

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

PE/III/DELE-XXI/PV/-01/05

MINUTES of the meeting of 19 January 2005 BRUSSELS

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The meeting opened at 11.36 with Mr Dirk Sterckx, chairman, in the chair.

1. Adoption of draft agenda (PE 351.304)

The agenda was adopted.

2. Approval of minutes of meeting of 27 October 2004 (PE 346.626)

The minutes were approved.

3. Chairman's announcements

There were no chairman's announcements.

4. Follow-up to the EU-China Summit of 8 December 2004: exchange of views with Mr Jean-Christian Rémond, Head of the Commission's Unit for China, Hong Kong, Taiwan and Mongolia (*in camera*)

The chairman welcomed Mr Rémond and gave him the floor.

Mr Rémond gave a report of the EU-China Summit of 8 December 2004.

He referred particularly to the following:

- the embargo on the sale of arms; although this point had affected preparations for the Summit, the latter had ultimately taken place in a positive atmosphere. The EU had been able to explain that the position on maintaining the embargo was not frozen, but that a number of conditions would, nevertheless, have to be satisfied before it could be lifted:
 - significant action on the part of the Chinese on the issue of human rights
 - assurances on regional stability
 - revision of the Code of Conduct, with a view to ensuring greater effectiveness (this depended principally on the goodwill of the Member States)
- the human rights dialogue; although this often proved difficult, progress was, nevertheless, possible in individual cases.

However, the most significant factor was China's demonstrating its intention to move progressively forwards towards the rule of law; its concern to set up corresponding professional judiciary structures was noted. China had declared that it was prepared to ratify the UN Covenant on Civil and Political Rights 'when the time came', a statement which, though cautious, was one that China had previously refused to make.

- China's status as a market economy: the EU considered this to be a technical, not a political issue; China was making progress on regulation and administration, which the Commission had recognised and recorded, whilst maintaining a list of the areas where improvement was still required before China satisfied the criteria that the EU applied across the board.
- China's acting in accordance with its commitments to the WTO, particularly with

regard to respect for the protection of intellectual property, by signing the customs cooperation agreement, which was a very positive factor towards greater efficiency in the fight against copyright infringement.

- cooperation on the issue of readmission of illegal immigrants, which China had made dependent on a reduction in visa procedures for visitors and legal immigrants (which raised issues within the competence of the Member States).
- the EU restated its support for the 'one China' principle, but stressed that the two parties should act positively in this regard and make concrete moves towards reconciliation. The EU therefore specified that, inasmuch as it was anxious that Taipei did not take any stands that could lead to an increased probability of a proclamation of independence, it equally disapproved of aggressive moves and declarations from Peking.

The following members spoke:

Mr Watson, on measures by the Commission to carry the actions and programmes with China through to a successful conclusion, on EU support for local democracy and on China's participation in Galileo. Response: Commission personnel had been concentrated mainly on cooperation programmes, which, without a doubt, had been somewhat to the detriment of commercial and political activity. The programme to support local democracy had had major difficulties in getting off the ground, but had been operational since spring 2004 and was currently very active. Chinese participation in Galileo was strictly confined to the civil area.

Mrs Roure, on environmental questions; Mr Rémond admitted that cooperation had been rather limited in this area due to a long-standing lack of interest on the part of the Chinese, but said that interest had begun to be shown.

Mr Mavrommatis, on the human rights dialogue and the Olympic Games in 2008.

Mrs Kauppi, on the Erasmus Mundus programme, and on the difficulties that European students had in gaining access to Chinese universities, as well as the handling of individual cases of human rights violations in the dialogue. Response: the Erasmus Mundus programme was a first step intended to rectify somewhat the glaring imbalance between the number of Chinese students studying in the United States as compared to those coming to Europe (ratio of 1 to 10), but this was only the first step. The individual cases had been investigated systematically, but without having been publicised.

Mrs Gebhardt, on the Chinese position in the human rights dialogue and on copyright infringement.

Mrs Doyle, to criticise the EU's excessive discretion on the issue of human rights and on the Chinese position regarding the Kyoto protocol.

Mr Chatzimarkakis, on cooperation in research and Chinese financial participation in Galileo.

Mr Rouček on the promotion of Chinese tourism in Europe and on the effects of the end of the Multifibre Agreement on the European textile industry. Mr Rémond referred to the agreement on tourist visas which had come into force during the year and to the export tax measures which China had voluntarily introduced on certain textile exports, particularly to

avoid excessive competitive pressure on the least developed countries (in particular in the region: Cambodia, Sri Lanka, Bangladesh).

Mr Turmes, on environmental regulations and the Chinese energy efficiency policy, being concerned at the lack of cooperation with the EU on the matter.

5. Calendar of meetings for 2005

The calendar was confirmed.

6. Other business

No other business.

7. Date and place of next meeting

The next meeting of the delegation would be held on 10 March 2005 in Strasbourg.

The meeting closed at 12.38.

**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/Puheenjohtajisto/J.L. Presidium: (*) Dirk Sterckx (P), Martine Roure(VP)
Anwesend	Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Μέλη/Members/Diputados/Députés/Deputati/Leden/Deputados/Jäsenet/Ledamöter: Robert Atkins, Joan Calabuig Rull, Pilar del Castillo Vera, Dorette Corbey, Evelyne Gebhardt, Piia-Noora Kauppi, Anne Laperrouze, Toine Manders, Manolis Mavrommatis, Jan Olbrycht, Rihards Pīks, Herbert Reul, Libor Rouček, Helga Trüpel, Claude Turmes, Gabriele Zimmer
Παρόντες	Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suplentes/Suppléants/ Membri supplenti/Plaatsvervangers/Membros suplentes/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter: Jorgo Chatzimarkakis, Agustín Díaz de Mera García Consuegra, Avril Doyle, Edite Estrela, Cristina Gutiérrez- Cortines, Hans-Peter Martin, Struan Stevenson, Graham Watson
Present	
Presentes	
Présents	
Presenti	
Aanwezig	
Läsnä	
Närvarande	
Art. 153,2	
Art. 166,3	
Endv. deltog/Weitere Teiln./ Συμμετείχαν επίσημα/Also present Participaron igualmente/ Participaient également/ Hanno partecipato altresì/ Andere deelnemers/ Outros participantes/ Muut osallistujat/ Dessutom deltog	Podkanski Zbigniew
(Dagsorden/Tagesordnung Pkt/Ημερήσια Διάταξη Σημεί/Point OJ/Punto OG/Agenda Punt/Ordem do dia/ punto/punto orden del dia/ Esityslistan kohta/Föredragningslista punkt):	

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

Til stede den/Anwesend am/Παρόν στις/Present on/Présent le/Presente il/Aanwezig op/Presente em/Presente el/Läsnä/Närvarande den.

- (1)
(2)

<p>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/Puheenjohtajan kutsusta/På ordförandens inbjudan:</p> <p>Rådet/Rat/Συμβούλιο/Council/Consejo/Conseil/Consiglio/Raad/Conselho/Neuvosto/Rådet: (*)</p> <p>Kommissionen/Kommission/Επιτροπή/Commission/Comisión/Commissione/Commissie/Commissão/Komissio/Kommissionen: (*)</p> <p>Jean-Christian Remond, Kat Cheung</p> <p>Cour des comptes:</p> <p>C.E.S.:</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 políticos Secr. Groupes politiques Segr. dei gruppi politici Secr. van de fracties Secr. dos grupos politicos Poliittisten ryhmien sihteeristö Gruppernas sekretariat</p>	<p>PPE PSE ADLE Verts/ALE GUE/NGL UEN EDD TDI NI</p>	<p>Luigi Mazza, Adriaan Bastiaansen Silvestro Latella Marcia Kammitzi</p>
<p>Cab. du Président</p>		
<p>Cab. du Secrétaire Général</p>		
<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>	
<p>Udvalgssekretariatet Ausschubsekretariat Γραμματεία επιτροπής Committee secretariat Secretaria de la comisión Secrétariat de la commission Segretariato della commissione Commissiesecretariaat Secretaria de comissão Valiokunnan sihteeristö Utskottssekretariatet Assist./Βοηθός</p>		<p>Thierry Jacob</p> <p>Morag Donaldson</p>

- * (P) =Formand/Pres./Πρόεδρος/Chairman/Président/Voorzitter/Puheenjohtaja/Ordförande
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(M) =Medlem./Mitglied/Μέλος/Member/Miembro/Membre/Membro/Lid/Membro/Jäsen/Ledamot
(F) =Tjenestemand/Beamter/Υπάλληλος/Official/Funcionario/Fonctionnaire/Funzionario/Ambtenaar/
Functionario/Virkamies/Tjänsteman