

Delegation for relations with the Mashreq countries

Eighth European Parliament-Egypt interparliamentary meeting

19 to 25 November 2006

Report by Mrs Beatrice Patrie, delegation chairman

1. Meeting with Mr Ahmed Sorour, Speaker of the People's Assembly

The meeting with the Speaker of the People's Assembly focused mainly on internal and foreign policy issues. In his view the key foreign policy issue was the Israel-Palestine conflict. In his speech the previous day, President Mubarak had described this situation as a major stumbling block to which a solution had to be found to bring peace to the region.

Mr Sorour considered that terrorism in the region was nourished by the Palestinian situation. For that reason he welcomed the recent initiatives by France, Italy and Spain which unfortunately had been blocked immediately by the United States and Israel. However, there was no need to go back to square one. The Madrid conference, the Oslo agreement, the roadmap and the various resolutions could all provide a starting point.

The Palestinian Government had been elected in a free election, with assistance from European observers. It was not possible to change governments constantly. It was up to Israel to change its attitude to the Palestinians through a more balanced policy. For its part, by refusing to formally recognise Israel, Hamas was giving Israel a tactical advantage. The Egyptian Government had found a solution to release the kidnapped Israeli soldiers, but unfortunately this initiative had failed.

Mr Sorour welcomed European policy as fair and confidence-boosting for the Arab world. He considered the war against **Iraq** illegal. He had already expressed his opinion to the American ambassador before the American invasion of Iraq, that a war in Iraq would be a second Vietnam for the Americans. The solution to this type of conflict was not force.

The Arab world supported the **Iranian Government's** policy, as Iran was defending the Palestinian cause. Iran's power could only be confirmed by the persistence of the Palestine-Israel conflict.

He was extremely concerned by the **situation in Lebanon**. Hezbollah had found a pretext – the occupation of farms in Shebaa – to declare hostilities, provoking an overreaction by Israel. Mr Sorour stressed that the key issue was the Israel-Palestine conflict, and the consequences that would follow from the lack of a quick solution to bring peace to the region. Terrorism would increase, and also threats of destabilisation, and Iran would be confirmed as a powerful nation, which would have direct consequences for Europe and the rest of the world.

On internal policy, President Mubarak's speech the previous day at the reconvening of the People's Assembly had contained several positive proposals for reform: Article 76 of the Constitution, concerning the **state of emergency**, would be amended so that in future the Assembly would also be consulted on this matter. Other reforms concerned electing the

President directly by the people, **decentralisation**, the role of the **Council of State** and the **anti-terrorism law**. The ultimate aim of these reforms was to re-establish a balance between the institutions concerned.

2. Meeting with Mr Mustafa El-Fiki, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee

Mr El-Fiki painted a sombre picture of the region: the situation approaching civil war in Iraq and Gaza, the risk of civil war in Lebanon and the situation in Darfur. He urged support for the Lebanese Government in the face of threats of destabilisation which, he said, could lead to a new civil war.

On the issue of relations with the **United States**, he stressed the strategic partnership linking the USA to Egypt, considering that a confrontation between these two countries would be impossible. Nevertheless, the unconditional relationship between the United States and Israel was an obstacle to peace and was tending to weaken the United States' position in the Arab world. He also criticised American policy as being based on religious considerations. The Bush Government was attempting to convince people that all Muslims were extremists. But Egyptian society was rightly regarded as a symbol of tolerance: in the past the country had had a Jewish minister, while many Christians now lived in Egypt.

3. Meeting with Mr Mustafa El-Said, chairman of the Economic Affairs Committee

Mr El-Said said that since the end of the 1990s, Egypt had decided to change from a centralised economy to a market economy modelled on the Washington consensus, characterised by liberalisation, privatisation and stability.

However, liberalisation had not been entirely smooth: the level of industrialisation had been too low and competitiveness too weak, which together with demographic pressure had led to social tensions. And Egypt had to take account of some environmental standards and social security requirements imposed on it by the EU, while other partners such as China did not. Similarly, the EU's policy had also been criticised because of its low level of investment (FDI) in Egypt. On the other hand, China, India and Brazil, which had agreed to technology transfers, could be interesting trade partners.

He set a very ambitious agenda for Egypt and also hoped for further European commitment to modernise education and infrastructure, improve the road and rail networks, and develop electricity supply and water treatment. Modernisation of the railways alone needed investments of around \$1 billion.

4. Meeting with Mr Mohammed Al-Sharif, Speaker of the Shura Council

Mr Al-Sharif began with the internal political situation: the reform of the Constitution announced by President Mubarak, the transition from a single-party to a multiparty system, press freedom and the 'Human Rights Council' which had been appointed by the Shura were all positive signs for the development of Egyptian society.

Egypt was subject to strong internal pressures because of the ongoing Israel-Palestine conflict and the attempts by the Muslim Brotherhood to tip Egypt into a military confrontation. He was critical of the American view which was trying to impose democracy from outside and stressed the importance of the European Parliament resolution on the situation in Gaza. He was in favour of mobilising a protection force in Gaza and of convening an international peace conference as part of cooperation between Egypt and the European Union.

5. Meeting with Mr Mufid Shehab, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs

The main topic of this meeting was the reforms announced on 18 November 2006 by President Mubarak. These reforms include reinforcing the Assembly's budgetary powers, obliging the Government to obtain a vote of confidence from the Assembly, independence of the judiciary and reform of the state of emergency under Article 76 of the Constitution.

The Constitution would continue to prohibit the formation of religious parties. At present the 88 Assembly members elected from an independent list, which included the Muslim Brotherhood, did not have the status of a party or a political group. On 8 December 2006 President Mubarak would send his proposal to the Assembly as part of the consultation procedure.

At regional level, Mr Shehab urged support for the Lebanese Government and the International Court. He reiterated the Egyptian position which was calling for a government of national unity in Palestine, and an end to terrorism against Israel, and considered that negotiation was the only possible course of action.

6. Meeting with the National Human Rights Council

The National Human Rights Council was set up two and a half years ago in response to European concerns. Its chairman is Mr Boutros Boutros Ghali, former United Nations Secretary-General. It publishes an annual report. As its vice-chairman admitted, the Council's main achievement has been to formulate criticism and general recommendations on the human rights situation in the country (state of emergency, electoral process, etc).

On the other hand, in the absence of a regulatory procedure, the treatment of individual cases remained largely unsatisfactory: during the first year, 24% of cases obtained a response. The following year, this figure went up to 47%. It is planned to create a post of ombudsman.

The European delegation was able to discuss in particular issues of civil rights, women's rights, homosexuality, and torture in police stations. Overall, this institution's record is positive and it is also financially independent. It could serve as an example to other Arab countries.

7. Meeting with Mr Amin Abaza, Minister of Agriculture

Mr Abaza set out a positive vision of agricultural cooperation between the European Union and Egypt, was concerned at the implications for agriculture of Turkey's possible membership of the EU, and had questions about the future common agriculture policy. He stressed that control of water was a key issue and that modernisation was needed, for example 40% of water collected was lost, as was 40% of tomato production.

Mr Abaza called for a wider agricultural partnership with Europe and indicated that Egypt had an agricultural deficit and that European assistance could help towards sustainable maintenance of the rural population.

8. Meeting with Mr Ali Al-Sayed Ali Al- Muselhi, Minister of Social Solidarity

The minister outlined a plan which aimed to assist the poorest 15% of the population in three years. Starting out from a centralised economy, Egypt had to face up to a demographic challenge while providing a safety net and social protection. Thus 1.2 million Egyptians received financial or food aid. Social stability was ensured by subsidising bread, which helped 67% of the population and cost more than one billion euro.

The Social Solidarity Ministry was a new ministry grouping several administrations together; it intended to encourage the work of NGOs. Replying to a European delegation question on microcredit, the minister stressed the limits of a system directed at people with little training in management, and proposed setting up a service centre.

9. Meeting with the Judges' Club

Since it was set up in 1939, the Judges' Club, of which about 10 000 judges of all kinds are members, had been campaigning for judicial independence. It supported the recently announced reforms, except for the abolition of judges' supervisory role in elections. At present judges played an essential role in elections: they were responsible for drawing up electoral lists and supervising the counting of votes, and a judge had to be present at every polling station.

The 2005 elections had been marred by some irregularities. The Judges' Club took a keen interest in the case of the two judges who criticised the conduct and result of the elections. The penalty imposed on one of the two judges would, however, be repealed shortly.

The state of emergency should be called off as it gave judges exorbitant common law powers. One of the tasks of the judiciary was to supervise police stations, as well as the humanitarian and health situation in prisons, which was unfortunately very difficult because of the political situation. This should be remedied. The judges welcomed further cooperation with the EU with regard to increased independence of the judiciary and the separation of powers.

10. Meeting with the director of the Anna Lindh Foundation

Aware of the key role that the Foundation has to play in Euromed cultural exchanges, the European delegation asked for a meeting with the director of the Foundation. The delegation chairman was concerned at the lack of visibility of Foundation activities and its obvious operational difficulties. The director replied, firstly, that the Foundation regularly published communiqués, for example on the Internet, by e-mail and in the Commission's Euromed Synopsis which appeared twice a month. If that was not enough, other communication channels could be envisaged.

With regard to financial management, three quarters of the budget had been allocated to various projects, specifically 28 projects at a total cost of €1 billion. The difficulties with regard to allocating funds were due to the way projects had to be distributed among 35 member states (25 EU Member States and 10 Mediterranean countries).

He admitted that the Foundation had encountered some staffing difficulties. Of the 30 employees, of whom 10 were officials, three were working under difficult conditions as they also had to carry out administrative tasks. An anonymous letter, of which he had not been informed, had been sent to the Commission. This issue had been discussed by the Board of Governors two weeks previously.

According to its director, the Foundation did not have a management problem, but did have problems resulting from a lack of administrative staff. He had hoped to take on an applicant with suitable qualifications for the post, but the Commission had insisted on a tendering procedure. Moreover, the vague status of the Foundation led to different and contradictory ideas. The Commission supervised its operations, and the director had asked the Board of Governors for an audit. The director promised the delegation that he would send the MEPs more information after the next meeting of the Foundation's Council, which the delegation noted.

11. Meeting with various civil society organisations

One representative considered that the European position was weakening in the face of the American position on the Israel-Palestine conflict. A representative of a human rights organisation spoke positively of the EU, considering that the government had taken account of the partnership with Europe in its approach to human rights. His strongest criticisms were directed at the emergency law as being against the Constitution which was intended to uphold liberty, and at the practice of torture which was fairly widespread in police stations and prisons. He criticised the work of the National Human Rights Council as none of its proposals had been followed up by action, and was concerned that women were not playing a sufficiently prominent role in society. His organisation had observed the elections and he considered the Islamists a threat to the progress of democracy.

The representative of a workers' organisation criticised the meagre opportunities in the area of trade unionism. Although the relevant conventions had been signed in Egypt, it remained almost impossible to create trade unions. In the elections, the workers' candidates had been practically excluded from the lists, resulting in a low level of participation. A law of 2003 provided for the possibility of an appeal, but it would require the approval of two thirds of the unions, which was impossible in practice. Working conditions, a 60- to 70-hour week and a minimum wage of EGP90 (€16) per month, also provoked extremely negative reactions. Labour costs, in the textile industry for example, were the lowest of all the Arab countries. The representative described President Mubarak's declarations as a manoeuvre.

12. Meeting with the Foreign Affairs Minister, Mr Ahmed Aboul Gheit

The Minister pointed out that Egypt constituted a stabilising factor in a very troubled region, with the Israel-Palestine conflict and the situations in Iraq, Lebanon and Darfur. He stressed the need for partnership with Europe.

Any military solution to the Israel-Palestine conflict was excluded. Historically, the relationship between the two peoples had developed from 1947, when Palestine had been divided into two equal parts, to the present, when Israel occupied 78% of the territory and was on the point of awarding itself 10% of the 22% which remained Palestinian. If Israel kept the 22% as it was, he thought that it would be possible to persuade the Palestinians to accept the situation. Moreover, 40% of the settlements were on Palestinian land that belonged to Palestinians. Evidently, Israel thought it could resolve this problem by force. An end to this conflict was urgently needed, without which extremism would be more and more successful, arising out of people's feelings of humiliation and frustration. The roadmap, which had lost all credibility, should be abandoned, and an international conference and bilateral negotiations should take its place.

The Minister described relations with the United States as positive and stable, although Egypt had been against America's involvement in Iraq. He was concerned at the growing isolation of the United States in the Arab world as a result of its incomprehension of the Israel-Palestine crisis and a unilateral vision that was doomed to failure.

13. Meeting with representatives of the Al Wasat party

In his introduction, the representative of the Al Wasat party pointed out that it had been 11 years since his party had applied for authorisation. He was expecting a ruling in January 2007. The long and difficult procedures and a certain amount of pressure on citizens were leading to an overrepresentation of the Muslim Brotherhood, which had received 35% of the votes.

Although there was a reference to Islam in its statutes, the party considered itself as a non-religious party which wanted to represent all strata of society. Originally, the party had included members of the Muslim Brotherhood as well, but as they had been unable to accept progressive ideas, such as for example equality between men and women and respect for different religions and democratic principles, they had decided to leave.

There was certainly a reference to Sharia law at Article 2 of the Constitution, but it should be interpreted in a way that enabled the country to progress. He considered that Sharia law should be seen as an ideology. The statement by the Minister of Culture at the beginning of the week, who said that he considered that wearing the veil was a backward step, offended the majority of women. He called for the Minister to apologise and resign.

He described the current regime as authoritarian. Establishment of a democracy would enable many problems to be resolved, particularly economic problems, which would bring about a fairer society. Nonetheless, he expressed some doubts as to the definition of the concept of 'democracy': the concept of democracy that was valid in the West could not automatically be transposed into his country. He considered the reforms proposed by President Mubarak as a manoeuvre to evade the reform movement. Combating terrorism had always served as a pretext for maintaining the emergency law.

14. Meeting with representatives of the Muslim Brotherhood

This group claims to represent most of the population. It has only 88 seats in the People's Assembly, which is 17% of the total number of seats. It claims that if the elections had been

free, it would have won another 40 seats. The representatives were keen to engage in dialogue with the European delegation.

The organisation was represented in various sectors of the population and consequently within the student population as well, but students were not able to elect their representatives in free elections. Members of the Muslim Brotherhood had all been sidelined in the Assembly's organisational structures.

The representatives expressed the following views on their organisation's programme.

- In the area of **politics**, they supported the main freedoms, the multiparty system, the right to create organisations, freedom of expression, equality between men and women and the principle of being able to change the government, as long as Islamic values provided the foundation.
- **Economic** reforms were needed to combat poverty more effectively. 60% of the population were living below the poverty threshold. Precise rules for privatisation should be established. They considered that it was not normal to need to import agricultural products and arms, given that Egypt formerly used to produce plenty of these products.
- In the area of **culture**, particular attention should be paid to eastern society.

They considered that the situation had worsened in relation to what it had been two years previously. The group would table amendments to the Constitution to change Article 77 which provided for the post of President to be held for life.

Asked why the political classes in power feared the Muslim Brotherhood, they replied that they were in favour of greater transparency and against corruption, which was considered to be Egypt's cancer. The State was profiting from the emergency laws which enabled it to maintain the current system.

15. Aswan - programme to combat female genital mutilation (FGM)

The practice of FGM is very widespread in the central part of Africa. This represents a tradition rather than a religious teaching, since both Christianity and Islam prohibit mutilation. The NGOs conducting this programme work with more than 120 villages. It is estimated that the work carried out by the government and the NGOs supported by Europe (69% of the funding) has reduced FGM from 82% in 1995 to 71% in 2003. The NGOs work through doctors, disseminate educational material and aim to change mentalities. More than 70 doctors are participating in this programme.

16. Aswan – programme to care for the disabled and protect infants

The delegation held a dialogue with NGOs working on setting up health centres in rural villages in Upper Egypt. More than 36% of children had a disability and less than 3% were receiving appropriate care. Moreover, the NGO said that liberalisation of health services had led to a worsening of basic services. The NGO maintained contact with almost 900 families and cared for nearly 300 disabled children.

17. Aswan – meeting with the Governor of Aswan

The Governor stressed several points. He said his governorship's policy proactively supported equality between men and women and drew attention to one of the highest rates of education in the country. He stressed the demographic issue and the importance of regional development. He defended the Toska project which aimed to turn one million hectares in the middle of the desert into agricultural land by means of new irrigation. The plan was to create a network of 17 new towns by attracting private investors and international support.

18. Conclusions of the report

Egypt is a giant and its importance seems to be underestimated.

With more than 74 million inhabitants, set to become 100 million in the next 20 years, Egypt's development now appears to be on a positive course. With a growth rate of nearly 7%, a threefold increase in FDI in two years, and reduced debt, Egypt seems to have its main economic balances well in hand. However, the transition to a market economy will not be achieved without some major upheavals, particularly in the social area.

This demographic giant is also clearly an influential player at regional and continental level. It has an essential regional role as a stabilising factor in the Israel-Palestine conflict; Egypt is in favour of a negotiated and sustainable solution. At the continental level, Egypt sees itself as a leader of the whole of Africa and thus is claiming a permanent seat on the United Nations Security Council when it is remodelled. Egypt also has an important position in maintaining balances in the Arab-Muslim sphere. In fact, it is a major Sunni power, together with Saudi Arabia, and holds undeniable spiritual authority with the influence of the Great Mosque at Cairo; it can embody a modernist and moderate view of Islam.

Finally, it should be noted that Egypt is seeking to balance a partnership which to date has been exclusively with the United States by developing closer relations with Europe and also with China and Russia.

Stronger links and partnership with Egypt are therefore a vital key to European influence in the region and an essential basis for the development of the Euro-Mediterranean political and economic area.



PARLAMENTO EUROPEO EVROPSKÝ PARLAMENT EUROPA-PARLAMENTET
 EUROPÄISCHES PARLAMENT EUROOPA PARLAMENT ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΟ ΚΟΙΝΟΒΟΥΛΙΟ EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT
 PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN PARLAMENTO EUROPEO EIROPAS PARLaments
 EUROPOS PARLAMENTAS EURÓPAI PARLAMENT IL-PARLAMENT EWROPEW EUROPEES PARLEMENT
 PARLAMENT EUROPEJSKI PARLAMENTO EUROPEU EURÓPSKY PARLAMENT
 EVROPSKI PARLAMENT EUROOPAN PARLAMENTTI EUROPAPARLAMENTET

DELEGATION POUR LES RELATIONS AVEC LES PAYS DU MASHREK

8ème Rencontre interparlementaire Parlement européen - Égypte 19-25 novembre 2006

* Programme *

Dimanche, 19 novembre 2006

Arrivée des membres de la délégation au Caire et transfert à

Hôtel Marriott

16 Saray El Gezira street, Zamalek, Cairo
Tél 20/2/7358888 * Fax 20/2/7356667

- 20.30 Départ de l'hôtel Marriott
- 21.00 Briefing avec la Troïka et la Commission européenne, les représentants des députés et leurs ambassadeurs respectifs, suivi d'un cocktail

Lieu : Résidence du chef de la délégation de la Commission, Zamalek

Lundi, 20 novembre 2006

Rencontres au Parlement Egyptien

- 09.30 Départ de l'hôtel Marriott
- 10.00 • Président de l'Assemblée du Peuple, Dr. Ahmed Fathy Sorour
- 11.00 • Président de la Commission des Affaires étrangères de l'Assemblée du Peuple, Mr. Mustapha EL-FIKHI, et ses membres

- 12.00 • Président de la Commission des Affaires économiques de l'Assemblée du Peuple, Mr. Mustapha EL-SAID, et ses membres
- 13.00 • Visite de courtoisie au Président du Conseil Shoura, M. Mohamed Saffwat ElShareef
- 14.00 • Rencontre avec le Ministre d'Etat des affaires légales et parlementaires, Dr. Mofied SHEHAB
- Lieu: Toutes les réunions se tiendront à l'Assemblée du Peuple - Assemblée du Peuple, St., Garden City*
- 15.00 Déjeuner avec l'Assemblée du Peuple offert par Mr. Mustapha El-Said, Président de la Commission des Affaires économiques de l'Assemblée du Peuple
- Lieu : Cairo Capital Club, 9 Rostom Street, Garden City
Tel. + (202) 796 42 27*
- ... Rencontre avec le directeur et assistants de la fondation "Anna Lindh"
- Lieu : Hôtel Marriott (à confirmer)*
- 18.00 Rencontre avec Dr Ahmed Kamel Abu El-Magd, Vice-président du Conseil national des droits de l'Homme accompagné par quelques membres du Conseil et d'autres personnalités concernées par les droits de l'homme (à confirmer)
- Lieu : Locaux du Conseil national des droits de l'Homme
1113 Corniche El Nile, 11th floor
Tel. + (20/2) 574-5830 – Fax: + (20/2)574-5776*
- 20.00 Réunion avec le Président du "Judges Club", Mr. Zakaria ABDELAZIZ, et ses membres
- Lieu: Bâtiment Court de Cassation - Abdel Khalkh Tharwat St., Downtown
Tel. + (20/2) 757-9686*
- 21.30 Soirée libre

Mardi, 21 novembre 2006

Rencontres avec les Ministres

- 09.10 Départ de l'hôtel Marriott
- 09.30 Rencontre avec M. Ahmed ABUL GHEIT, ministre des Affaires étrangères
- Lieu : Ministère des Affaires étrangères - Masbero - Kornish El Nile St.
Tel. + (20/2) 574-6862/5746-861*
- 10.30 Briefing à l'hôtel Marriott
- 11.00 Départ de l'hôtel Marriott

- 11.30 Rencontre avec M. Amin Ahmed Mohamed Othman ABAZA, ministre de l'Agriculture et "réclamation des terres"
*Lieu : Ministère de l'Agriculture 5 Hunting Club St., Dokki-Giza
Tél. + (20/2) 761-5967/72*
- 13.00 Rencontre avec M. Ali El-Sayed Ali AL-MOSELHI, Ministre de la "Solidarité/Affaires sociales"
*Lieu : Ministère de la Solidarité/Affaires sociales -
19 El Maraghee St.- Agouza
Tel. + (20/2) 337-0039*
- 14.00 Conférence de presse suivie d'un buffet
*Lieu : Hôtel Marriott
16 Saray El Gezira street, Zamalek, Cairo
Tél 20/2/7358888 * Fax 20/2/7356667*
- à confirmer Rencontre avec les partis d'opposition :
 - Al Wafd,*Lieu: 1, Boulous Hanna St., El-Dokki*
- Rencontres avec les partis de l'opposition
- 18.00
 - Al Ghad*Lieu: Esha El Taymorja St., Garden City*
- 19.00
 - Al Wasat*Lieu : 51, El Kasr El Aini St., Garden City*
- 19h30 Retour à l'hotel

Mercredi, 22 novembre 2006

- 10h30 Rencontre avec représentants des ONGs
- Participants:
- Mr. Bahey El-Din HASSAN, Cairo Institute for Human Rights Study
 - Mr. Hafez ABU SADA, Egyptian Organization for Human Rights
 - Mr. Kamal ABBASS, Centre for Workers and Trade Union Services
 - Mr. Hossam BAHGAT, Egyptian Institute for Personal Rights
- Lieu: Delegation of the EC - 37 Gameat El Dowal Al Arabeya St., 11th floor*
- à confirmer rencontres demandées avec :
 - Ministre de l'Intérieur
 - Ministre du Commerce
 - Ministre de la Justice
 - Ministre de la Coopération internationale
 - Mme Mubarak
 - M. Gamal Mubarak

20h00 Rencontre avec :
Al Wafd - Place: 1Boulos Hannah St., Dokki..
Soirée libre

Jeudi, 23 novembre 2006

10h00 Départ de l'hôtel pour l'aéroport
12h30 Départ pour Assouan (vol MS 137 Egyptair)
13h55 Arrivée à Assouan et transfert à
[Hôtel Old Cataract](#)
Adresse : Abtal El Tahrir Street, Aswan, Egypt
Tél. : (+20)97/2316000 * Fax : (+20)97/2316011
16h00 Rencontre avec "Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) - Free Village Model" projet (UNDP)
Lieu: Old Cataract Hotel
17h00 Réunion avec 2 ONGs - projet "Children at risk"
Lieu: Old Cataract Hotel
21.00 Rencontre avec le General Samir YOUSEF, Gouverneur d'Assouan
Soirée libre

Vendredi, 24 novembre 2006

10h00 Visite du barrage d'Assouan
Visite du Musée Nubian à Assouan

Samedi, 25 novembre 2006

Retour en Europe

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH THE MASHREQ COUNTRIES

8TH EP/EGYPT INTERPARLIAMENTARY MEETING

19-25 November 2006

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

<u>Members</u> (5)	<u>Group</u>	<u>Country</u>
Mrs Béatrice PATRIE, Chair	PES	France
Mrs Adeline HAZAN	PES	France
Mr Tadeusz ZWIEFKA	EPP-ED	Poland
Mr Vito BONSIGNORE	EPP-ED	Italy

ABBREVIATIONS USED FOR POLITICAL GROUPS

- *PPE-DE : Group of the European People's Party (Christian Democrats) and European Democrats*
- *PSE : Socialist Group in the European Parliament*

External Policies DG (2)

Mr Hans-Hermann KRAUS	Administrator
Mr Francisco CABRAL	Administrative assistant

Political group staff (3)

Mr Paolo LICANDRO	Deputy Secretary General, EPP-ED group
Mr Jorge SOUTULLO	Advisor, EPP-ED group
Ms Valborg LINDEN JONSTEN	Advisor, PES group

Parliamentary assistants (2)

Mr Emanuel ESPANOL	P.A. Mrs Patrie
Mr Andrea CUCCHINI	P.A. Mr Bonsignori

Interpreters (4)

Ms Fadia HASHISH	Chef d'équipe (leader team)
Ms Iman SHAKEEB	
Ms Nirvana HASSAN	
Ms Claudine PIERSON-VISCOVI	