

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

2004



2009

DELEGATION FOR RELATIONS WITH INDIA

D-IN PV 2/07

DRAFT MINUTES

of the meeting of 8 May 2007
from 17h00 to 18h00

BRUSSELS

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Brussels, 9 May 2007
XN/nal

1. Adoption of draft agenda

The draft agenda was adopted.

2. Adoption of the draft minutes of the Constitutive meeting of 12 April 2007

The draft minutes were adopted.

3. Chair's announcements

The Chair expressed her thanks to the Members who attended the presentation and lunch offered by the Indian embassy at noon prior to the meeting.

The Chair reported on the visit paid by the President of India, Abdul KALAM to the EP in Strasbourg on Wednesday 25 April 2007. During this first-ever visit by an Indian president to the EP, he addressed the plenary in a speech based more on culture, history, humanism and poetry than politics. In his introductory speech President Pottering requested President Kalam's support to establish within the Lok Sabha a delegation for relations with the EP that would be our counterpart and the Chair had the opportunity during the lunch that followed the speech to repeat this request.

At the GAERC meeting of 23 April 2007, the Council adopted directives to launch negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement the principle of which was decided at the 7th EU-India Summit, held on 13 October 2006 in Helsinki.

The possibility to have a first inter-parliamentary meeting end of July in India with the newly established delegation, subject to confirmation from the Indian authorities and the authorisation of the Conference of Presidents, was discussed. The Chair stressed the fact that for a first visit to India it is important that the Delegation meets with the members of the Lok Sabha. The monsoon session of the Lok Sabha will probably start around 25th July and last till the middle of August and the presidential election might also take place in this period. There was little enthusiasm to have a working group visit at that time of the year and Mrs LAMBERT proposed to cancel this visit and concentrate on the visit in November which would be close to the 8th EU-India summit now scheduled to take place on 30 November.

4. Presentation of the EU-India Strategic partnership and its Action Plan by the European Commission

Mr James Moran, director for Asia in DG Relex of the European Commission, made a comprehensive presentation on the EU-India Strategic partnership and the EU-India Joint Action Plan. At the EU-India summit held in The Hague in 2004, the EU and India decided to forge a "Strategic Partnership", as recommended by a 2004 *Communication on EU-India Relations* prepared by the Commission. The adoption, at the 6th EU-India Summit held in September 2005 in Delhi, of an EU-India Joint Action Plan, was the culminating point of the gradual upgrading of EU-India relations. The Joint Action Plan is indeed the implementing tool of the Strategic Partnership.

Mrs. KALLENBACH supported the shift from a donor approach to a partnership approach.

Mrs GILL insisted on the need to upgrade the political side of the relationship as trade aspects have so far been at the centre of the discussions. In this regard the parliamentary dimension of the

relationship needs to be enhanced and one could envisage the organisation of a parliamentary summit prior to the annual EU-India summit. She also requested the Commission to keep the Delegation informed about meetings, seminars or visits that are on the agenda and requested additional funds to implement the activities foreseen in the Joint Action Plan.

The Commission agreed that the old donor-beneficiary relation was no more adequate in the case of India and referred to the substantial increase in EU funding in the last years. With regard to organising a parliamentary summit this was up to the EP and Lok Sabha.

5. Exchange of views on the priorities for the delegation

As mentioned during the constitutive meeting the delegation aims at promoting the relations with a strategic partner for the EU and particularly the parliamentary dimension of those relations.

The Chair recalled that she would like to define the work programme of the delegation with all the Members. As a first step and to have a better idea of interests and priorities, I would like to ask you to fill in the questionnaire that has been distributed to you and return it as soon as possible to the secretariat. At our next meeting we will have an in-depth exchange on this.

Mr. TANNOCK expressed the opinion that there was no need to establish a joint parliamentary assembly, which requires funding which is not always available, and mentioned the existence of a structure within the Lok Sabha to deal with Europe.

Mrs CIORNEI referred to the importance to have a counterpart body within the Lok Sabha to develop our relations and requested to be kept informed when issues related to India are being discussed in the various parliament bodies

6. Any other business

None

7. Date and place of next meeting

The delegation's next meeting should be held on 11 June 2007 in Brussels at 17.15.

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The meeting closed at 18h00

**DELTAGERLISTE/ANWESENHEITSLISTE/ΚΑΤΑΣΤΑΣΗ 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/Puhemieshistö/J.L. Presidium: (*) GILL (P), GILL (P), CIORNEI (1 VP)
Anwesend	Medlemmer/Mitglieder/Μέλη/Members/Diputados/Deputés/Deputati/Leden/Deputados/Jäsenet/Ledamöter: DEMETRIOU, DE VITS, Ettl, MOTTE, TICAU, VAKALIS, VAUGRENARD, ZAHRADIL
Παρόντες	Stedfortrædere/Stellvertreter/?ναπληρωτές/Substitutes/Suplentes/Suppléants/ Membri supplenti/Plaatsvervangers/Membros suplentes/Varajäsenet/Suppleanter:
Present	GOEBBELS, KALLENBACH, NICHOLSON, PINIOR, ROSZKOWSKI, SCHNELHARD, SZENT-IVANYI, TANNOCK,
Presentes	
Présents	
Presenti	
Aanwezig	
Lasna	
Närvarande	
Art. 178,2	
Art. 183,3	BUSHILL-MATTEWS, GOLIK
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/President/Presidente/Voorzitter/Presidente/Puhemies/Ordförande
(VP) = Næstform./Stellv. Vorsitz./?ντιπρόεδρος/Vice-Chairman/Vice-President/Vicepresidente/Varapuhemies/Ondervoorz./
Vice-Pres./Vicepres/Vice ordförande.

Til stede den/Anwesend am/Παρών στις/Present on/Present 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 invitacion 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: (*)

GOMEZ PASTOS

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

REMOND, TEERINK, DASHWOOD, MORAN

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 osallistajat/Övriga deltagare		Embassad'Inde: ASHOK, FRANCIS
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 políticos Puolueyhymien sihteeristö Gruppernas sekretariat	PPE-DE PSE ALDE Verts/ALE GUE/NGL IND/DEM UEN NI ITS	VLASMAN DE CESARE DE CRAYENCOUR MEYER DALMARA PAOLETTI
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	OPACIC KARLSSON
Udvalgssekretariatet Ausschubsekretariat Γραμματεία επιτροπής Committee secretariat Secretaria de la comisión Secrétariat de la commission Segretariato della commissione Commissiesecretariaat Secretaria de comissão Valiokunnan sihteeristö Utskottssekretariatet		BERTON , NUTTIN, AZIRI KAMINSKY
Assist./Βοηθός		

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

(VP) = Næstform./Vize-Pres./?ντιπρόεδρος/Vice-Chairman/Vice-President/Ondervoorz./Vice-pres/Varapuhemies/Vice ordförande.

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

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