

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## **DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH SWITZERLAND, ICELAND, AND NORWAY AND TO THE EEA JOINT PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE**

### **MINUTES** of the **MEETING (Switzerland)** on **Thursday, 6 July 2006**

**Strasbourg**

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**18 October 2006**  
**HO/SN**

Annexes:     - List of participants  
              - List of first speakers

The meeting opened at 11.05 with Ms WALLIS in the chair.

1.

Draft agenda was adopted.

2.

The minutes had been distributed to members prior to the meeting. The minutes were approved.

**With a view to the 25th EU-Switzerland Interparliamentary Meeting to be held in Brussels on 10-11 July 2006**

3.

Unfortunately the Commission was, due to other obligations in Brussels, unable to send a representative to brief the delegation, but Ambassador MARFURT briefed members on the Swiss "Europe 2006 report" issued on 28 June 2006. The report highlighted the EU-Switzerland relations, including the EU enlargement process. The Ambassador commented on the question of having sectorial agreements in a framework agreement, on the bilateral agreement system, and on EU membership. An item of controversy was the tax system in the Swiss cantons, where the EU was claiming that the system was not in accordance with EU rules. However, Switzerland was of the opinion that the system was in compliance with the normal free trade agreements. Ambassador MARFURT further noted that Switzerland had scheduled a referendum for 27 November 2006 on the contribution to the EU cohesion, and the referendum should hopefully have a positive outcome.

In the exchange of views that followed there were interventions from Mr RÜBIG regarding Switzerland's position to the European Union, and Mr JANOWSKI on the issue of energy/gas safety. Ms WALLIS further expressed her content with the report, but was surprised to see EEA+ as an option for Switzerland. She also stated that differentiated EU membership would only be an option *after* full membership.

Ambassador MARFURT responded to questions raised saying that EEA+ and differentiated membership were not realistic options for Switzerland. The energy questions were being discussed at the moment, and the tax system was a constitutional question, which was sacred in Switzerland.

4.

The Chair presented the programme and the draft agenda for the next Interparliamentary Meeting, and this was followed by the nomination of first EP speakers (see Annex II). Ms BARSIPATAKY underlined that the first European Parliament speakers should present the Parliament's policy on the different items on the agenda.

5.

At its meeting on 5 May 2006 the SINEEA delegation decided to propose to the Conference of Presidents to send an EP delegation (consisting of 5 members of the SINEEA delegation) to the EFTA Conference on "European free trade in a globalised world" in Geneva on 16-17 November 2006. However, as members of the EP Committee on International Trade had also been invited to attend the EFTA Conference, the Chair of the SINEEA delegation and the Chair of the INTA Committee, Mr Enrique BARÒN CRESPO, had made a joint proposal for authorisation of an EP delegation consisting of 6 members to attend the Conference in Geneva. Mr RÜBIG stated that he was interested in participating in the meeting in Geneva.

6.

The next EU-Switzerland Interparliamentary Meeting is scheduled to take place 10-11 July in Brussels.

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The meeting closed at 12.00.

**DELTAGERLISTE/ANWESENHEITSLISTE/ΚΑΤΑΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD  
OF ATTENDANCE/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/LISTE DE PRESENCE/ELENCO DEI  
PRESENTI/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA**

Til stede	Formandskabet/Vorstand/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Ufficio di Presidenza/Mesa/Puhemiehisto/J.L. Presidium: (*) WALLIS (P), HEDKVIST PETERSEN (VP) Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Μέλη/Members/Diputados/Deputés/Deputati/Leden/Deputados/jäsenet/ BARSİ-PATAKY, JANOWSKI, RÜBIG
Anwesend	Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suplentes/Suppleants/ Membri supplenti/Plaatsvervangers/Membros suplentes/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter: KLINZ, SCHWAB
Παρόντες	
Present	
Presentes	
Présents	
Presenti	
Aanwezig	
Läsnä	
Närvarande	
Art. 147,7	
Art. 166,3	
Art. 162.6 Endv. Deltog/Weitere Teiln./ Συμμετείχαν επίσης/Also present Participaron igualmente/ Participaient également/ Hanno partecipato altresì/ Andere deelnemers/ Outros participantes/ Muut osallistujat/ Dessutom deltog	
(Dagsorden/Tagesordnung Pkt/Ημερήσια Διάταξη Σημεί/Point OJ/Punto OG/Agenda Punt/Ordem do dia- punto/punto orden del dia/ Esityslista Kohta/Föredragningslista punkt):	

\* (P) =Formand/Vorsitzender/Πρόεδρος/Chairman/President/Presidente/Voorzitter/Presidente/Puhemies/Ordförande  
(VP) =Næstform./Stellv. Vorsitz./?ντιπρόεδρος/Vice-Chairman/Vice-President/Vicepresidente/Varapuhemies  
Ondervoorz./Vice-Pres./Vicepres/Vice ordförande.

<p>Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung d. Vorsitzenden/Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chairman/Por invitacion del presidente/Sur l'invitation du président/Su invito del presidente/Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/A convite do presidente/Puhemiehen kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan:</p> <p>Radet/Rat/Συμβούλιο/Council/Consejo/Conseil/Consiglio/Raad/Conselho/Neuvosto/Radet: (*)</p> <p>CAVALLIN</p> <p>Kommissionen/Kommission/Επιτροπή/Commission/Comision/Commissione/Commissie/Comissão/Komissio/Kommissionen: (*)</p> <p>Mission Switzerland: Ambassador MARFURT</p>		
<p>Andre deltagere/Andere Teilnehmer Επίσης Παρόντες/Also present Otros participantes/Autres participants/Altri partecipanti Andere aanwezigen/Outros participantes Muut osallistajat/Övriga deltagare</p>		
<p>Gruppernes sekretariat Sekretariat der Fraktionen Γραμματεία των Πολ. Ομάδων Secretariat political groups Secr. de los grupos politicos Secr. groupes politiques Segr. dei gruppi politici Secr. van de fracties Secr. dos grupos políticos Puolueryhmien sihteeristö Grupernas sekretariat</p>	<p>PPE-DE PSE ALDE Verts/ALE GUE/NGL UEN EDD NI</p>	KAMMITSI, CRAYENCOUR
Cab. du Président		.
Cab. du Secrétaire Général		
<p>Generaldirektorat Generaldirektion Γενική Διεύθυνση Directorate-General Dirección general Direction générale Direzione generale Directoraat-generaal Direcção general Contrôle financier Service juridique Pääosasto Generaldirektorat</p>	<p>I II III IV V VI VII VIII</p>	STOKELIJ
<p>Udvalgssekretariatet Ausschußsekretariat Γραμματεία επιτροπής Committee secretariat Secretaria de la comisión Secrétariat de la commission Segretariato della commissione Commissiesecretariaat Secretaria de comissão Valiokunnan sihteeristö Utskottssekretariatet</p>		OLSEN
Assist./Βοηθός		SIEGISMUND

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT THE SWISS FEDERAL ASSEMBLY

## 25<sup>th</sup> EU-SWITZERLAND INTERPARLIAMENTARY MEETING

Monday 10 July and Tuesday 11 July 2006  
European Parliament  
**BRUSSELS**

### ***First Speakers***

1. Opening of the 25th EU-Switzerland Interparliamentary Meeting by Ms Diana WALLIS, Chair of the European Parliament Delegation and by Mr Eugen DAVID, Chair of the Swiss Delegation
  - Short overview of political situation in Switzerland and in the EU
5. Adoption of the draft agenda
3. The Swiss contribution to the European integration
  - **Mr Erwin JUTZET**
  - **Mr Andreas SCHWAB**
4. The constitutional process in the EU
  - **Mr Jens-Peter BONDE**
5. EU enlargements: experiences and perspectives
  - **Mr Mieczysław JANOWSKI**
6. Free Movement of Services
  - The Services Directive
  - **Mr Andreas SCHWAB**
7. The implementation of the bilateral agreements between Switzerland and the EU
  - **Mr Felix MURI**
  - **Mrs Diana WALLIS**
8. Current work of the EU-Switzerland joint committees
  - **Mr Hans Ulrich MATHYS / Mr Fabrice FILLIEZ**
  - **Mrs Diana WALLIS**
9. Any other business
10. Date and place of the next meeting

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10 July 2006/HO/CN