

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH THE PALESTINIAN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

PE/DPLC-10/PV/06-09

### MINUTES

of the meeting of Tuesday, 31 January 2006  
from 16:15 to 17:15; Room A1H-1

BRUSSELS

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Annex: Record of attendance

31 January 2006  
PK/CB/lo

The meeting was opened at 16.24 by M. ADAMOU, Chairperson

**1. Adoption of draft agenda (PE 365.481)**

The draft agenda was adopted.

**2. Approval of minutes of the meeting on 28 September 2005 (PE 362.450)**

The minutes were approved.

**3. Announcements by the Chair**

The Chairman informed the Members that the Palestinian Legislative Council election results would be examined under point 5, in presence of M. Adel ATIEH from the General Palestinian Delegation.

**4. Adoption of the report on the Delegation's visit to Palestine (9-12 Nov. 2005), PE 365.501**

The report was adopted without changes.

**5. Exchange of views on the PLC elections of 25 January 2006**

M. ADAMOU, Chair, announced the results of the Palestinian parliamentary elections, where Hamas enjoyed a comfortable victory receiving 76 seats and Fatah clearly lost, receiving only 43 seats. He then proceeded with the reactions from the International Community. The Quartet as well the General Affairs Council made clear that the future Palestinian government will have to accept the state of Israel and be committed to non-violent actions, and Israel has responded to the election results by freezing 30 million Euros, which were due to the Palestinian authority.

From the Palestinian Delegation, M. ATIEH welcomed the support of the EU during the elections and he stressed that the International Community should accept and respect the results of a true democratic process, regardless of whether the election results are in accordance with everyone's wishes. He expressed his belief that Hamas has started to adopt a more moderate and pragmatic discourse and repeated that President ABBAS will respect the commitments undertaken according the roadmap. To sum up, the EU and the International Community should not rush in taking a harsh stand against Hamas, but give it a chance to develop a true political platform.

M. ADAMOU also underlined that the electoral result should be respected, as the expression of a democratic choice, by everybody -- and this includes Israel. While there are many factors that may explain the Hamas victory, it is very likely that the too publicized opposition of the US and the EU may have been dramatically counter-productive.

M. ADAMOU proceeded with asking the Members what they believe the position of the Delegation should be, henceforth, *vis-à-vis* the newly elected PLC.

During the debate that followed, M. BOWIS, CASTEX, TOUSSAS, DE ROSSA, MORGANTINI and LUCAS took the floor.

The Members agreed that the election process had been transparent and democratic and that the International Community should refrain from making hasty judgements based on previous stereotypes, but rather wait and see how Hamas, as a government, would act,. The EU should therefore not yet stop its financial support for the Palestinians.

The Palestinian vote should be seen not as an extremist call for terrorism, but rather as a protest vote - against occupation, oppression and poverty, but also against the International Community which failed to implement its own resolutions (the roadmap, UN Security Council resolutions). While asking from Hamas to recognise Israel makes sense, Israel should also recognise the state of Palestine instead of pursuing with its daily tactics of maximising land-grabbing; to maintain its credibility, Europe should demonstrate it is even handed and has demands from all sides, PA and Israel.

Hamas will be judged by its acts; meanwhile, the Members agreed, the newly elected PLC, as well as the government that will be sworn in, will find the doors of the D-PLC delegation open to them, and contacts will be made. This, concluded the Chair, could help the Hamas transform itself in a political force that distances itself from armed struggle.

## **6. Any other business**

No other business.

## **7. Date and place of next meeting**

The Chair informed Members of the decision of the President of the EP to strictly implement current rules, and thus, in principle, not to allow meetings taking place in Strasbourg, in parallel to the plenary.

The next delegation meeting would, thus, be held on Thursday, March 23 2006, in Brussels, at 16:15 h.

The meeting closed at 17:16 h.

**DELTAGERLISTE/ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KATASTASAHI PARONTΩN/LIITE RECORD  
OF ATTENDANCE/LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/LISTE DE PRESENCE/ELENCO DEI  
PRESENTEI/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA**

Til stede	Formandskabet/Vorstand/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Ufficio di Presidenza/Mesa/Puhemiehistö/J.L. Presidium: (*)  ADAMOU (P) DE ROSSA (VP)
Anwesend	Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Μέλη/Members/Diputados/Députés/Deputati/Leden/Deputados/Jäsenet/Ledamöter:  AUKEN, BOWIS, CASTEX, EVANS , LUCAS, MORGANTINI
Παρόντες	Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suplentes/Suppléants/ Membri supplenti/Plaatsvervangers/Membros suplentes/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter:  HAMMERSTEIN MINTZ, LAMBRINIDIS, PORTAS, TOUSSAS
Present	
Presentes	
Présents	<u>Se sont excusé:</u>
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/Esiyislist Kohta/ Föredragningslista punkt):	

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

Til stede den/Anwesend am/Παρόν στις/Present on/Présent le/Presente il/Aanwezig op/Presente em/Presentee/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: (\*)  
 CULLEN , PAVLIDOY

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		ATIEH (PALESTINIAN MISSION) AL BSOUL (EMB.OF JORDAN) HALPERIN (ISRAEL MISSION)
Gruppernes sekretariat Sekretariat der Fraktionen Γραμματεία των Πολ. Ομάδων Secretariat political groups Sepr. De los grupos politicos Secr. Groupes politiques Segr. Dei gruppi politici Sepr. Van de fracties Sepr. Dos grupos politicos Puolueryhmien sihteeristö Gruppernas sekretariat	PPE PSE ALDE Verts/ALE GUE/NGL IND/DEM UEN NI	MITSOPOULOU  S.CORNELIUS POLYCARPOU
Cab. Du Président		
Cab. Du Secrétaire Général		
Generaldirektorat Generaldirektion Γενική Διεύθυνση Directorate-General Dirección general Direction générale Direzione generale Directoraat-generaal Direcção geral Contrôle financier Service juridique Pääosasto Generaldirektorat	I II III IV V VI VII VIII	BUCHIU, CHIKHI, HALLDORF ROMERO,KRAUSS, STASI,STUTZMANN BIGONI
Udvalgssekretariatet Ausschubsekretariat Γραμματεία επιτροπής Committee secretariat Secretaría de la comisión Secrétaire de la commission Segretariato della commissione Commissiesecretariaat Secretaria de comissão Valiokunnan sihteeristö Utskottssekreteriatet Assist./Βοηθός		KAMARIS, BERTER  OLLJUM

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

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

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

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