

ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

BUREAU

MEETING

of Sunday 18 June and Monday 19 June 2006

VIENNA (Austria)
Austria Centre

MINUTES

Mrs Glenys Kinnock, Co-President, opened the meeting on 18 June 2006 at 16.50.

The Co-President called for the observation of one minute's silence in memory of Mr Georges Rawiri, ACP Co-President of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly, who had recently died.

The new Co-President designated by the ACP Group was Mr René Radembino-Coniquet (Gabon).

1. Adoption of draft agenda (APP/3863/BUR.)

Decision: the agenda was adopted in the form shown in these minutes.

2. Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 21-22 February 2006 (APP/3857/BUR.)

Speaker: Nyassa (Cameroon), acting Co-President.

Decision: the minutes were approved without amendment.

3. Co-President's announcements

The Co-President gave details of the social events to be held within and alongside the 11th plenary session of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly.

The Co-President pointed out that, under Article 2(11) of the Rules of Procedure, meetings of the Bureau were not public.

4. Consideration and adoption of draft agenda and work programme for the 11th session of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly

Speakers: Bowis and Carlotti

Decision: a debate on the situation in East Timor (*without resolution*) would be added to the agenda (Thursday morning 22 June).

5. Consideration of the admissibility of motions for resolutions on urgent topics, pursuant to Article 7(3) of the Rules of Procedure

Speakers: Bowis, Deva and the Co-President.

Decision: the six resolutions on topic no 1 (avian influenza) and the five resolutions on topic no 2 (situation in Sudan) were deemed admissible. The Co-President called on the authors of the resolutions to draw up compromise resolutions pursuant to Article 17(3) of the Rules of Procedure.

6. Workshops

Appointment of chairmen and rapporteurs

The Co-President announced the topics of the workshops as well as the names of the chairmen and rapporteurs.

Decisions:

- Local public transport:

Chairman: Mr Carl Schlyter

Rapporteur: Mr Kwasi Klutse (Togo)

- Migration and Integration:

Chairwoman: Ms Evelyne B. Chéron (Haiti)

Rapporteur: Mr Jürgen Schröder

- Non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction:

Chairman: Mr Joseph Mugambe (Uganda)

Rapporteur: Mr Robert Goebbels

7. Authorisation for reports to be drawn up by the standing committees

The Co-President announced the proposals made by the standing committees pursuant to Article 8(2) of the Rules of Procedure.

Decision: the following reports, which would be adopted at the 13th session in Germany, were authorised:

Committee on Political Affairs

Good governance, transparency and accountability in relation to the exploitation of natural resources in ACP countries (Co-rapporteurs: Mr Michael Gahler and Ms Evelyne B. Chéron (Haiti))

Committee on Economic Development, Finance and Trade

Poverty alleviation for small farmers in ACP countries – in particular in the fruit, vegetable and flowers sector (Co-rapporteurs: Mr Carl Schlyter and Mr Kilontsi Mporogomyi (Tanzania))

Committee on Social Affairs and the Environment

Migration of skilled workers and its effect on national development (Co-rapporteurs: Ms Sharon Hay Webster (Jamaica) and Ms Luisa Morgantini)

8. Reports on fact-finding missions

(a) Report on the fact-finding mission to Mauritania (23-27 February 2006) (APP/3860/BUR.)

Co-rapporteurs: Mrs Glenys Kinnock, Co-President, Ms Marie-Arlette Carlotti and Mr Michał Tomasz Kamiński, Vice-Presidents.

Speakers: Carlotti, Nyassa (Cameroon), acting Co-President, and the Co-president.

(b) Report on the fact-finding mission to Mauritius and Swaziland (10-14 April 2006) (APP/3869/BUR.)

Co-rapporteurs: Mrs Glenys Kinnock, Co-President, and Mr Roy K. Chulumanda (Zambia), Vice-President.

Speakers: Chulumanda (Zambia), Dlamini (Swaziland), Hay Webster (Jamaica), Lulling and the Co-President.

(c) Report on the fact-finding mission to Kenya (4-7 May 2006) (APP/3870/BUR.)

Co-rapporteurs: Mrs Glenys Kinnock, Co-President, and Mr Barry Faure (Seychelles), Vice-President.

Speakers: Hay Webster (Jamaica), Straker (St Vincent and the Grenadines), Nyassa (Cameroon), acting Co-President, Chulumanda (Zambia), Kamotho (Kenya), Akpovi (Benin) and the Co-President.

(d) Report on the fact-finding mission to Togo (2-4 May 2006) (APP/3868/BUR.)

Co-rapporteurs: Mr Michael Gahler and Mr Eustache Akpovi (Benin), Vice-Presidents.

Speakers: Akpovi (Benin), Gahler, Carlotti, Talagi (Niue), Nguema Owono (Equatorial Guinea), Straker (St Vincent and the Grenadines) and Nyassa (Cameroon), acting Co-President.

Decisions:

- the delegations' reports would be made public;
- Members were encouraged to distribute the reports on the fact-finding missions to their respective parliaments.

(e) Decision on future missions

Speakers: Hay Webster (Jamaica), Straker (St Vincent and the Grenadines), Nyassa (Cameroon), acting Co-President, Lulling, Talagi (Niue), Carlotti, Martínez Martínez, Akpovi (Benin) and the Co-President.

Decision: the mission to Ethiopia and/or Eritrea was confirmed.

9. Amendment of the Rules of Procedure (APP/3866/BUR.)

Co-rapporteurs: Mrs Glenys Kinnock and Mr Georges Rawiri (Gabon), Co-Presidents
Exchange of views on the draft amendments to the Rules of Procedure.

Speakers: Gahler, Carlotti and Straker (St Vincent and the Grenadines).

10. Financing of the JPA's activities

Report by the two Co-Secretaries-General on the financing of the ACP side of the JPA, and on the analysis of problems encountered and of ways of ensuring that they did not happen again.

Speakers: Kaputin, Nickel (Co-Secretaries-General), Carlotti, Martínez Martínez and Nguemo Owono (Equatorial Guinea).

Decisions:

- this item would appear again on the agenda of the meeting of September 2006;
- the Co-Secretaries-General were invited to provide the Bureau with further information;
- the Vice-Presidents with responsibility for the budget, Ms Marie-Arlette Carlotti and Prince Guduza Dlamini (Swaziland), were assigned the task of following up the issue.

11. Date and place of the 13th session of the Joint Parliamentary Assembly

Speaker: Gahler.

The Bureau noted a proposal by the German federal state of Hesse and by the city of Wiesbaden and a proposal by the city of Stuttgart.

Decisions: given the proximity of Frankfurt international airport and the proximity to Wiesbaden of the GTZ¹ and of the KfW² (public institutions with responsibility for

¹ Deutsche Gesellschaft für Technische Zusammenarbeit (GTZ) GmbH (German Agency for Technical Cooperation)

² Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (Reconstruction Loan Corporation)

development aid), the 13th session would be held in Wiesbaden, respecting the procedures of the Financial Regulation.

The meeting adjourned at 19.45 and resumed on Monday 19 June at 18.50.

12. Delegations and fact-finding missions (*continued*)

Decision on future missions

Speakers: Hay Webster (Jamaica), Bowis, Carlotti, Nyassa (Cameroon), acting Co-President, Gahler, Straker (St Vincent and the Grenadines), Poghisi (Kenya), Akpovi (Benin), Cornillet, Martens, Dlamini (Swaziland) and the Co-President.

During the debate, it was pointed out that, under Article 27 of the Rules of Procedure, missions might also take place in EU Member States.

Decisions: subject to budget considerations,

- a mission would be sent within the European Union to investigate the issue of immigration there. The Co-Presidents would determine the arrangements taking into account the wish to visit a border area and an island area. This mission would consist of two MEPs and two ACP Members;
- two ACP Members would join the European Parliament delegation that would be sent to the Democratic Republic of Congo to observe the elections in that country;
- contact would be made with the organisers of the Euro-African Conference on Migration and Development in Rabat with a view to appropriate participation by the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly.

13. Amendment of the Rules of Procedure (APP/3866/BUR.) (*continued*)

Speaker: Straker (St Vincent and the Grenadines) and the Co-President.

Decision: this item was held over to the meeting of September 2006.

14. Appointment of the EU Vice-President responsible for contacts with civil society, the Economic and Social Committee and the representatives of ACP-EU social and economic circles

- Decision:**
- Mr Thierry Cornillet was elected by acclamation;
 - the two Vice-Presidents, Mr Louis Hilton Straker and Mr Thierry Cornillet, were invited to present their working programme at the next meeting of the Bureau.

15. Human Rights

Vice-Presidents with responsibility for human rights: Mr Toket Talagi (Niue) and Mr Michael Gahler

Speaker: Talagi (Niue).

Decision:

- the Vice-Presidents were invited to present a new report to the Bureau at the meeting of September 2006.

16. Other business

Speakers: Martens, Carlotti, Lulling, Straker (St Vincent and the Grenadines), Nickel (EU Co-Secretary-General), Nyassa (Cameroon), acting Co-President, Talagi (Niue), Hay Webster (Jamaica) and the Co-President.

Decisions:

- the Co-Secretaries-General were invited to submit to the Bureau an information note on the Women's Forum;
- as far as possible, greater attention would be paid to the reception and transport of Members at forthcoming JPA sessions as well as to grouping Members together in a limited number of hotels.

17. Date and place of next meeting

The next meeting would be held in Brussels on 12 September 2006 in the afternoon and 13 September 2006 in the morning.

The meeting closed at 20.00.

ANNEXE/ANNEX
LISTE DE PRÉSENCE/RECORD OF ATTENDANCE

Présents/Present

ACP

Nyassa (Cameroon), acting Co-President.
Akpovi (Benin)
Danata (Cameroon)
Nguema Owono (Equatorial Guinea)
Hay Webster (Jamaica)
Kamotho ⁽¹⁾ and Poghisio ⁽²⁾ (Kenya)
Talagi (Niue).
Straker (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)
Sanga (Solomon Islands)
Guduza ⁽¹⁾ and Dlamini ⁽²⁾ (Swaziland)
Chulumunda (Zambia)

EP/PE

Kinnock, Co-President
Bowis
Carlotti
Cornillet
Gahler
Lulling
Deva (for Mantovani)
Martínez Martínez ⁽¹⁾
Martens (for Mitchell)

EGALEMENT PRÉSENTS/ALSO PRESENT:

ACP: Adjahi (Benin), Awudu Mbaya, Bah Oumarou Sanda (Cameroon), Dufu (Ghana), Evuna, Andeme, Nka Obiang Maye, Couasi (Equatorial Guinea), Prendergast (Jamaica), Kioko, Muthigani, Konchella (Kenya), Thomas (St Vincent and the Grenadines), Kamanga, Mulenga, Mbewe (Zambia)

Council

McDonald, Van Elst, Speckbacher, Diez Parra

Commission

Baum

Groupes politiques/Political groups:

Palassof, Haglund, Lukyamuzi (PPE-DE)
Vallin, Todd, Lepouras (PSE)
Melis, Stasinopoulou, Lorenzetti (ADLE)
Tsigereda (Verts/ALE)
Bojaré (UEN)

DG External Policies

Rose, Douaud, Policy Department

DG Information

Dudrap, Freedman

Cosecrétariat ACP/ACP co-secretariat:

Kaputin, Co-Secretary-General
Bradley, Chilimboyi, Sagnia, Kasasa, Senghor,
Coulibaly, Kakule, Abdourakhmane, Ramanankasina

Cosecrétariat PE/EP co-secretariat:

Nickel, Co-Secretary-General
Perillo, Wood, van Hecken, Bassot, McLauchlan,
Herzig, Kiss, Leite

Assistance/Assisted by: Lefèvre

(1) present on 18 June

(2) present on 19 June