

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PRESIDENTIAL TROIKA OF COSAC**  
**Nicosia, Cyprus, 14 October 2012**

**PRESENT AT THE MEETING**

CHAIR: Mr Averof NEOFYTOU (*Vouli ton Antiprosopon*, Cyprus).

Mr Christos STYLIANIDES (*Vouli ton Antiprosopon*, Cyprus), Ms Eva KJER HANSEN (*Folketinget*, Denmark), Mr Dominic HANNIGAN (*Dáil Éireann*, Ireland), Mr Miguel Ángel MARTÍNEZ MARTÍNEZ and Mr Carlo CASINI (European Parliament).

**AGENDA**

- 1. Adoption of the agenda of the Meeting of the Presidential Troika of COSAC**
- 2. Approval of the draft programme of the XLVIII COSAC**
- 3. Presentation of the 18th Bi-annual Report of COSAC**
- 4. Debate on the draft Contribution and Conclusions of the XLVIII COSAC**
- 5. Letters received by the Presidency**
- 6. Any other business**

**PROCEEDINGS**

**1. Adoption of the agenda of the Meeting of the Presidential Troika of COSAC.**

The meeting was chaired by Mr Averof NEOFYTOU, Chairman of the House Standing Committee on Foreign and European Affairs, Cyprus *Vouli ton Antiprosopon*, who welcomed the delegations of the Presidential Troika of COSAC (hereinafter referred to as "the Troika").

In the absence of any objection, the agenda of the meeting of the Troika was adopted without amendment.

**2. Approval of the draft programme of the XLVIII COSAC**

In the absence of any objection, the draft programme of the meeting of the XLVIII COSAC was adopted without amendment.

**3. Presentation of the 18th Bi-annual Report of COSAC**

Mr NEOFYTOU invited the Permanent Member of the COSAC Secretariat, Ms Libby KURIEN, to give a short presentation of the 18th Bi-annual Report of COSAC.

Ms KURIEN presented the report aiming to exchange information on parliamentary procedures and practices and to inform the debates taking place in COSAC, providing details on its four chapters tackling 1) relations between the European institutions, 2) the Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the economic and monetary

union and the role of Parliaments, 3) Energy - trans European energy infrastructure, and 4) Single Market governance.

Mr MARTÍNEZ MARTÍNEZ expressed the view that the report could be adopted as it was since it reflected the answers given by national Parliaments to the questionnaire. He explained that the answers provided by the European Parliament had been elaborated by the administration and had not been formally ratified by political bodies because of the summer recess. In the meantime, however, the political decision-making bodies had fully endorsed the responses and that the document submitted had gained the support of the European Parliament as such.

Ms KJER HANSEN said that the report was well prepared expressing her satisfaction for the inclusion of a chapter on Single Market governance. She noted that the report had shown that there was more room for working more with Single Market issues in national Parliaments.

Mr CASINI welcomed the fact that all Parliaments/Chambers had responded to the questionnaire, as it showed that all members of COSAC were interested in the European Union.

Mr NEOFYTOU reiterated that the report was well prepared and mentioned that Single Market governance was the way forward to tackle the financial crisis.

#### **4. Debate on the draft Contribution and Conclusions of the XLVIII COSAC**

Mr NEOFYTOU said that the Presidency had received amendments from the European Parliament, the Polish *Sejm* and the Swedish *Riksdag*.

Mr MARTÍNEZ MARTÍNEZ expressed the view that the amendments seemed to be admissible and that usually more amendments were submitted during the meeting.

Mr HANNIGAN said that the amendments generally looked fine.

#### **5. Letters received by the Presidency**

Mr NEOFYTOU informed the members of the Troika about two letters that the Presidency had received:

- A letter from the Estonian *Riigikogu* regarding the traditional informal consultations of the European Union Affairs Committees of the Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian and Polish parliaments.
- A letter from the Hungarian *Országgyűlés* regarding the meeting of the parliamentary EU Affairs Committees of the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Poland and Hungary in which the Croatian European Integration Committee participated for the first time.

#### **6. Any other business**

Mr MARTÍNEZ MARTÍNEZ welcomed the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to the European Union stating that it was, as well, an award to national Parliaments and the

European Parliament for very specific reasons. In this context, he underlined that it constituted both recognition of and a challenge for the European Union to maintain those specific reasons for which the award was granted. He further added that the award was a very important event especially in a country like Cyprus which had been suffering more than others from the consequences of lack of peace.

Mr NEOFYTOU agreed with Mr MARTÍNEZ MARTÍNEZ's comment stating that the comment was included in the next day's introductory remarks, but that it would be presented on behalf of the Troika at the beginning of the meeting.

Mr HANNIGAN announced that the COSAC Chairpersons meeting would be taking place in Dublin on 27 and 28 January 2013 and that the COSAC Plenary would be taking place in the same place on 23-25 June 2013.