



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

SECRETARIAT-GENERAL

PV(2009)1862 final

Brussels, 18 February 2009

MINUTES

of the 1862nd meeting of the Commission

held in Brussels

(Berlaymont)

on Wednesday 11 February 2009

(morning)

PV(2009)1862 final

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Single sitting: Wednesday 11 February 2009 (morning)

The sitting opened at 8.37 with Mr BARROSO, President, in the chair. The discussion of item 9 (in part) was chaired by Ms WALLSTRÖM.

Present:

Mr BARROSO	President	Items 1 to 9 (in part)
Ms WALLSTRÖM	Vice-President	
Mr VERHEUGEN	Vice-President	
Mr BARROT	Vice-President	
Mr KALLAS	Vice-President	
Mr TAJANI	Vice-President	
Ms REDING		
Mr DIMAS		
Mr ALMUNIA		Items 8 (in part) and 9
Mr BORG		
Ms GRYBAUSKAITĖ		Items 1 to 9 (in part)
Mr FIGEL'		
Mr KOVÁCS		
Ms KROES		Items 1 to 9 (in part)
Ms FISCHER BOEL		
Mr ŠPIDLA		
Mr PIEBALGS		
Ms KUNEVA		
Mr ORBAN		
Ms VASSILIOU		Items 1 to 9 (in part)

Absent:

Ms HÜBNER

Mr POTOČNIK

Mr REHN

Mr MICHEL

Ms FERRERO-WALDNER

Mr McCREEVY

Baroness ASHTON

The following also sat in:

Mr THEBAULT	Deputy Chef de cabinet to the PRESIDENT	
Ms DURAND	Director-General, Legal Service	Items 1 to 9 (in part)
Mr LAITENBERGER	Commission Spokesman	Item 9 (in part)
Mr CABRAL	Adviser in the PRESIDENT's Office	Item 9

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

1. AGENDAS

(OJ(2009)1862/3; SEC(2009)122/2)

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(2009)1862)

The Commission considered the Secretary-General's report on the weekly meeting of Chefs de cabinet held on Monday 9 February.

3. MINUTES OF 1861ST MEETING (3 FEBRUARY)

(PV(2009)1861)

The Commission approved the minutes of its 1861st meeting.

4. MONITORING THE APPLICATION OF COMMUNITY LAW

STATE AID – INDIVIDUAL CASES – RECAPITULATIVE LIST

(SEC(2009)136 AND /2)

The Commission adopted the decisions in SEC(2009)136/2.

5. WRITTEN PROCEDURES, EMPOWERMENT AND DELEGATION OF POWERS

5.1. *WRITTEN PROCEDURES APPROVED*

(SEC(2009)124 ET SEQ.)

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted between 2 and 6 February.

5.2. *EMPOWERMENT*

(SEC(2009)125 ET SEQ.)

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted between 2 and 6 February.

5.3. *DELEGATION AND SUBDELEGATION OF POWERS*

(SEC(2009)126 ET SEQ.)

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted under the delegation and subdelegation procedure between 2 and 6 February, as archived in e-Greffe.

5.4. *SENSITIVE WRITTEN PROCEDURES*

(SEC(2009)127)

The Commission took note of the sensitive written procedures for which the time limit expired between 9 and 13 February.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY MATTERS
(SEC(2009)123)

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS
(PERS(2009)23)

6.1. DG REGIONAL POLICY – APPOINTMENT OF AD14 (EU-12)
DIRECTOR
(PERS(2008)47 TO /6)

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(2) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Director, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden Directorate, in DG Regional Policy (PERS(2008)47 to /4).

The Commission took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 27 October 2008 and 22 January 2009 (PERS(2008)47/5 and /6).

It proceeded to compare the applicants' qualifications for the post. On a proposal from Mr KALLAS, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Ms HÜBNER, the Commission then decided to appoint Ms Charlina VITCHEVA to the post.

This decision would take effect on a date to be determined.

6.2. DG INFORMATION SOCIETY AND MEDIA – APPOINTMENT OF
INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE ARTEMIS JOINT
UNDERTAKING FOR IMPLEMENTING A JOINT TECHNOLOGY
INITIATIVE ON EMBEDDED COMPUTER SYSTEMS

Having noted the information set out in item 2 of PERS(2009)23, the Commission, on a proposal from M. KALLAS, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Ms REDING, decided to appoint Mr José COTTA, an AD12 official currently Head of the Embedded Systems and Control Unit, to perform the function of interim Executive Director of the ARTEMIS joint

undertaking in addition to his current functions, until the Executive Director took up office.

This decision would take effect on 16 February.

6.3. *JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE – TERMINATION OF INTERNAL, INTERINSTITUTIONAL AND EXTERNAL SELECTION PROCEDURES FOR THE APPOINTMENT OF AN AD15/16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL*
(PERS(2008)65; PERS(2008)66)

The Commission took note of the information set out in point 3 of PERS(2009)23 and, on a proposal from Mr KALLAS, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Mr POTOČNIK, decided to terminate selection procedures COM/2008/1442 and COM/2008/10071 for the post of Deputy Director-General in the Joint Research Centre without making an appointment.

This decision would take effect immediately.

6.4. *DG HUMANITARIAN AID (ECHO) – TERMINATION OF THE INTERNAL SELECTION PROCEDURE FOR AN AD14/15 DIRECTOR*
(PERS(2008)119 TO /3)

The Commission took note of the information set out in point 4 of PERS(2009)23, and, on a proposal from Mr KALLAS, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Ms MICHEL, decided to terminate selection procedure COM/2008/1968 for the post of Director, Support to Operations Directorate, in the Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid (ECHO) without making an appointment.

This decision would take effect immediately.

7. RELATIONS WITH NON-MEMBER COUNTRIES

12th SUMMIT OF HEADS OF STATE AND GOVERNMENT OF THE AFRICAN UNION (ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA, 1 AND 2 FEBRUARY 2009) (SEC(2009)158)

The Commission took note of the information note from Mr TAJANI distributed as SEC(2009)158.

8. OTHER BUSINESS

8.1. SECURITY QUESTIONS WITHIN THE COMMISSION

Mr KALLAS reported on security issues relating to the risks and threats to the Commission and to counter-espionage activities.

The Commission took note of this information.

8.2. IMPACT OF THE ECONOMIC CRISIS ON KEY SECTORS OF EUROPEAN INDUSTRY – MANUFACTURERS AND CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY (SEC(2009)145)

The Commission took note of the information note from Mr VERHEUGEN in SEC(2009)145 (see item 9.2.v) below).

8.3. SWIFT CASE – REPORT BY THE EMINENT PERSON ON FULFILMENT OF COMMITMENTS, PARTICULARLY AS REGARDS DATA PROTECTION UNDER THE ARRANGEMENTS AGREED BY THE EUROPEAN UNION AND THE UNITED STATES (SEC(2009)163)

The Commission took note of the information note from Mr BARROT distributed as SEC(2009)163.

9. INTERINSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS

9.1. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

i) Action to be taken on Parliament's legislative opinions (SP(2009)548)

The Commission decided to empower the Commission Members responsible for the sectors in question, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Ms WALLSTRÖM and, if necessary, with the other Members concerned, to adopt the amended proposals for transmission to Parliament and the Council, as set out in SP(2009) 548, drawn up following the February I part-session of Parliament, the contents of which were noted.

ii) Codecision procedure

Preparation of agreement at first reading

- Novel foods (regulation) – LIOTARD Report – 2008/0002 (COD)

The Commission approved the line set out in SI(2009)29.

9.2. RELATIONS WITH THE COUNCIL

iii) Programming of Council business (SI(2009)32/2)

The Commission took note of the information in SI(2009)32/2 on Council meetings between 12 February and 1 March.

- iv) Review of the Partnership Agreement between the members of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Group of States (ACP) and the European Community and its Member States, signed on 25 June 2000 in Cotonou and reviewed in Luxembourg on 25 June 2005 – negotiation guidelines**
(SI(2009)30/2)

The Commission approved the line set out in SI(2009)30 and authorised Mr MICHEL to sign on its behalf the notification letter, set out in that note, to be addressed to the President of the Council of ACP Ministers.

v) Preparation for European Council (Brussels, 19 and 20 March)

Following the introductory explanations by the PRESIDENT, Mr VERHEUGEN, Mr ŠPIDLA and Mr ALMUNIA, the Commission – in preparation both for the meeting that day with Mr Miroslav Topolánek, Prime Minister of the Czech Republic and President of the Council, with a view to the special meeting of the Heads of State and Government of the European Union on 1 March, and for the European Council on 19 and 20 March – was carrying out the preparatory work on its proposals for addressing present economic crisis.

The Commission held an in-depth exchange of views during which it discussed in particular various aspects of the economic and financial situation, the labour market, the operation of the internal market and the situation of the motor vehicle industry. It stressed the need to adopt and maintain a strong coordinated approach at European level in order to address the crisis successfully, the importance of the social dimension and employment, and the flexibility demonstrated by it in view of the exceptional nature of the current circumstances, particularly with regard to the application of competition rules, while warning against protectionism or jeopardising the internal market.

9.3. *RELATIONS WITH THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT*

vi) Results of Parliament's February I part-session

(SP(2009)505 to /3)

The Commission took note of the information in SP(2009)505 to /3 on the proceedings of the part-session of Parliament held in Strasbourg from 2 to 5 February.

9.4. *RELATIONS WITH THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE, THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS, THE EUROPEAN OMBUDSMAN AND NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS*

vii) European Integration Forum.

(SP(2009)634)

The Commission took note of SP(2009)634 concerning the establishment of the European Integration Forum.

9.5. *OTHER BUSINESS*

viii) Joint declaration establishing a "European 112 Day"

(SP(2009)635 and /2)

The Commission approved the joint declaration set out in SP(2009)635 and authorised Ms REDING to sign it on its behalf.

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The meeting closed at 11.16.