

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

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*Delegation for relations with Australia and New Zealand*

DANZ\_PV (2008)0124

## **MINUTES**

**of the meeting**

**Thursday 24 January 2008, 10h15-11h15**

**Brussels**

**Room - A5E-2**

1. Adoption of the draft agenda (PE 399.308)
2. Adoption of the minutes of the meeting on 19 December 2007 (PE 399.296)
3. Communications by the Chairman
4. Preparations for the 31st EU-Australia IPM, Brussels 7-8 April 2008
5. Preparations for the 15th EU-New Zealand IPM, Wellington and regions  
- week to be confirmed
6. Any other business
7. Date and place of next meeting

The meeting opened at 10h20 on Thursday 24 January 2008, with Mr Giles CHICHESTER in the Chair.

### **1. Adoption of the draft agenda (PE 399.308)**

The agenda was adopted without amendment.

### **2. Adoption of the draft minutes of the meeting on 19 December 2007 (PE 399.296)**

The minutes were adopted without amendment.

### **3. Communications by the Chairman**

Mr CHICHESTER welcomed Ms Rhonda PIGGOTT, the new Deputy Head of the Australia Mission to the EU and Mr Paul ASH, the new Deputy Head of the New Zealand Mission.

He also welcomed Mr Timothy KIRKHOPE as a new member of the delegation.

### **4. Preparations for the 31st EU-Australia IPM, Brussels 7-8 April 2008**

Ms PIGGOTT stressed that the Australia parliamentary delegation was still interested in coming but that their time in Belgium might coincide with a visit to Brussels by the new Prime Minister. She would inform the European Parliament as soon as there was more definite information.

Mr CHICHESTER thanked Ms PIGGOTT and stated that the delegation would also be pleased to meet with the Prime Minister if it were possible. He asked for possible agenda items.

Ms PIGGOTT stated that there were no specific issues at present but there was a broad interest in EU-Australia cooperation, particularly over issues such as environment and climate change.

Mr KLINZ was keen for there to be discussions on climate change.

Mr RACK agreed, particularly in the light of the new Commission paper. He also wanted to address the issue of cooperation between universities.

Mr SIMPSON also favoured discussion on climate change and wanted to identify in particular what the new Australian government was planning to do in specific areas such as the transport and energy sectors.

Mr CRAMER was also keen to examine the issue of animal emissions, noting that around 70% of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions came from sheep in New Zealand.

Mr TRIANTAPHYLLIDES wanted to examine immigration and industrial relations issues.

Mr TAKKULA also supported the idea to look at university education and noted that many studies were being done on the Australian education system. He noted that a Finnish and an Australian university were collaborating on this issue.

Mr NICHOLSON welcomed the visit to Brussels of the new Australian Prime Minister. He wanted to have the visit of the Australian parliamentarians confirmed as soon as possible as the first meetings were on a Monday afternoon. He wanted to examine Australia's economic relations with the Pacific world, especially China.

Mr CHICHESTER reminded members of the importance of attendance at meetings in Brussels and that this was taken into account in determining who should travel on external visits.

Ms PIGGOTT noted that the Australian government had commissioned an academic study on the impact of emissions trading on particular sectors. She mentioned that the new government had a very different approach on labour relations. A free trade agreement with China was being developed, although progress was very slow. Education and immigration were other key issues. She confirmed that it was almost definite that the delegation would come at that time, even if the Prime Minister was in Brussels at the same time.

## **5. Preparations for the 15th EU-New Zealand IPM, Wellington and regions - week to be confirmed**

Mr CHICHESTER welcomed Mr ASH. He noted that on 10 January the Conference of Presidents had adopted the 2008 programme of Delegation activity. However the New Zealand side had subsequently informed the European Parliament that a delegation could not be received in the week of 28 April as the New Zealand Parliament was not in session. The only other possible "turquoise" week was the week of 21 July when the New Zealand parliament was sitting. Special authorisation would have to be sought if any other week was scheduled and it was very doubtful that this would be granted.

Mr ASH thanked Mr CHICHESTER for welcoming him and confirmed that a visit to New Zealand in the week of 21 July was indeed possible.

Mr CHICHESTER then invited members to suggest elements for the programme. He proposed a visit to the northern part of New Zealand and also to go to the university in Christchurch.

Mr KOTEREC wanted to make a request for special authorisation during a political group week.

Mr SIMPSON sympathised with Mr CHICHESTER's position as a Chairman. He was content that there was sufficient notice for a visit in July. He noted that he wanted to learn more about the Maori nation and also made a personal request to attend a rugby league match in Auckland.

Mr NICHOLSON expressed this strong dissatisfaction with the system of "turquoise" weeks, although he recognised that members had voted in favour of the proposal. He wanted to test the principle of turquoise weeks by making a request to the Conference of Presidents to travel

in another week. He thought that a visit to the Hamilton area - where there were many Maoris - might be possible. He also proposed starting the delegation in Wellington and moving on to Auckland.

Mr TRIANTAPHYLLIDES also wanted to look at the Maori question and to make a comparison with the situation of indigenous people in Australia.

Mr CRAMER also wanted to test the system as he was not happy to travel one week before the summer break. He was keen to learn more about the architecture and low energy houses. He already had a number of addresses of low energy architectural organisations.

Mr TAKKULA stated that he was content to travel in July.

Mr KLINZ considered that on balance he was content to travel in July. He wanted to address financial matters and examine New Zealand fiscal policies and the dramatic changes that the government had introduced some time ago.

Mr NICHOLSON raised the possibility of a visit by the delegation to Australia in the early part of 2009.

Mr CHICHESTER thanked members and reiterated his belief that the delegation should travel in July as it would not pose the problems caused by seeking special authorisation.

Mr NICHOLSON agreed with the Chairman. This view was endorsed by Mr SIMPSON.

Mr CHICHESTER noted that 13 members of the delegation, plus the Chair, could travel. He was reminded by Mr SIMPSON that there was an informal agreement that preferential treatment should be given to members who had given up their places on the delegation to Australia in 2008.

Mr CHICHESTER stated that a draft programme would be distributed at the next meeting of the delegation.

## **6. Any other business**

There was no other business

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

Mr CHICHESTER announced that the next regular meeting of the delegation would take place in Brussels on Thursday 27 March from 11h30 to 12h30.

The meeting concluded at 11.05 hrs.

**LISTA DE ASISTENCIA/PREZENČNÍ LISTINA/DELTAGERLISTE/ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KOHALOLIJATE NIMEKIRI/  
 ΚΑΤΑΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE/LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/ELENCO DI PRESENZA/APMEKLĒJUMU  
 REGISTRŠ/DALYVIŲ SĄRAŠAS/JELENLĒTI ĪV/REGĪSTRU TA' ATTENDENZA/PRESENTIELIJST/LISTA OBEČNOŠCI/  
 LISTA DE PRESENÇAS/PREZENČNÁ LISTINA/SEZNAM NAVZOČIH/LÄSNÄOLOLISTA/DELTAGARLISTA**

Mesa/Předsednictví/Formandskabet/Vorstand/Juhatus/Προεδρείο/Bureau/Ufficio di presidenza/Prezidijs/Biuras/Elnökség/Prezydium/ Predsednictvo/Predsedstvo/Puheenjohtajisto/Presidiet (*)
Chichester (P), Koterec (2VP)
Diputados/Poslanci/Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Parlamendiliikmed/Μέλη/Members/Députés/Deputati/Deputāti/Nariai/Képviselek/ Membri/Leden/Posłowie/Deputados/Jäsenet/Ledamöter
Cramer, Kirkhope, Nicholson, Rack , Simpson, Takkula
Suplentes/Náhradníci/Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Asendusliikmed/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suppléants/Supplenti/Aizstājēji/ Pavadojantys nariai/Póttagok/Sostituti/Plaatsvangers/Zastępcy/Membros suplentes/Náhradníci/Namestniki/Varajäsenet/ Suppleanter
Klinz, Rübige, Starkeviciute, Tarand, Triantaphyllides, Zile

178 (2)
183 (3)
46 (6) (Punto del orden del día/Bod pořadu jednání/Punkt på dagsordenen/Tagesordnungspunkt/Päevakorra punkt/Ημερήσια Διάταξη Σημείο/Agenda item/Point OJ/Punto all'ordine del giorno/Darba kārtības punkts/Darbotvarkēs punktas/Napirendi pont/Punt Agenda/ Agendapunt/Punkt porządku dziennego/Ponto OD/Bod programu schôdze/Točka UL/Esityslistan kohta/Föredragningslista punkt)

Observadores/Pozorovatelé/Observatører/Beobachter/Vaatlejad/Παρατηρητές/Observers/Observateurs/Osservatori/Novērotāji/ Stebėtojai/Megfigyelők/Osservatori/Waarnemers/Observatorzy/Observadores/Pozorovatelia/Opazovalci/Tarkkailijat/Observatörer

Por invitación del presidente/Na pozvání předsedy/Efter indbydelse fra formanden/Auf Einladung des Vorsitzenden/Esimehe kutsel/ Με πρόσκληση του Προέδρου/At the invitation of the Chair(wo)man/Sur l'invitation du président/Su invito del presidente/ Pēc priekšsēdētāja uzaicinājuma/Pirmininkui pakvietus/Az elnök meghívására/Fuq stedina taç-'Chairman'/Op uitnodiging van de voorzitter/Na zaproszenie Przewodniczącego/A convite do Presidente/Na pozvanie predsedu/Na povabilo predsednika/ Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan
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Consejo/Rada/Rådet/Rat/Nõukogu/Συμβούλιο/Council/Conseil/Consiglio/Padome/Taryba/Tanács/Kunsill/Raad/Conselho/Svet/Neuvosto/Rådet (*)	
Comisión/Komise/Kommissionen/Kommission/Euroopa Komisjon/Επιτροπή/Commission/Commissione/Komisija/Bizottság/Kummissjoni/Commissie/Komisja/Comissão/Komisia/Komissio/Kommissionen (*)	
Vandebon	
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Otros participantes/Ostatní účastníci/Endvidere deltog/Andere Teilnehmer/Muud osalejad/Επίσης Παρόντες/Other participants/Autres participants/Altri partecipanti/Citi klātesošie/Kiti dalyviai/Más résztvevők/Partecipanti ohra/Andere aanwezigen/Inni uczestnicy/Outros participantes/Iní účastníci/Drugi udeleženci/Muut osallistujat/Övriga deltagare	
Ash, Pearman (NZ Mission), O'Rourke, Piggott (AU Mission)	
Secretaría de los Grupos políticos/Sekretariát politických skupin/Gruppernes sekretariat/Sekretariat der Fraktionen/Fraktsioonide sekretariaat/Γραμματεία των Πολιτικών Ομάδων/Sekretariats of political groups/Secrétariat des groupes politiques/Segreteria gruppi politici/Politisko grupu sekretariāts/Frakciju sekretoriai/Képviseletcsoportok titkársága/Sekretarjat gruppi politici/Fractiesecretariaten/Sekretariat Grup Politycznych/Secr. dos grupos políticos/Sekretariát politických skupin/Sekretariat političnih skupin/Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristöt/Gruppernas sekretariat	
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Gabinete del Secretario General/Kancelář generálního tajemníka/Generalsekretærens Kabinet/Kabinett des Generalsekretärs/Peasekretäri büroo/Γραφείο Γενικού Γραμματέα/Secretary-General's Office/Cabinet du Secrétaire général/Gabinetto del Segretario generale/Ģenerālsekretāra kabinets/Generalinio sekretoriaus kabinetas/Főtitkári hivatal/Kabinett tas-Segretarju Ġenerali/Kabinet van de secretaris-generaal/Gabinet Sekretarza Generalnego/Gabinete do Secretário-Geral/Kancelária geralneho tajomníka/Urząd generalnega sekretarja/Pääsihteerin kabinetti/Generalsekreterarens kansli	
Dirección General/Generální ředitelství/Generaldirektorat/Generaldirektion/Peadirektoraat/Γενική Διεύθυνση/Directorate-General/Direction générale/Direzione generale/Ģenerāldirektorāts/Generalinis direktoratas/Főigazgatóság/Direttorat Ġenerali/Direktoraten-generaal/Dyrekcja Generalna/Direcção-Geral/Generálne riaditeľstvo/Generalni direktorat/Pääosasto/Generaldirektorat	
DG PRES DG IPOL DG EXPO DG INFO DG PERS DG IFIN DG TRED DG FINS	Schulz
Servicio Jurídico/Právní služba/Juridisk Tjeneste/Juristischer Dienst/Ōigusteenistus/Νομική Υπηρεσία/Legal Service/Service juridique/Servizio giuridico/Juridiskais dienests/Teisės tarnyba/Jogi szolgálat/Servizz legali/Juridische Dienst/Wydział prawny/Serviço Jurídico/Právny servis/Pravna služba/Oikeudellinen yksikkö/Rättsjänsten	
Secretaría de la comisión/Sekretariát výboru/Udvalgssekretariatet/Ausschusseksretariat/Komisjoni sekretariaat/Γραμματεία επιτροπής/Committee secretariat/Secrétariat de la commission/Segreteria della commissione/Komitejas sekretariāts/Komiteto sekretoriatas/A bizottság titkársága/Sekretarjat tal-kumitat/Commissiesecretariaat/Sekretariat komisji/Sekretariado da comissão/Sekretariat odbora/Valiokunnan sihteeriistö/Utskottssekretariatet	
Tim Boden	
Asistente/Asistent/Assistent/Assistenz/Βοηθός/Assistant/Assistente/Palīgs/Padējējas/asszisztens/Asistent/Pomočnik/Avustaja/Assistenten	
Carnazza	

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