

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PRESIDENTIAL TROIKA OF COSAC

The Hague, the Netherlands, 12 June 2016

PRESENT AT THE MEETING

CO-CHAIRS: Mr Tuur ELZINGA, Chair of the Committee for European Affairs, Dutch *Eerste Kamer*, Mr Malik AZMANI, Chair of Committee for European Affairs, Dutch *Tweede Kamer*.

Mr uboš BLAHA, Chair of the Committee on European Affairs, Slovak *Národná rada*, Ms Katarína CSÉFALVAYOVÁ and Mr Martin KLUS, Vice-Chairs of the Committee on European Affairs, Slovak *Národná rada*; Mr Marc ANGEL, Chair of the Committee on Foreign and European Affairs, Defence, Cooperation and Immigration, Luxembourg *Chambre des Députés*; Mr Ramón Luis VALCÁRCEL SISO, Vice-President and Ms Danuta HÜBNER, Chair of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs, European Parliament.

AGENDA

- 1. Adoption of the agenda of the meeting of the Presidential Troika meeting of COSAC**
- 2. Approval of the draft programme of the meeting of the LV COSAC meeting**
- 3. Presentation of the 25th Bi-annual Report of COSAC**
- 4. Debate on the draft Contribution of the LV COSAC meeting**
- 5. Letters received by the Presidency**
- 6. Any other business**

PROCEEDINGS

1. Adoption of the agenda of the meeting of the Presidential Troika meeting of COSAC

Mr Malik AZMANI welcomed, also on behalf of Mr Tuur ELZINGA, 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 meeting of the LV COSAC meeting

Mr AZMANI gave a brief outline of the programme of the LV COSAC meeting, and informed the Troika members about the use during the upcoming plenary meeting of the same innovative tools that were used during the Chairpersons meeting in February 2016. The LV COSAC would focus on five topics each of which would be debated under the guidance of a moderator in five different sessions:

- Session I: Parliamentary scrutiny, an exchange of best practices;
- Session II: The role of Parliaments in Protecting the Rule of Law within the EU
- Session III: Exchange of best practices and experiences in Parliamentary Diplomacy
- Session IV: European Court of Auditors
- Session V: Migration

The draft programme of the LV COSAC was approved without amendment.

3. Presentation of the 25th Bi-annual Report of COSAC

Mr AZMANI invited the Permanent Member of the COSAC secretariat, Ms Christiana FRYDA, to give an outline of the presentation of the 25th Bi-annual Report of COSAC, which was based on Parliaments' replies to the related questionnaire circulated to delegations on 29 February 2016 with a deadline of 29 March 2016 for submitting replies.

Ms FRYDA briefly referred to the three chapters of the 25th Bi-annual Report of COSAC. The first one dealt with modes and experiences of national scrutiny; the second one focused on the rule of law and the role of Parliaments; and the third one concentrated on parliamentary diplomacy in the framework of the European Neighbourhood Policy. As Ms FRYDA explained, in her presentation the following day, she would focus on the first chapter, while the other two chapters would be presented under each relevant session by the moderators.

4. Debate on the draft Contribution of the LV COSAC meeting

The draft text of the contributions was, as Mr AZMANI explained, circulated to delegations on 30 May 2016. Amendments received from delegations were, together with the initial text of the draft contributions and a number of compromise proposals elaborated by the Presidency, included in a table that was submitted to the Troika.

Following a detailed examination of each amendment proposed, the Troika, on the basis of the Presidency's compromise proposals, drafted a modified text of the contributions. The European Parliament agreed to the compromise text with the exception of paragraph 6.4. Mr AZMANI then proposed that this text would be presented as the basis for further deliberations to the Chairpersons of COSAC the following day. The amendments received by delegations that had been included in the Troika's modified text would not be put to a vote. Delegations, still supporting their initial amendment submitted or proposing new amendments, would be asked to submit these as new amendments before noon the following day.

5. Letters received by the Presidency

The Chair referred to the following letters:

- Letter from Mr Kalle PALLING, Chair of the European Union Affairs Committee of the Estonian *Riigikogu*, with a request for assistance in facilitating an informal session in the margins of the plenary COSAC on collaborative economy.
- Letter from Mr Carles ENSENAT, Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Andorra *Consell General*, regarding participation at COSAC. After consultation with the Troika, a letter of invitation had been sent out.

With regard to the request of Mr PALLING, the Presidency had sent a letter with a positive response to the request. The side session mentioned in the programme would take place on Monday during the lunch break. Furthermore, Mr AZMANI informed the Troika about an additional side session on the implementation of the Single European Sky that was taking place during the lunch break on Monday; the meeting was organised on the request of two members of the Dutch *Tweede Kamer*, who were rapporteurs on the dossier.

6. Any other business

No other business.