

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH THE GULF STATES, INCLUDING YEMEN

PE/DGUL-13/PV/05-05

MINUTES

of the meeting of 14 April 2005,
from 11 a.m. to 12 noon
Room LOW S4.1

STRASBOURG

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Annex: Record of attendance

30 May 2005
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PE 358.835

The meeting opened at 11.15 a.m. on Thursday, 14 April 2005, with Ms Lilli Gruber, Chairwoman, in the chair.

1. Adoption of draft agenda (PE 356.221)

The draft agenda was adopted.

2. Approval of minutes of the meetings of 19 January 2005 (PE 351.315) and 2 February 2005 (PE 351.337)

The minutes were approved.

3. Chairwoman's announcements

The Chairwoman said that six Somalis had been executed in Saudi Arabia on 4 April 2005. This had raised the total number of executions to 51 over the past four months, 39 of which had taken place in 2005.

Amnesty International was gravely concerned by the rapid upsurge in the rate of executions in Saudi Arabia this year and feared that more executions would follow in the coming days or weeks.

In the beginning of December 2004, AI had issued a declaration, appealing to King Fahd of Saudi Arabia to commute all death sentences. Nevertheless, eight people were executed in the space of one week. In view of the increase in executions, AI renewed its call to King Fahd to end all executions and asked that trial proceedings against the people facing such punishments be opened in line with international standards.

Victims, since December 2004, have included 13 Pakistanis, 6 Somalis, 4 Filipinos, 3 Indians, 3 Thais, 5 Iraqis, one Afghan and 16 Saudis, one of whom was a woman.

4. Exchange of views on the draft report of the delegation working group visit to Saudi Arabia from 7 to 13 February 2005

The report was discussed by the delegation and was found to be objective, clear and interesting. The following spoke: Angelika Niebler, Sajjad Karim, Tobias Pflüger, Joost Lagendijk, John Attard-Montalto, Patrick Louis and Avril Doyle.

The members who wished to have their comments included in the report were asked to pass them on to the secretariat immediately.

5. Other business

Ms Niebler suggested that the new Commissioner Ms Ferrero-Waldner be invited to a future delegation meeting. The Chairwoman said, in support of this, that she had met the Commissioner that morning, accompanied by Joost Lagendijk. They had spoken in particular on the inadequate situation at the Commission delegation's office in Riyadh (lack of personnel) and the need to take stock of relations between Saudi Arabia and the EU.

The Chairwoman suggested that experts, such as journalists or professors, be invited to the next meeting.

6. Date and place of next meeting

The next meeting would be held on 24 May 2005 in Brussels.

The meeting closed at 11.55 a.m.

**DELTAGERLISTE/ANWESENHEITSLISTE/KATAΣΤΑΣΗ ΠΑΡΟΝΤΩΝ/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) DOYLE (2VP)
Anwesend	Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Μέλη/Members/Diputados/Députés/Deputati/Leden/Deputados/Jäsenet/Ledamöter: ATTARD-MONTALTO, FONTAINE, GALA, GROSSETÊTE, KARIM, LAGENDIJK, LOUIS, NIEBLER
Παρόντες	Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/Αναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suplentes/Suppléants/ Membri supplenti/Plaatsvervangers/Membros suplentes/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter:
Present	KACZMAREK, VINCENZI
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 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/Esityslist Kohta/ Föredragningslista punkt):	

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

