



Special Committee on Financial Crimes, Tax Evasion and Tax Avoidance

COORDINATORS' MEETING

Thursday, 22 March 2018

9.45 to 11.45

Altiero Spinelli (ASP) 1G2

Brussels

Summary of Coordinators recommendations

Present:

Bureau:

Petr Jezek (Chair)
Esther De Lange (3rd Vice-Chair)
Ana Gomes (4th Vice-Chair)

Coordinators:

Dariusz Rosati (EPP Coordinator)
Tom Vandenkendelaere (EPP Deputy Coordinator)
Peter Simon (S&D Coordinator)
Jeppe Kofod (S&D Substitute Coordinator)
Nils Torvalds (ALDE Coordinator)
Ernest Urtasun (Greens Substitute Coordinator)
Martin Schirdewan (GUE Coordinator)
David Coburn (EFDD Coordinator)
Mario Borghezio (ENF Coordinator)

A. Adoption of draft agenda

The agenda was adopted without changes.

B. Chair's announcements

The Coordinators agreed that the co-rapporteurs could attend the coordinators' meetings.

ITEMS FOR DECISION

C. Appointment of Co-Rapporteurs

This item was postponed.

D. Draft Calendar of 2018 Committee meetings and Coordinators meetings

The Coordinators approved the draft calendar, while requesting the secretariat to:

- try to avoid committee meetings on Thursday afternoons. These days could be devoted to workshops;
- find another slot that would replace the 5 and 6 September (due to the unavailability of EPP);

The secretariat was tasked to submit a revised proposal for the next Coordinators meeting.

E. Hearings of witnesses and experts (verbatim reports)

The Coordinators gave a mandate to the Chair to launch a request for verbatim reports of the hearings.

F. ECON/TAX3 joint meeting with Commissioner Pierre Moscovici on digital taxation and aggressive tax planning in the context of the European Semester on 27 March 2018 am

The Coordinators endorsed this proposal.

G. Agenda of the April meetings

As regards the meeting on Monday 16 April evening in Strasbourg, the Coordinators agreed to invite with Commissioner Jourova for an exchange of views.

As regards the meeting on Thursday 26 April, the Coordinators endorsed the proposal to hold a hearing on the bankruptcy of the Latvian bank ABLV following money laundering accusations as well as lessons to be learned at EU level. They also suggested to invite some banks from other Member States, as well as a representative of the European Central Bank (ECB).

H. Working methods for Committee meetings: Speaking time at committee hearings

The Coordinators:

- Agreed to follow the TAX1, TAX2 and PANA practices as regards the order of speakers and the length of the speaking time. It was requested to take potential delays into account;
- Confirmed the need for written questionnaires ahead of the hearings, while trying to send the questionnaires sufficiently in advance to the experts invited.

I. Access to documents

The Coordinators:

- gave authorisation to the TAX3 Chair to agree with Commissioner Moscovici on a new Arrangement for the examination of non-classified confidential documents (Other confidential information – OCI);
- agreed that the Chair will send a letter to the Commission and Council requesting:
 - to deliver OCI documents not yet received by the PANA Committee;

In particular,

- DG JUST and the Council to provide all documents (Commission non papers, internal GRI fiches, internal Interservice consultation, Commission documents on Council Working Party) related to the negotiations with the 5th review of the AMLD;
- DG TAXUD and the Council to provide all documents (Commission non papers, internal GRI fiches, internal Interservice consultation, Commission internal/flash reports or minutes) concerning the ECOFIN, the COREPER, the Code of Conduct Group, the Council Working Party on Tax Questions (CWPTQ), the High Level Working Party on Tax Questions (HLWP) and the Council working groups I and IV,.
- DG TAXUD and the Council to provide all documents (Commission non papers, internal GRI fiches, internal Interservice consultation, Commission internal/flash reports or minutes) concerning the VAT Committee, the Standing Committee for Administrative Cooperation (SCAC), the VAT Council Party or Eurofisc since 2009.

- the Code of Conduct Group's Secretariat to provide all documents related to the Code of Conduct Group, taking into account the Recommendations made by the Ombudsman on 9 February 2018 (see Annex III).

J. Indicative timetable of report

This item was postponed.

PREPARATION OF THE NEXT COORDINATORS MEETING

K. Topics for next hearings/studies/ destinations for missions

The Political Groups were invited to submit the secretariat with a first set of suggestions for hearing, missions and studies by 23 March 2018. These proposals will be discussed at the next Coordinators' meeting of 27 March.

In addition, the Political Groups will be invited to make suggestions and/or additional proposals in written by 10 April for decision at the Coordinators' meeting on 12 April;

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

L. Any other business

A question from Green Coordinators was raised related to the withdrawal of the EP access badges of Caterpillar and the Swedish Bank Association.

The ENF coordinator suggested the Committee to ask the French judicial authorities to provide all the documents pertaining to the investigations involving former French President Nicolas Sarkozy, including his indictment, which concern alleged revelations of money laundering and electoral fraud in 2007. The Coordinators did not support the request given that the investigations are ongoing.

The Coordinators tasked the Secretariat to produce a table compiling the TAXE, TAX2 and PANA recommendations and their state of implementation.

M. Time and date of next Coordinators' meeting

- Tuesday, 27 March, 15:00-17:00
- Thursday, 12 April 14:00-16:00