



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

SECRETARIAT-GENERAL

PV(2007)1804 final

Brussels, 17 October 2007

MINUTES

of the 1804th meeting of the Commission

held in Brussels

(Berlaymont)

on Wednesday 10 October 2007

(morning)

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PV(2007)1804 final

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Single sitting: Wednesday 10 October 2007 (morning)

The sitting opened at 11.03 hours with Mr BARROSO, President, in the chair.

Present:

Mr BARROSO	President	
Ms WALLSTRÖM	Vice-President	Items 1 to 9
Mr VERHEUGEN	Vice-President	
Mr BARROT	Vice-President	
Mr KALLAS	Vice-President	
Mr FRATTINI	Vice-President	Items 1 to 9
Ms REDING		
Mr DIMAS		
Mr ALMUNIA		
Mr BORG		
Ms GRYBAUSKAITĖ		
Mr POTOČNIK		
Mr FIGEL'		
Mr KYPRIANOU		
Mr REHN		
Mr KOVÁCS		
Ms KROES		
Ms FISCHER BOEL		
Ms FERRERO-WALDNER		Items 1 to 10 (in part)
Mr McCREEVY		
Mr ŠPIDLA		
Mr MANDELSON		
Mr PIEBALGS		Items 1 to 9
Ms KUNEVA		
Mr ORBAN		

Absent:

Ms HÜBNER

Mr MICHEL

The following sat in to represent absent Members of the Commission

Mr LEMAITRE	Chef de cabinet to Ms HÜBNER
Ms WEYAND	Chef de cabinet to Mr MICHEL

The following also sat in

Mr VALE DE ALMEIDA	Chef de cabinet to the PRESIDENT	
Mr PETITE	Director-General, Legal Service	
Ms CORUGEDO STENEGER	DG Communication	
Mr LAITENBERGER	Commission Spokesman	
Mr GASPAR	Acting Director-General, Bureau of European Policy Advisers	
Mr CABRAL	Adviser hors classe in the PRESIDENT 's Office	Item 9
Mr ANDRESEN GUIMARÃES	A member of the PRESIDENT 's staff	Items 7 and 8
Mr TABONE	Chef de cabinet to Mr BORG	Items 7 and 8
Mr CHILD	Chef de cabinet to Ms FERRERO-WALDNER	Items 10 (in part) and 11
Mr RICHARDSON	DG Fisheries and Maritime Affairs	Items 7 and 8

Secretary: Ms DAY, Secretary-General, assisted by Mr AYET PUIGARNAU, Director in the Secretariat-General.

1. AGENDAS

(OJ(2007)1804/3; SEC(2007)1286/2)

The Commission took note of that day's agenda and of the tentative agendas for forthcoming meetings.

2. WEEKLY MEETING OF CHEFS DE CABINET

(SEC(2007)1804)

The Commission considered the Secretary-General's report on the weekly meeting of Chefs de cabinet held on Monday 8 October.

3. MINUTES OF 1803RD MEETING (3 OCTOBER 2007)

(PV(2007)1803)

The Commission approved the minutes of its 1803rd meeting.

4. WRITTEN PROCEDURES, EMPOWERMENT AND DELEGATION OF POWERS

4.1. WRITTEN PROCEDURES APPROVED

(SEC(2007)1287 ET SEQ.)

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted under the empowerment procedure between 1 and 5 October 2007.

4.2. SENSITIVE WRITTEN PROCEDURES

(SEC(2007)1288 AND /2)

The Commission took note of the sensitive written procedures for which the time limit expired between 8 and 12 October 2007 and of the "finalisation" written procedure initiated following the weekly meeting of Chefs de cabinet on 8 October 2007.

4.3. EMPOWERMENT

(SEC(2007)1289 ET SEQ.)

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted under the empowerment procedure between 1 and 5 October 2007.

4.4. DELEGATION AND SUBDELEGATION OF POWERS

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted under the delegation procedure between 1 and 5 October 2007, as archived in Greffe 2000.

**4.5. DELEGATION OF POWERS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
PROGRAMME OF SUPPORT FOR THE EUROPEAN AUDIOVISUAL
SECTOR (MEDIA 2007)**

(SEC(2007)1306)

The Commission decided to delegate powers to the Director-General responsible for the information society and media for the adoption, on behalf of the Commission and under its responsibility, of measures for the implementation of the programme of support for the European audiovisual sector, in accordance with the terms set out in SEC(2007)1306.

**4.6. DELEGATION OF POWERS FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE
LIFELONG LEARNING ACTION PROGRAMME, THE CULTURE
PROGRAMME, THE YOUTH IN ACTION PROGRAMME, AND THE
EUROPE FOR CITIZENS PROGRAMME
(SEC(2007)1308)**

The Commission decided to delegate powers to the Director-General responsible for education and culture for the adoption, on behalf of the Commission and under its responsibility, of measures for the implementation of various programmes in the fields of education and culture, in accordance with the terms set out in SEC(2007)1308.

**5. COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE COUNCIL, THE
EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL
COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS -
REASSESSING THE REGULATORY SOCIAL FRAMEWORK FOR MORE
AND BETTER SEAFARING JOBS IN THE EU - FIRST PHASE
CONSULTATION OF THE SOCIAL PARTNERS AT COMMUNITY
LEVEL PROVIDED FOR IN ARTICLE 138(2) OF THE TREATY
(COM(2007)591 TO /3; SEC(2007)1297)**

The Commission approved the communication in COM(2007)591/3 for transmission to Parliament, the Council, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, and to the national parliaments.

It also decided to transmit the communication to the European social partners, with a request for a response.

6. RELATIONS WITH THIRD COUNTRIES

6.1. VISIT TO ALBANIA (TIRANA, 1 AND 2 OCTOBER 2007)

(SEC(2007)1352)

The Commission took note of the information note from Mr FIGEL' in SEC(2007)1352.

6.2. AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN UNION AND CHINA ON CERTAIN TEXTILE IMPORTS

(SEC(2007)1344)

The Commission took note of the information note from Mr MANDELSON in SEC(2007)1344.

7. COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS - CONCLUSIONS FROM THE CONSULTATION ON A EUROPEAN MARITIME POLICY

(COM(2007)574 AND /2; SEC(2007)1278 TO /3; SEC(2007)1283 AND /2; SEC(2007)1279; SEC(2007)1280; SEC(2007)1282; SEC(2007)1281; SEC(2007)1296)

8. COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL, THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS – AN INTEGRATED MARITIME POLICY FOR THE EUROPEAN UNION

(COM(2007)575 TO /3; SEC(2007)1278 TO /3; SEC(2007)1283 AND /2; SEC(2007)1279; SEC(2007)1280; SEC(2007)1282; SEC(2007)1281; SEC(2007)1296)

The PRESIDENT opened the discussion, expressing his satisfaction that the project of a European maritime policy, an idea of the present Commission, was coming to fruition that day.

He emphasised the method, the commitment and the energy Mr BORG had put into this undertaking, and the competence of the steering group made up of Mr VERHEUGEN, Mr BARROT, Mr FRATTINI, Mr DIMAS, Mr POTOČNIK, Mr ŠPIDLA, Mr PIEBALGS, Ms HÜBNER and Ms FERRERO-WALDNER which had nurtured this policy and given shape to the integrated approach that it sought to promote. He expressed his thanks to Mr BORG and to all the Commission Members concerned.

The PRESIDENT then explained how this project would serve the European interest, by providing a European response that complemented the Community strategies for growth and employment, and sustainable development, and help to achieve the goals on energy and combating climate change.

He also felt that an integrated maritime policy for the EU would serve to deploy the growth potential represented by the maritime and coastal economy, which was already at the fore of economic development in several Member States.

He thought that the this project was a yardstick of the European Commission's ability to rise to three major challenges: namely to obtain results via practical political action of an innovative nature, to attract the attention of the general public by projects launched on the Commission's own initiative and not in reaction to the pressures of the moment, and to demonstrate that the Commission is capable of pursuing a holistic and coherent approach cutting across the various areas involved.

The PRESIDENT concluded by saying that this matter was an illustration of the Commission's role and way of operating in today's Europe, and therefore asked all the Members to put their weight behind it in order to make it a success, so that tangible results would be achieved as quickly as possible.

He also congratulated Mr ŠPIDLA for the related initiative taken that day as regards the social dimension of the maritime policy (see item 5 of these minutes), and Mr PIEBALGS for the working document on the energy aspects of maritime policy, both of which bore witness to a shared determination to act speedily for the success of the integrated maritime policy. He then asked Mr BORG to present the main points.

Mr BORG thanked the PRESIDENT for his introduction. He began by recalling the objectives the Commission had set itself at the very beginning of its term of office for the development of a European maritime policy, and hoped that the communications he was tabling would fully meet these objectives.

He referred back to the results of the general maritime policy debate the Commission had held last June, and was confident that the collective efforts deployed, particularly in the steering group, had made it possible to attain the intended goal, namely the presentation of a credible, ambitious and comprehensive vision for the oceans and seas surrounding the European Union.

He emphasised that the proposed overall strategic approach on maritime affairs constituted a first in the history of the Union, and welcomed the fact that sectoral policies would in future be part of a big picture, would take account of their interactions and their combined effects, and benefit from possible synergies.

Mr BORG pointed out that this increased coordination did not mean concentration of powers or centralisation, but closer collaboration between decision-makers, economic operators and all stakeholders. He noted that this type of strategic approach was already practised in some of our major partner countries, such as the United States, Japan, Australia and Canada.

He drew attention to the particular benefits the Union could expect from an integrated maritime policy in terms of adjusting to globalisation, combating climate change, meeting energy policy objectives and reshaping the relationship between economic development and the marine environment.

Mr BORG then mentioned the massive support he had received from the interested parties associated in the consultation process, and the extensive contributions submitted, factors which had laid solid foundations for launching the maritime policy.

He listed some of the practical initiatives contained in the action plan presented in the communication covering the following projects in particular: regulation of maritime transport; a strategy for maritime research; the role of ports in European economic growth and the proposed guidelines for the application of environmental legislation to port development; the optimum use of Community funds with a view to strengthening sustainable growth of coastal regions and isolated regions; deployment of means of combating climate change, particularly via research and innovation; promotion of more environmentally-friendly shipping and fisheries that respect ecosystems; the development of new planning tools and data networking for sounder decision-making, and enhanced collaboration on monitoring compliance with rules in Community waters; support for groups or centres of excellence in the maritime field so as increase competitiveness, particularly for small businesses, and to make maritime careers more attractive.

In this connection Mr BORG expressed his thanks for the communication Mr ŠPIDLA had presented that day on adapting the social regulatory framework for seafaring jobs.

In conclusion he hoped that the work carried out jointly over the last three years would bear fruit and offer the EU a solid base for its integrated maritime policy. A long road now lay ahead and the Commission would be judged on the practical application of the guidelines laid down. He therefore called on all the Members to continue working together and to urge their departments to collaborate closely. He thanked the PRESIDENT and the members of the steering group for their support and their cooperation, and the staff concerned for the work carried out, especially in the Maritime Policy Task Force, and he acknowledged in particular the dedication shown by the members of his own cabinet on this dossier.

The Commission then held a brief exchange of views focusing on the following aspects:

- the exemplary internal coordination of the preparatory work, and the quality of the process of consulting the interested parties;
- the importance of developing a ports policy that ensures optimum use of European marine and coastal areas;
- the value of taking all the necessary steps so that in 2008 guidelines can be laid down for the application of Community environmental legislation to the development of ports, so that investments can be focused in the right direction;
- the problem of the extinction of certain species and the urgent need to act;
- the need to incorporate the idea of sustainability in all the activities covered by maritime policy, including tourism;
- the importance of tackling the problem of the effects of climate change;

- the framework to be provided for aquaculture, which belonged not only to the field of the environment but also to that of food safety and required that special attention be paid to hygiene and security;
- the impact of the problem of water pollution, particularly by heavy metals, on food safety for consumers;
- the benefits for health deriving from marine life, and the importance of preserving this potential;
- the importance of making specific allowance for the situation of island states and the outermost regions, which are particularly dependent on maritime policy;
- the interest from the EU remain in the fore of the international organisations dealing with maritime matters;
- the new challenge facing the Arctic and in particular the political, economic and strategic issues around Greenland.

Mr BORG thanked the Commission Members for their support and responded briefly to the various interventions.

After this exchange of views, the Commission approved the communications in COM(2007)574/2 and COM(2007)575/3, for transmission to Parliament, the Council, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions and to the national parliaments, together with the action plan, the document on energy and maritime policies, the impact assessment and summary in the staff papers distributed as SEC(2007)1278/3, SEC(2007)1283/2, SEC(2007)1279 and SEC(2007)1280 respectively, the contents of which were noted.

The Commission also took note of the opinion of the Impact Assessment Board on this dossier, as set out in SEC(2007)1282.

It also decided to adapt the mandate of the Maritime Policy Task Force as set out in point 2 of the memorandum to the Commission in COM(2007)574/2 and COM(2007)575/3.

9. INTERINSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS (SEC(2007)1291)

The Commission took note of the record of the meeting of the Interinstitutional Relations Group held on Friday 5 October 2007 (SEC(2007)1291).

It paid particular attention to the following:

9.1. *LEGISLATIVE MATTERS*

i) Preparation for October I part-session of Parliament (point 1.2 of the IRG record)

In accordance with the rules in force, the Commission authorised the Commission Members responsible, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Ms WALLSTRÖM and any other Members associated, to take a position on Parliament's amendments to its proposals.

It paid particular attention to the following:

Consultation

- Financing of the common agricultural policy (Regulation) – CHATZIMARKAKIS report – 2007/0045 (CNS)

The Commission approved the line set out in SP(2007)5136/2.

Assent

- Agreement on trade-related aspects of intellectual property rights (TRIPS) (Decision) – SUSTA report – 2006/0060 (AVC)

The Commission approved the line set out in SP(2007)5254.

9.2. RELATIONS WITH THE COUNCIL

ii) Programming of Council business

(SI(2007)878)

The Commission took note of the information in SI(2007)878 on the Council meetings between 4 and 17 October 2007.

iii) Results of the Economic and Financial Affairs Council (Luxembourg, 9 October 2007)

Exchange rate of the euro

Mr ALMUNIA reported on the results of the Eurogroup meeting in Luxembourg on Monday 8 October 2007, ahead of the Economic and Financial Affairs Council.

He began by discussing current exchange rate trends, particularly for the euro, the Chinese yuan, the US dollar and the Japanese yen. He referred more specifically to the results of the group's analysis of the worrying trend in the exchange rate of the yuan against the dollar and the euro, the yuan having depreciated against the euro and appreciated against the dollar. He emphasised that these developments considerably distorted world trade. He also mentioned other significant distortions resulting from the changes in the exchange rate of the dollar and the yen against the euro.

Mr ALMUNIA then highlighted the importance of preserving European unity vis-à-vis the American and Japanese governments ahead of forthcoming international events such as the meeting of the G7 finance ministers the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank were holding their annual meeting in Washington, from 19 to 22 October 2007.

Finally, he stated that the President of the Eurogroup, the President of the European Central Bank and the Commission planned to meet the Chinese authorities before the end of the year, on a date to be determined according to

the results of the meetings in Washington and the XVIIth congress of the Chinese Communist Party.

The PRESIDENT also stressed the importance of the meetings between the representatives of the Eurogroup and the Chinese for EU-China relations.

In this connection, he also reminded Commission Members of the preparations that were under way for the EU-China summit to be held on 28 November 2007 and urged them to redouble their efforts to ensure coordination between all the players concerned.

The Commission took note of this information.

Budgetary surveillance

Mr ALMUNIA also reported on the discussion within the Eurogroup on the budgetary situation in the Member States. He referred in particular to the draft budget for 2008 presented at the meeting by Ms Christine Lagarde, the French Minister for Economic Affairs, Finance and Employment.

The Eurogroup considered that this draft budget was based on a very optimistic scenario, and if the economy grew at a rate lower than that forecast by the French Government the government deficit could exceed the reference value of 3% of gross domestic product specified in the Treaty.

Mr ALMUNIA also mentioned the measures planned by the Italian Government to correct its budget deficit. Some of the consolidation effects were the result of extraordinary revenue, which had led the Eurogroup to urge the Italian Government to increase its efforts to consolidate the budget.

Mr ALMUNIA also relayed two other important points discussed at the Eurogroup meeting, namely the revision of the statistical basis for calculating gross domestic product in Greece and the spelling of "euro" in Bulgarian script. Bulgaria would be referring the latter question to the General Affairs and External Relations Council on 15 and 16 October 2007. However,

Mr ALMUNIA felt that, given the political importance of the question, it should be dealt with by the Heads of State or Government at their informal meeting on 18 and 19 October 2007.

The Commission took note of this information.

Galileo

Mr ALMUNIA briefly presented the results of the debate in the Economic and Financial Affairs Council on the financing of the Galileo satellite navigation programme.

A large majority had expressed support for the project in principle, but also their opposition to the financing method advocated by the Commission in its proposal for a decision amending the multiannual financial framework 2007-2013.

Mr ALMUNIA explained that the Council felt in particular that the Commission had not thoroughly considered all the financing options for Galileo, and that the real costs of the programme had been underestimated. He also informed the Commission of the various points of view expressed in the Council on the redeployment of the expenditure in heading 1A.

The Commission then held a brief exchange of views, covering the following points:

- the fact that certain factors on which the financing proposal presented by the Commission was based had been put forward in the Council under a previous Presidency;
- the Commission's willingness to cooperate fully with Parliament and the Council to find a solution supported by the two arms of the budgetary authority.

The Commission took note of this information.

Financial services – the European Union's instruments for financial stability

Mr McCREEVY briefed the Commission on the results of the Council meeting as regards the European Union's instruments for financial stability, a subject which had already been broached at the ministers' informal meeting in Porto on 14 and 15 September 2007.

He reported that the Council had adopted a road map containing a series of measures reflecting the lessons learnt from the recent turmoil on the financial markets. The objectives of this road map were to increase transparency for investors, markets and regulators, improve assessment standards and strengthen prudential measures, risk management and supervision.

Mr McCREEVY noted with satisfaction the very broad consensus on the proposed measures which had emerged among the Member States both at the meeting on 9 October 2007 and at previous meetings. Far from demanding new emergency measures, the Council had focused its debate on pragmatic responses to the current challenges.

He added that the Council Presidency intended to refer the road map to the Heads of State or Government at their informal meeting on 18 and 19 October 2007. He pointed out that a lot was expected of the Commission – and indeed of certain other international bodies - as regards implementation of the road map.

Mr McCREEVY noted that the Member States would have to give priority to improving cooperation between the national authorities responsible for supervision. He also mentioned certain suggestions that a European supervisory authority be created, suggestions which he regarded as premature at this stage, preferring the pragmatic development of the existing framework as a means of rapidly improving cooperation in the area of supervision.

He reminded the meeting that in its proposal for a directive on the taking-up and pursuit of the business of insurance and reinsurance (Solvency II), the

Commission had recently presented provisions aimed at establishing better coordination of the supervision of insurance companies operating in more than one Member State. In this connection, he announced his intention of proposing similar provisions for banking supervision. He felt that once these proposals, had been adopted by Parliament and the Council, they would help to create a supervision structure that was better adapted to the degree of financial integration that existed in the EU.

The Commission took note of this information.

9.3. RELATIONS WITH PARLIAMENT

iv) Preparation for October I part-session of Parliament – consideration of non-legislative matters

(point 3.1 of the IRG record)

- Proposal for amendment of the provisions of the Treaty on the composition of Parliament – LAMASSOURE/SEVERIN report – 2007/2169 (INI)

The Commission approved the line set out in SP(2007)5137.

v) Participation by Members of Parliament in international conferences

(point 3.7 of the IRG record)

- Thirteenth session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 13) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and third session of the Conference of the Parties (COP-MOP 3) to the Kyoto Protocol (Bali, 3 to 14 December 2007).

The Commission decided to approve the request from Mr PÖTTERING, President of Parliament, to the PRESIDENT, concerning the participation of 15 members of Parliament at the above meetings, instead of the 11 initially planned.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

10.1. MECHANISM CONCERNING APPROPRIATE MEASURES IN THE FIELD OF AGRICULTURAL SPENDING IN RESPECT OF BULGARIA AND ROMANIA (SEC(2007)1353)

Ms FISCHER BOEL reported to the Commission on the state of play regarding the introduction in Bulgaria and Romania of the integrated administration and control system (IACS) for agricultural expenditure, as required in connection with these countries' accession to the European Union.

Ms FISCHER BOEL reminded the meeting that the Commission would have to apply the measures required by Regulation No 1423/2006 of 26 September 2006 if the IACS were not correctly implemented in these Member States by 1 December 2007, the date on which agricultural aid payments were to begin.

She began by describing the situation in Bulgaria and concluded that the weaknesses that were still to be found there, particularly as regards the Land Parcel Identification System, were not such as to warrant applying the safeguard measures provided for in the Regulation.

She then turned to Romania, where she felt that there were serious deficiencies in the integrated administration and control system for Community agricultural expenditure, in particular as regards the two software modules, which were indispensable to the proper functioning of the system, and the Land Parcel Identification System, and delays in on-the-spot controls.

The situation was serious, but an effort on the part of the Romanian authorities before 9 November 2007 would prevent the application of the measures provided for in the Commission Regulation, and particularly the 25% reduction in the amount of agricultural payments. Referring to the latter

possibility, she said that any other attitude on the part of the Commission would be contested by Parliament in particular.

Ms FISCHER BOEL pointed out that the Romanian authorities had been amply informed of the Commission's concerns in this area, at both political and administrative level. She herself had told the Romanian Minister of Agriculture about these concerns, the consequences of non-compliance with the provisions in force as regards IACS, and the Commission's duty to invoke the safeguard measures, if necessary. So it would come as no surprise to the Romanian Government to receive the warning letter she would be sending them on 10 October, which requested a reply by 9 November 2007 at the latest.

Finally, she mentioned a number of developments since September which were encouraging, but not sufficient to allay the Commission's concerns.

Ms FISCHER BOEL concluded by expressing the hope that the Romanian authorities would mobilise all the necessary resources before 9 November 2007, to introduce the essential elements of their integrated administration and control system for agricultural expenditure and thus pre-empt the application of the safeguard measures.

The Commission held a brief exchange of views, in which several Commission Members expressed their support for Ms FISCHER BOEL's approach, while mentioning the need to take due account of certain recent events in the political life of the Member State concerned. A number of other concerns were raised about Romania's adoption of the *acquis communautaire*.

The Commission took note of this information and of the note from Ms FISCHER BOEL in SEC(2007)1353.

(10 October 2007)

**10.2. 36TH ASSEMBLY OF THE INTERNATIONAL CIVIL AVIATION
ORGANIZATION (MONTREAL, 18-28 SEPTEMBER 2007)
(SEC(2007)1345)**

The Commission took note of the information note from Mr BARROT and Mr DIMAS in SEC(2007)1345.

**10.3. VISIT TO SLOVENIA AND MONTENEGRO (BRDO AND PODGORICA,
3-6 OCTOBER 2007)
(SEC(2007)1346)**

The Commission took note of the information note from Mr FRATTINI in SEC(2007)1346.

**10.4. 2007 NOBEL PRIZES AWARDED BY THE ROYAL SWEDISH
ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND THE KAROLINSKA INSTITUTE**

Mr POTOČNIK welcomed the announcement that day by the Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences of the award of the Nobel Prize for Chemistry to the German scientist Gerhard Ertl for his work on surface chemistry. This was the third Nobel Prize awarded this year. The Nobel Prize for Physics had been awarded the day before to another German scientist, Peter Grünberg, and a Frenchman, Albert Fert, for their work on magnetoresistance. Mr POTOČNIK reminded the meeting that on 8 October 2007 the Karolinska Institute had awarded the Nobel Prize for Medicine to two American biologists and a British scientist, Martin Evans, for their work on the creation of transgenic mice, which had opened the way to new research into diseases such as Alzheimer's and cancer.

The Commission took note of this information.

11. MONITORING THE APPLICATION OF COMMUNITY LAW

STATE AID – INDIVIDUAL CASES – RECAPITULATIVE LIST

(SEC(2007)1347; SEC(2007)1303)

The Commission adopted the decisions in the recapitulative list (SEC(2007)1347.

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The Commission's other discussions on certain agenda items are recorded in the special minutes.

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The meeting closed at 12.15 hours.