeting with National Parliaments - 31 January 2016 am

The Coordinators took note of the draft programme of the PANA-ECON joint session within the interparliamentary week on 31 Jan am.

They decided to ensure that Mark Pieth and Seamus Coffey were provided with more time to speak. They also agreed to ask the relevant national Parliaments to provide a written statement on the state of play of the national inquiries prior to the meeting.

It was agreed to also invite Frederik Obermaier (journalist from Sueddeutsche Zeitung) to this meeting.

H. Indicative roadmap of the PANA Committee, updated version

The Coordinators endorsed the changes highlighted in the current indicative roadmap. Furthermore, the S&D Coordinator pointed out the need to organise a hearing on the revelation of the Panama Papers and the effects on developing countries.
I. Access to documents

The Coordinators agreed to send a letter to the Commission on access to other confidential documents and its arrangements. The Chair, on his behalf, will send this letter to the Commission in order to request access to these documents (including access for APAs).

Furthermore, the Chair will send a letter to the EP President, if possible co-signed by the Chair of the EMIS Committee, requesting a review of the Inter-Institutional Framework Agreement with the Commission (2010) on the same matter.

The Chair was also instructed to send letters to the Commission, as well as to the Council, requesting some follow-up documents proposed by the Political Groups.

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

J. 2017 Calendars of PANA and Coordinators’ meetings (updated version)

The Coordinators took note of the updated version of the calendars of PANA and Coordinators’ meetings for 2017, with modifications as follows:

- An extra Coordinators meeting will take place on 7 December pm
- two extra slots have been booked on Thursday, 26 January, from 9h00 to 12h30 and from 14.00 to 15.30
- During the “Interparliamentary week”, a hearing with National Parliaments who have set up an inquiry Committee will take on Tuesday 31 January am (timing to be confirmed)
- the meeting previously planned for 12 April am has been replaced by a slot on Thursday, 6 April, 8h30 - 11h00 (Strasbourg)
- an extra slot has been booked on Tuesday, 28 March, 9h00 - 12h30
- the Coordinators’ meeting previously planned for 11 April pm has been replaced by a slot on Monday, 3 April, 19h00 - 22h00 (Strasbourg)

K. Any other business

- Christmas cocktail: The Coordinators were informed that a cocktail, offered by the PANA Chair, will take place on Tuesday, 13 December, at 18.00, in room Louise Weiss C3.1 in Strasbourg
➢ **Summaries Coordinators recommendations:** It has been decided that the summaries of the recommendations would be first sent to the Coordinators and then to the PANA Members for endorsement.

➢ **Speaking time at hearings:** The Coordinators took note of the request from the EPP Coordinator recalling that during the hearings it should be avoided that due to time constraints, Members who were on the speakers list are unable to speak.

**L. Time and date of next Coordinators' meeting**

➢ Thursday 7 December 2016, from 17.30 to 18.30, Brussels