

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

## COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT, PUBLIC HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY

### CO-ORDINATORS' MEETING

14 July 2014, 19.00-20.30

**Room SDM S1, Strasbourg**

### RESULTS

15.07.2014

#### 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 Konečná, 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 Informal Environment Council***

As it is tradition, the Chair has been invited to take part in the Informal Environment Council and the Joint Informal Environment and Labour Council taking place in Milan on 16-17 July. The main theme of both Councils will be around Green Employment. The Chair will report back on the main issues discussed at next coordinators' meeting.

### **3. URGENT DECISIONS RELATED TO PENDING LEGISLATIVE MATTERS**

#### ***3.1 Confirmation of method for allocation of reports/opinions (auctioning points system)***

**Decision taken:** The auctioning system applied during the 7th parliamentary term was confirmed. The number of points allotted to each group for the 1st half of the parliamentary term is equal to the number of its seats in ENVI multiplied by two. Opinions can be allocated using half points intervals.

### 3.2 Confirmation of pending legislative files (Rule 229)

**Decision taken:** The Coordinators held an exchange of views and mandated the Chair to write to the Chair of the Conference of Committee Chairs/President of the European Parliament informing of the Committee's wish to continue work on all pending legislative files.

### 3.3 Confirmation of groups and rapporteurs responsible for files which were allocated during the 7th parliamentary term

**Decision taken:**

- The allocation of all pending files to the political group to which they had been allocated in the 7<sup>th</sup> parliamentary term was confirmed;
- The allocation of the technical files allocated to the Chair to the newly elected Chair was confirmed;
- Political groups were invited to confirm the names of the rapporteurs, or, as appropriate, appoint a new rapporteur;
- Political groups were invited to inform the chair and the secretariat of the names of the rapporteurs and shadow rapporteurs;

### 3.4 Timing of upcoming second readings

a) *GMOs (ex-Lepage)*

**Decision taken:** Following an exchange of views, coordinators representing a majority of ENVI Committee Members considered that, although the time schedule will be very tight, the ENVI Committee could try to deal with the file during the IT Presidency in view of a possible second reading agreement.

The Chair was mandated to take the appropriate contacts with the IT Presidency.

b) *Reduction of consumption of plastic bags (Rapporteur: Ms Auken)*

**Decision taken:** Following an exchange of views, coordinators considered that it could in principle be envisaged by the ENVI Committee to deal with the file during the IT Presidency as an early second reading agreement, without prejudice to the result of the committee vote on the mandate.

The Chair was mandated to take the appropriate contacts with the IT Presidency.

c) *ILUC (ex-Lepage)*

**Decision taken:** Following an exchange of views, coordinators considered that the ENVI Committee could start dealing with the file already during the IT Presidency, with the view possibly/if agreement reached, to concluding a second reading under the LV Presidency.

The Chair was mandated to take the appropriate contacts with the IT Presidency.

d) *Maritime transport emissions monitoring and reporting (ex-Skylakakis)*

**Decision taken:** Following an exchange of views, coordinators considered that it could in principle be envisaged by the ENVI Committee to deal with the file during the IT Presidency as an early second reading agreement, without prejudice to the result of the committee vote on the mandate.

The Chair was mandated to take the appropriate contacts with the IT Presidency.

3.5 **ENVI involvement in the 2015 Budgetary procedure**

General budget of the European Union for the financial year 2015 - all sections

ENVI/8/00598 - 2014/2040(BUD)

Responsible: BUDG –

**Decision taken:**

- Mr La Via (EPP) was appointed rapporteur for 2015 Budget for 0 points;
- The following timetable was agreed:
  - Deadline for sending rapporteur's text to translation (EN version) the 22<sup>nd</sup> of July;
  - Consideration draft report in ENVI 23-24 July 2014 (Text available only in EN);
  - Deadline for amendments to the opinion (only in EN) and the figures: 24 July 2014, 16:00
  - Vote in ENVI: 3 September 2014
  - Coordinators will come back to the issue of a standing rapporteur at one of the next meetings

3.6 *Conflict of competence with the AGRI Committee on the Commission proposals on cloning*

**Decision taken:** Following an exchange of views, the Chair was mandated to contact the new AGRI Chair and reiterate the ENVI position on the matter.

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**4. URGENT DECISIONS RELATED TO NON-LEGISLATIVE MATTERS**

4.1 **UNFCCC COP 20 in Lima – Composition of ad hoc delegation and EP input**

**Decision taken:** *On the composition of the delegation:*

- Pending a final decision of the Conference of Presidents on the size and composition of the delegation, political groups were invited to inform the

secretariat by 24 July 2014 at 12.00 noon of the names of their Members participating:

*On the EP input:*

Coordinators agreed that:

- the resolution should be adopted in accordance with the following timetable:
  - 1) Draft resolution: to be finalised and tabled by 8 September 2014
  - 2) Consideration of resolution in ENVI and adoption of oral questions: 29-30 September 2014
  - 3) Deadline for amendments: 8 October 2014 at 12.00
  - 4) Vote in ENVI: 5-6 November 2014
  - 5) Vote in Plenary: 24-27 November 2014;
- each group shall nominate one "co-sponsor" (whose name would appear, in addition to the chairman's name, on the cover page) for the resolution;
- as has been the case for previous COPs, the resolution could include contributions from other interested Committees, in particular ITRE and DEVE.

#### **4.2 Possible organisation of general policy workshops in view of the hearings of the new Commissioners**

**Decision taken:** Coordinators were in principle in favour of organising such workshops. Political groups were invited to check the concrete interest and availability of Members before a final decision is taken at next coordinators' meeting.

#### **4.3 Appointment of ENVI representatives to the STOA panel**

**Decision taken:** Coordinators were invited to identify potential candidates in their groups and inform the secretariat by 3 September 2014 with a view to a coordinators' decision on the appointment of two ENVI representatives on the STOA panel in early September. The appointments are for 2 ½ years.

#### **4.4 Reduction of paper consumption in ENVI Committee meeting**

**Decision taken:** Coordinators decided to continue the implementation of the Paperless program through the modernisation of the dissemination of information and documents to Members and staff by using the latest technology and further reduction of printed documents for Committees. Accordingly, as done in the previous legislature, all ENVI Members will be asked to choose whether or not to have only an electronic file for the meeting.

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## **5. DECISIONS ON PROCEDURE**

**Decision taken:** Postponed to next meeting

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## **6. PROPOSALS FOR DECISION WITHOUT DEBATE**

### **6.1    *Calendar of ENVI Committee meetings for the remainder of 2014***

**Decision taken:**

- The calendar of meetings for the remainder of 2014 was confirmed
- The secretariat was instructed to circulate it to all ENVI Members

### **6.2    *ENVI Committee linguistic profile***

**Decision taken:** The ENVI Committee linguistic profile was approved.

### **6.3 *Proposals for delegation visits for the 1<sup>st</sup> semester 2015***

**Decision taken:** A deadline was fixed for **11 September 2014** to put forward proposals on the above.

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## **7. POINTS FOR INFORMATION**

The file included the following lists:

### **7.1    *Petitions received for information***

- Petition N° **0839/2013** by Jerzy Warszyński (Polish), on problems regarding alcohol production and consumption in Poland.
- Petition N° **0921/2013** by Martin Schatzl (German) on the requirements pertaining to DNA kinship testing. [The legal requirements vary from country to country. The

petitioner believes that the presence of a witness (required in Germany) is superfluous and that uniform rules should apply in all Member States.]

- Petition N° **0967/2013** by Marion Trück (German), on the announced ban on the use of certain flavouring substances. [Following the petitioner opposes a potential EU ban of 12 natural flavouring substances used inter alia to produce essential oils. In [its reply to the Committee on Petitions](#), the European Commission clarified that only one of the 12 substances is considered unsafe by the SCCS and therefore proposed for a ban.]
- Petition N° **0891/2013** by Torsten Jäger (German) on aircraft noise and the burden it places on health. [The petitioner calls for a reduction in noise due to aircraft flights in the Essen area (notably in the area of Frankfurt airport) and for consistent compliance with the prohibition on night flights. There are numerous petitions on the same topic (for example: petition N°274/201).]
- Petition N° **0895/2013** by Jörg Bischof (German) on a breach of the emission trading scheme. [The petitioner believes that freely traded allowances are linked to the market and not directly linked to environmental pollution. This concerns greenhouse gases but also other substances such as radioactive waste. The petitioner believes that the introduction of an environmental tax would enable compliance with the 'polluter pays' principle. He demands a binding discussion on this issue.]
- Petition N° **1353/2013** by Raffaele Bellezza (Italian), on behalf of Parents Against Smog (*Genitori AntiSmog*), bearing 1504 signatures, on air pollution in Lombardy (Italy). [The petition maintains that Article 191 TFEU, designed to safeguard health and the environment, and Directive 2008/50/EC on air quality have been infringed. Infringement proceedings have taken place with regard to this matter, resulting in the Court of Justice condemning Italy (Case C-68/2011 of 19 December 2012).]
- Petition N° **0969/2013** by Karl Brutscher and Norbet Laube (German), on non-compliance with the Alpine Convention in Germany. [The petitioners believe point out that reducing the size of protected natural areas (such as Egartenlandschaft um Miesbach and Tegernsee und Umgebung in Bavaria) is contrary to the Alpine Convention's provisions. They are requesting the European Parliament to investigate this matter and call on Germany to stop these violations of the Alpine Convention, and possibly of other natural protection regulations.]
- Petition N° **1360/2013** by Leif Lundgren (Swedish) on the reuse of certain metals. [The petition does not contain any real request for action and mainly consist of the petitioner's opinion in favour of reusing metals.]
- Petition N° **1361/2013** by Leif Lundgren (Swedish) on the use of air conditioners. [The petitioner suggests using air conditioners powered by solar energy. Similar to petition N°1360/2013.]
- Petition N° **1582/2013** by Julia Alonso Garcia (Spanish) on a violation of the rights of a child in hospital. [The petition is of a general nature and aims at drawing attention to the necessary improvement of hospital care for autistic children by describing a specific case.]
- Petition N° **1529/2013** by M.T.C. (Spain) on replacing a PIP breast implant. [The petitioner wishes to have the implants removed, but cannot afford an operation, nor can she pay for a lawyer. The PIP (Poly Implant Prosthesis) implants were manufactured by a business in France against which many legal actions have been brought around the world because of health problems caused by the implants.]

## **7.2 Unfinished business - Motions for resolution pursuant to Rule 133 (ex-Rule 120) of the Rules of Procedure lapsed pursuant to Rule 229**

- Poor diet and the health risks to European citizens (B7-0282/2014)
- Beefburgers adulterated with meats other than beef and the need for a transparent set of rules for consumers on the traceability of prepared foods (B7-0393/2014)
- Presence in vaccines of mercury and other substances harmful to human health (B7-0358/2014)
- Further prejudice to Italian products: fake Sambuca (B7-0359/2014)
- New legislation on seeds: small-scale agricultural production under threat (B7-0349/2014)
- Protection for people suffering from multiple sclerosis and autism (B7-0341/2014) -
- Maternal mortality ratio in Europe (B7-0353/2014)
- Frozen lasagne containing horsemeat: labelling legislation, consumer protection and combating the 'Italian sounding' phenomenon (B7-0427/2014)
- Spread of the Schmallenberg virus and the risks for livestock in the EU (B7-0425/2014)
- Ebola epidemic in Africa (B7-0328/2014)
- Helping the elderly live active and healthy lives (B7-0384/2014)
- Berries and transmission of Hepatitis A (B7-0366/2014)
- Type 2 diabetes in the EU (B7-0364/2014)
- Unexploded WW2 bomb discovered in Vicenza (B7-0324/2014)
- Polio epidemic in Syria (B7-0322/2014)
- Risk to European consumers of anisakiasis infection (B7-0448/2014)

## **8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

None

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## **9. NEXT COORDINATORS' MEETING**

Thursday, 24 July 2014, 9.00-11.00 (Brussels)