

Amendment of Rule 51: joint committee meetings

European Parliament decision of 23 June 2011 on the amendment of Rule 51 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure on procedures with joint committee meetings (2010/2061(REG))

The European Parliament,

- having regard to the letter of 11 March 2010 from the chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs and to the letter of 25 March 2010 from the chair of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Food Safety,
 - having regard to Rules 211 and 212 of its Rules of Procedure,
 - having regard to the report of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs (A7-0197/2011),
1. Decides to amend its Rules of Procedure as shown below;
 2. Points out that the amendment will enter into force on the first day of the next part-session;
 3. Instructs its President to forward this decision to the Council and the Commission, for information.

Amendment 1

Parliament's Rules of Procedure Rule 51

Present text

Where the conditions set out in Rule 49(1) and Rule 50 are fulfilled, the Conference of Presidents may, ***if it is satisfied that the matter is of major importance,*** decide that ***a*** procedure with joint meetings of committees and a joint vote is to be applied. In that event, the rapporteurs ***concerned*** shall draw up a single draft report, which shall be examined and voted on by the committees involved at joint meetings held under the joint chairmanship of the committee Chairs concerned. The committees involved may set up ***inter-committee*** working groups to prepare the ***joint*** meetings and votes.

Amendment

1. When a question of competence is referred to it pursuant to Rule 188(2), the Conference of Presidents may decide that ***the*** procedure with joint meetings of committees and a joint vote is to be applied, ***provided that:***

– by virtue of Annex VII, the matter falls indissociably within the competences of

several committees; and

– it is satisfied that the question is of major importance.

2. In that event, the *respective* rapporteurs shall draw up a single draft report, which shall be examined and voted on by the committees concerned, under the joint chairmanship of the committee Chairs.

At all stages of the procedure, the rights attaching to the status of committee responsible may be exercised by the committees concerned only when they are acting jointly. The committees involved may set up working groups to prepare the meetings and votes.

3. *At the second-reading stage of the ordinary legislative procedure, the Council position shall be considered at a joint meeting of the committees concerned, which, should no agreement be reached between their Chairs, shall be held on the Wednesday of the first week set aside for meetings of parliamentary bodies following the communication of the Council's position to Parliament. Should no agreement be reached on the convening of a further meeting, any such meeting shall be convened by the Chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs. The vote on the recommendation for second reading shall be taken at a joint meeting on the basis of a joint text drafted by the respective rapporteurs of the committees concerned or, in the absence of a joint text, on the basis of the amendments tabled in the committees concerned.*

At the third-reading stage of the ordinary legislative procedure, the Chairs and rapporteurs of the committees concerned shall be ex officio members of the delegation to the Conciliation Committee.