

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

CO-ORDINATORS' MEETING

24 July 2014, 9.00 - 11.00

Room Altiero Spinelli (1E-1)

Results

24.07.2014

Present:

Mr La Via, Chair
Mr Liese, Coordinator of the EPP Group
Ms Groote, Coordinator of the S&D Group
Ms Girling, Coordinator of the ECR Group
Mr Gerbrandy, Coordinator of the ALDE Group
Ms Kone ná, Coordinator of the GUE/NLG Group
Mr Eickhout, Coordinator of the Greens/EFA Group
Mr Pedicini, Coordinator of the EFDD Group

1. ADOPTION OF DRAFT AGENDA

The draft agenda was adopted without modifications.

2. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

2.1 Main outcome of CCC

The Chair informed that on 15 July, the Conference of Committee Chairs held its constitutive meeting and elected by acclamation Mr Jerzy Buzek, Chair of the ITRE Committee, as its Chair.

The main item discussed at the meeting was the possible timetable for the hearings of the new Commissioners. The hearings of the Commissioners could take place already at the end of September and the plenary vote in October I. The Conference of Committee Chairs also adopted the two general questions common to all candidates Commissioners.

Although the decisions on the names of the High-Representative and of the President of the European Council were postponed to the European Council at the end of August, the EP President wishes to stick to the initial timetable for the hearings, on the basis of the assumption that all other names and portfolios will in any case be known by end of July.

2.2 Informal Environment Council and Joint Informal Environment and Labour Council

The meeting took place on 16-17 July in Milan.

The main item discussed at the Environment Council was “Green growth: greening the European Semester and the EU 2020 Strategy”.

The main item discussed at the Joint Environment and Labour Council was “Green growth and employment”.

In the light of the discussions at the Informal Council, the Chair put two proposals for the coordinators' consideration:

1. ENVI Committee involvement in the European Semester process

Decision taken: *Opinion to ECON Committee INI report on European Semester for economic policy coordination: implementation of 2014 priorities (ALDE drafts person - Mr Gerbrandy - 0 points).*

2. Mid-term review of Europe 2020 strategy

Decision taken: *No direct involvement of the ENVI Committee in the EMPL Committee initiative to table an OQ and motion for resolution for plenary.*

3. DECISIONS ON PROCEDURE

<i>Reports</i>

3.1 Approximation of the laws of the Member States relating to caseins and caseinates intended for human consumption and repealing Council Directive 83/417/EEC ENVI/8/00393

***I 2014/0096(COD) COM(2014)0174 – C7-0105/2014

Responsible: ENVI –

Opinions: IMCO –

Decision taken: Chair, 0 points

3.2 Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council repealing Council Directive 93/5/EEC of 25 February 1993 on assistance to the Commission and cooperation by the Member States in the scientific examination of questions relating to food

ENVI/8/00444

***I 2014/0132(COD) COM(2014)0246 – C7-0177/2014

Responsible: ENVI –

Opinions: ITRE –

Decision taken: Simplified procedure (Rule 50(1))

3.3 Agreement concerning Iceland's participation in the second commitment period of the Kyoto Protocol to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change
ENVI/8/00453

*** 2014/0151(NLE) COM(2014)0290

Responsible: ENVI –

Opinions: AFET –
ITRE –

Decision taken: Chair, 0 points

3.4 Proposal for a Directive of the European Parliament and of the Council amending Directive 2008/98/EC on waste, Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste, Directive 1999/31/EC on the landfill of waste, Directive 2000/53/EC on end-of-life vehicles, Directive 2006/66/EC on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators, and Directive 2012/19/EU on waste electrical and electronic equipment

ENVI/8/00736

***I 2014/0201(COD) COM(2014)0397 – C8-0086/2014

Responsible: ENVI –

Opinions: ECON –
ITRE –
IMCO –
TRAN –

Decision taken: S&D rapporteur, 3 points

<i>Opinions</i>

3.5 Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council laying down a prohibition on driftnet fisheries, amending Council Regulations (EC) 850/98, (EC) No 812/2004, (EC) No 2187/2005 and (EC) No 1967/2006 and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 894/97

ENVI/8/00452

***I 2014/0138(COD) COM(2014)0265 – C7-0218/2014

Responsible: PECH –

Opinions: ENVI –

Decision taken: EFDD draftsman, 1 point

3.6 Fixing an adjustment rate for direct payments provided for in Council Regulation (EC) No 73/2009 in respect of calendar year 2014

ENVI/8/00397

***I 2014/0097(COD) COM(2014)0175 – C7-0108/2014

Responsible: AGRI –

Opinions: ENVI –
BUDG –

REGI –

Decision taken: No opinion

3.7 Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on organic production and labelling of organic products, amending Regulation (EU) No XXX/XXX of the European Parliament and of the Council [Official controls Regulation] and repealing Council Regulation (EC) No 834/2007
ENVI/8/00400

***I 2014/0100(COD) COM(2014)0180 – C7-0109/2014

Responsible: AGRI –

Opinions: ENVI –

Decision taken: - EPP dtaftsperson, 1 point
- The Chair was mandated to request the application of Rule 54 of the Rules of Procedure.

3.8 Proposal for a regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on personal protective equipment

ENVI/8/00402

***I 2014/0108(COD) COM(2014)0186 – C7-0110/2014

Responsible: IMCO –

Opinions: ITRE –

ENVI –

EMPL –

Decision taken: No opinion

3.9 Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on appliances burning gaseous fuels

ENVI/8/00448

***I 2014/0136(COD) COM(2014)0258 – C7-0202/2014

Responsible: IMCO –

Opinions: ITRE –

INTA –

ENVI –

Decision taken: No opinion

3.10 Financial rules applicable to the general budget of the Union

ENVI/8/00622

***I 2014/0180(COD) COM(2014)0358 – C8-0029/2014

Responsible: BUDG –

Decision taken: No opinion.

3.11 Amending budget No 3/2014: Revenue from fines and interest payments - revenue from reimbursements and repayments to FEMIP (Facility for Euro-Mediterranean Investment and Partnership) - Redeployment of appropriations to the European Fisheries Fund - Increase in payment appropriations for commitments corresponding to previous annual budgets - Unforeseen actions in accordance with Article13 of the MFF Regulation - Staff of the European Commission, the Offices, the Committee of the Regions and the European Data Protection Supervisor

ENVI/8/00474

2014/2036(BUD)

Responsible: BUDG –

Decision taken: No opinion. The Chair was mandated to write to the BUDG Committee supporting the proposed increase in payments for LIFE programme.

3.12 Interoperability solutions for European public administrations, businesses and citizens (ISA2) Interoperability as a means for modernising the public sector

ENVI/8/00666

***I 2014/0185(COD) COM(2014)0367 – C8-0037/2014

Responsible: ITRE –

Decision taken: No opinion

Documents received for information

Items 3.13-3.32

Decision taken: The secretariat was instructed to draw-up a short list of subjects candidate for INI reports on the basis of the recommendations included in the coordinator's notes. This short-list will be complemented by proposals by political groups, as appropriate.

After the meeting, the Greens/EFA group asked that item 3.31 be added to the short list.

4. DECISIONS RELATED TO LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

4.1 ENVI standing rapporteur on TTIP [NK]

Decision taken: Coordinators decided to insist on ENVI position on two co-rapporteurs. The Chair was mandated to inform the INTA Committee accordingly.

4.2 Workshop on novel foods

Decision taken: Coordinators confirmed that a workshop will be organised on 7 October 2014.

5. DECISIONS RELATED TO NON-LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

5.1 Hearings of the new Commissioners

5.1.1 Timing and procedure for the organisation of the hearings

Decision taken:

Coordinators endorsed the timetable below:

- **Deadline to put forward draft written questions by political groups** (3 questions for each of the following likely portfolios: Environment, Climate Change, Health /Food safety): **Monday, 1 September at 18.00 in English**
- **Circulation of compiled document of all questions tabled:** Tuesday, 2 September by 13.00 at the latest
- **Discussion and adoption of recommendation on questions tabled at ENVI coordinators' meeting on Wednesday, 3 September, 9 am**
- **Endorsement by ENVI Committee of the written questions recommended by the coordinators:** Wednesday, 3 September at around 10.30 am

5.1.2 Possible workshop in preparation to the hearings

Decision taken:

Coordinators decided to request written briefing notes describing the state of play of current/ongoing legislation and identifying the unresolved and upcoming issues and challenges for Europe in the areas of responsibility of the ENVI Committee to be made available by Tuesday, 23 September. If there is time available before the hearings, the workshop could then take place either on Thursday, 25 September in the morning, or on Tuesday, 30 September in the morning.

5.2 *Presentation of Agencies' work and responsibilities at a future ENVI-meeting*

Decision taken:

Coordinators decided to invite the Agencies to future ENVI meetings to present their work and responsibilities. Two half-days maximum (among which Monday, 6 October) will be put aside for these presentations, which will be organised thematically.

5.3 *Appointment of contact persons for the Agencies within ENVI remit EFSA, EEA, EMA, ECDC, ECHA, FVO*

Decision taken:

Coordinators decided to appoint liaison MEPs responsible for the relations with the above agencies for a period of two-and-a-half years (first half of parliamentary term). A deadline was fixed for **10 September** to put forward proposals for names for each Agency, with a view to a coordinators' decision at the end of September coordinators' meeting. A decision on the contact persons responsible for the second half of the term could be taken in January 2017.

5.4 *Re-establishment of the Health Working Group*

Decision taken:

Coordinators decided to re-establish the Health Working Group. A deadline to put forward names of candidates for the office of (two) co-chairs was fixed for **10 September**, with a view to a coordinators' decision at the end of September coordinators' meeting. Once appointed, the two co-chairs could convene the first meeting, which would be open to all interested Members.

5.5 *Possible establishment of a Working Group following the implementation of the LIFE programme*

Decision taken:

Coordinators decided to set up an ENVI working group with representatives from all the political groups in order to follow the implementation of the LIFE programme in periodic meetings (2-4 per year). Political groups were invited to inform the secretariat **by 10 September** of the names of their Members participating. The issue of a broader scrutiny over implementation of the legislation in the areas of responsibility of the Committee will be re-assessed at a future meeting, also on the basis of the experience of the LIFE working group.

5.6 *Expo 2015 in Milan*

Decision taken: A number of coordinators expressed the view that an 'ad-hoc' participation of the Chair and/or rapporteur(s) to specific events was the preferable option. The final decision was postponed to one of the next meetings, to take also into account the programme of ENVI delegations for 2015.

5.7 *STOA study on 'Methanol: a future transport fuel based on hydrogen and carbon dioxide'*

Decision taken:

Coordinators decided to circulate the study to ENVI MEPs for information.

5.8 *Scrutiny and oversight activities of the ENVI Committee*

Decision taken:

Postponed to next meeting. The suggestion to ask the Commissioners-designate to make scrutiny-related pledges (e.g. as to their personal involvement in scrutiny sessions, as to the responsiveness of their DGs) in the context of the hearing process was not retained.

6. PROPOSALS FOR DECISION WITHOUT DEBATE

6.1 *Treatment of Delegated and implementing acts/comitology in the ENVI Committee - Confirmation of working methods*

Decision taken: Coordinators approved and confirmed the existing practice for the 8th legislative term.

6.2 *Petitions received for opinion*

- Petition N° **0319/2013** by Alessandro Ciambrone (Italian), on behalf of the Network of Associations in Castel Volturno, on crime in the area of Castel Volturno (Campania - Italy). [The petitioner is complaining about serious environmental deterioration in the area and highlighting the sea pollution caused by illegal sewage discharges as well as illegal building along the coast. The petition is supported by 14 local associations.]

Decision taken: Postponed to next meeting at the request of the EFDD group.

- Petition N° **1172/2013** by I.G. (Romanian) concerning the use of antibiotics in food products of animal origin. [The petitioner has referred the matter to the Commission which informed him that the maximum admissible daily intake of benzyl penicillin from all foods is 30 µg, a limit value which does not, however, appear to prevent the specific allergic reactions suffered by the petitioner.]

Decision taken: No opinion - the Chairman will reply by letter to the PETI Chair

- Petition N° **1127/2013** by Christiane and Dierk Stelzer (German) on Members of the European Parliament neglecting EU citizens' requests for support and information on questions of nuclear safety

Decision taken: No opinion - the Chairman will reply by letter to the PETI Chair

7. POINTS FOR INFORMATION

7.1 Comitology, Delegated Acts and expert meetings - Implementation of the Framework Agreement on relations between the European Parliament and the Commission in the context of expert group meetings

7.2 Petitions received for information

- Petition N° **1090/2013** by Carolin Janker (German) concerning a ban on trading palm oil. [The petitioner calls for an end to EU support for the production of palm oil for use as biodiesel, as this involves the destruction of large swathes of tropical forests. Similar to written Question E-1865/2010 and to other petitions, for example 0930/2010. The petitioner regularly tables petitions concerning environmental damage.]
- Petition N° **1091/2013** by Carolin Janker (German) concerning a ban on the fishing, sale and marketing of threatened fish species and various species of shark. [Numerous written questions as well as other petitions (1427/2007 and 1537/2010) concern related issues. The EU has banned the finning of sharks under Council Regulation (EC) No 1185/2003 (currently under review). In February 2009, the Commission approved an EU programme of action for shark conservation.]
- Petition N° **1083/2013** by Wolfdietrich Burde (German) concerning inadequate Commission monitoring of environmental infringements in Freiburg im Breisgau, Germany. [The petitioner indicated that he has received no reply to online complaints to the Commission regarding infringements of EU air quality legislation and the failure of German authorities to reduce nitrous oxide emissions by 2015 as required. The deadline has already been extended although the city of Freiburg is able to comply with the requisite period.]

7.3 Twelfth meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD COP 12), 6 -17 October 2014 - Pyeongchang (Republic of Korea)

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

None

9. NEXT COORDINATORS' MEETING

Wednesday, 3 September 2014, at 9.00 am (Brussels)