

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH THE GULF COUNTRIES INCLUDING YEMEN

PE/DGUL-13/PV/04-01

MINUTES

of the meeting of 29 November 2004
4.15 p.m. - 5.15 p.m.
Brussels

CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
1. Adoption of draft agenda (351.252)	2
2. Approval of minutes of 20 September 2004 (PE 346.589)	2
3. Chairman's announcements.....	2
4. EU relations with the Gulf States including Yemen (in the presence of a Commission representative)	2
5. Date and place of next meeting	3

Annex: Record of attendance

4 January 2005
HHK/ck

The meeting opened at 4.30 p.m. with Mrs GRUBER, delegation chairman, in the chair.

1. Adoption of draft agenda (351.252)

The agenda was duly adopted.

2. Approval of minutes of 20 September 2004 (PE 346.589)

The minutes were approved.

3. Chairman's announcements

The chair began with some general remarks reminding the members of the region's importance: the war against Iraq, the Middle East conflict and its implications for the peninsula, and USA/Iranian relations.

The EU should be playing a more significant role.

The following then spoke: the Saudi Arabian Ambassador, the Kuwaiti Ambassador, the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) Ambassador and Mrs SAIFI; the last-named proposed repeating the holding of a congress on Islam, similar to that held in Brussels in 2001.

The chair deplored the fact that so many members were absent. Mr PURVIS suggested that meetings be organised on specific issues, and Mr PFLÜGER and Mr BOURLANGES said that the fact that so many people were absent was due to the fact that on Mondays, in general, there were always fewer members present.

4. EU-Gulf States including Yemen relations (in the presence of a Commission representative)

The Commission desk officer gave a brief account of the work of the Gulf Cooperation Council and the stage reached in negotiations between the GCC and the Commission. Human rights, free trade and weapons of mass destruction remained highly sensitive issues between the partners.

The GCC Ambassador criticised the length of time the negotiations were taking, stressing that economic and political issues should not be mixed. He said that he hoped the EP would put pressure on the Commission to ensure the conclusion of negotiations in the opening months of 2005.

The Yemeni Ambassador welcomed the holding of the meeting, suggesting that at one of its forthcoming meetings, the delegation tackle EU-Yemeni relations. The Kuwaiti Ambassador said that he hoped that the make-up of future delegations visiting his country

would better reflect the political diversity of the EP. Finally, Mr BOURLANGES proposed that a forthcoming meeting be devoted to GCC-Commission negotiations.

5. Date and place of next meeting

The next meeting would take place on 19 January 2005 in Brussels.

The meeting closed at 5.15 p.m.

**DELTAGERLISTE/ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KATASTASHEI PAPONTON/LIITE 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/Puhemiehistö/J.L. Presidium: (*) GRUBER (P), PFLÜGER (1VP)
Anwesend	Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Μέλη/Members/Diputados/Députés/Deputati/Leden/Deputados/Jäsenet/Ledamöter: BOURLANGES, SAIFI
Παρόντες	Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suplentes/Suppléants/ Membri supplenti/Plaatsvervangers/Membros suplentes/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter:
Present	PURVIS, SALINAS GARCÍA
Presentes	
Présents	
Presenti	
Aanwezig	
Lasna	
Närvarande	
Art. 178,2	
Art. 183,3	
Endv. Deltog/Weitere Teiln./ Συμμετείχαν επίσης/Also present Participaron igualmente/ Participaient également/ Hanno partecipato altresi/ 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/Esiytslist Kohta/ Föredragningslista punkt):	

* (P) = Formand/Vorsitzender/Πρόεδρος/Chairman/Président/Presidente/Voorzitter/Presidente/Puhemies/Ordförande
 (VP) = Næstform./Stellv. Vorsitz./Αντιπρόεδρος/Vice-Chairman/Vice-Président/Vicepresidente/VarapuhemiesOndervoorz./
 Vice-Pres./Vicepres/Vice ordförande.

Til stede den/Anwesend am/Παρών στις/Present on/Présent le/Presente il/Aanwezig op/Presente em/Presenteel/Läsnä/Närvarande den.
 Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung d. Vorsitzenden/Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chairman/Por invitación 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:

Rådet/Rat/Συμβούλιο/Council/Consejo/Conseil/Consiglio/Raad/Conselho/Neuvosto/Rådet: (*)

Kommissionen/Kommission/Επιτροπή/Commission/Comisión/Commissione/Commissie/Comissão/Komissio/Kommissionen: (*)

LLOMBART, MANCINI

Cour des comptes:

C.E.S.:

Andre deltagere/Andere Teilnehmer Επίσης Παρόντες/Also present Otros participantes/Autres participants/Altri partecipanti Andere aanwezigen/Outros participantes Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare			AL-ASSAF - Ambassade d'Arabie Saoudite JAFFER - Ambassade du Yémen AL-AMER - GCC AL-SHARIKH, AL-MUTAIRI, AL-BISHER - Ambassade du Koweït AL-THANI - Ambassade du Qatar AL-RASHEDI - Ambassade des E.A.U.
Gruppernes sekretariat Sekretariat der Fraktionen Γραμματεία των Πολ. Ομάδων Secretariat political groups Sect. De los grupos politicos Secr. Groupes politiques Segr. Dei gruppi politici Segr. Van de fracties Secr. Dos grupos politicos Puolueryhmien sihteeristö Gruppernas sekretariat		PPE PSE ALDE Verts/ALE GUE/NGL IND/DEM UEN NI	SILVA-MAIA BEUMER KAMMITSI, TIPPER MEYER
Cab. Du Président			
Cab. Du Secrétaire Général			
Generaldirektorat Generaldirektion Γενική Διεύθυνση Directorate-General Dirección general Direction générale Direzione generale Directoraat-generaal Direcção general Contrôle financier Service juridique Pääosasto Generaldirektorat		I II III IV V VI VII VIII	
Udvalgssekretariatet Ausschubsekretariat Γραμματεία επιτροπής Committee secretariat Secretaría de la comisión Secrétariat de la commission Segretariato della commissione Commissiesecretariaat Secretaria de comissão Valiokunnan sihteeristö Utskottssekretariatet Assist./Βοηθός			KRAUS
			DONALDSON

(P) = Formand/Pres./Πρόεδρος/Chairman/Président/Voorzitter/Puhemies/Ordförande

(VP) = Næstform./Vize-Pres./Αντιπρόεδρος/Vice-Chairman/Vice-Président/Ondervoorz./Vice-pres/Varapuhemies/Vice ordförande.

(M) = Medlem./Mitglied/Μέλος/Member/Miembro/Membre/Membro/Lid/Membro/Jäsen/Ledamot

(F) = Tjenestemand/Beamter/Υπάλληλος/Official/Funcionario/Fonctionnaire/Funzionario/Ambtenaar/Functionário/Virkamies/Tjänsteman