



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

SECRETARIAT-GENERAL

PV(2010)1905 final

Brussels, 3 March 2010

MINUTES
of the 1905th meeting of the Commission
held in Brussels
(Berlaymont)
on Wednesday 17 February 2010
(morning)

PV(2010)1905 final

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Single sitting: Wednesday 17 February 2010 (morning)

The sitting opened at 09.10 hours with Mr BARROSO, President, in the chair.

It was attended by:

Mr BARROSO	President
Baroness ASHTON	High Representative / Vice-President
Ms REDING	Vice-President
Mr ALMUNIA	Vice-President
Mr KALLAS	Vice-President
Ms KROES	Vice-President
Mr TAJANI	Vice-President
Mr ŠEFČOVIČ	Vice-President
Mr REHN	
Mr BARNIER	
Ms VASSILIOU	
Mr ŠEMETA	
Mr DALLI	
Ms GEOGHEGAN-QUINN	
Mr LEWANDOWSKI	
Ms DAMANAKI	
Ms GEORGIEVA	
Mr OETTINGER	
Mr HAHN	
Ms HEDEGAARD	
Mr FÜLE	
Mr ANDOR	
Ms MALMSTRÖM	
Mr CIOLOŞ	

Absent:

Mr POTOČNIK

Mr PIEBALGS

Mr DE GUCHT

The following sat in to represent absent Members of the Commission:

Mr VANDENBERGHE	Chef de cabinet to Mr POTOČNIK
Mr USTUBS	Deputy Chef de cabinet to Mr PIEBALGS
Mr VANHEUKELEN	Chef de cabinet to Mr DE GUCHT

The following also sat in:

Mr LAITENBERGER	Chef de cabinet to the PRESIDENT	
Mr ROMERO REQUENA	Director-General, Legal Service	
Mr SØRENSEN	Director-General, DG Communication	
Mr DOENS	Head of the European Commission Spokesperson Service	
Mr GRAY	European Commission Spokesperson Service	
Mr GASPAR	Acting Director-General, Bureau of European Policy Advisers	
Mr CABRAL	Adviser hors classe in the PRESIDENT's Office	Item 8 (in part)
Mr KLAUS	A member of the PRESIDENT's staff	Item 8 (in part)
Mr MORRISON	Chef de cabinet to Baroness ASHTON	Item 7
Mr NOCIAR	Chef de cabinet to Mr ŠEFČOVIČ	Item 7
Ms RISO	Deputy Chef de cabinet to Mr REHN	Items 1 to 8 (in part)
Mr THOLONIAT	Secretariat-General	Item 8 (in part)

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

1. AGENDA

(OJ(2010)1905/3)

The Commission took note of that day's agenda.

2. WEEKLY MEETING OF CHEFS DE CABINET

(SEC(2010)1905)

The Commission considered the Secretary-General's report on the weekly meeting of Chefs de cabinet held on Monday 15 February.

3. MINUTES OF THE 1904TH MEETING (3 FEBRUARY)

(PV(2010)1904)

The Commission approved the minutes of its 1904th meeting.

4. WRITTEN PROCEDURES, EMPOWERMENT AND DELEGATION OF POWERS

4.1. WRITTEN PROCEDURES APPROVED

(SEC(2010)107 ET SEQ.)

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted between 1 and 12 February.

4.2. EMPOWERMENT

(SEC(2010)108 ET SEQ.)

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted between 1 and 12 February.

4.3. DELEGATION AND SUBDELEGATION OF POWERS

(SEC(2010)109 ET SEQ.)

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted under the delegation and subdelegation procedure between 1 and 12 February, as archived in e-Greffe.

4.4. SENSITIVE WRITTEN PROCEDURES

(SEC(2010)110)

The Commission took note of the sensitive written procedures for which the time limit expired between 15 and 19 February.

5. DECISION OF 10 FEBRUARY BY THE COMMISSION PRESIDENT ON THE ORGANISATION OF RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION

(C(2010)1000)

The Commission had before it the memorandum from the PRESIDENT in C(2010)1000. It took note of:

- the appointment of Ms REDING, Mr ALMUNIA, Mr KALLAS, Ms KROES, Mr TAJANI and Mr ŠEFČOVIČ as Vice-Presidents of the Commission;
- the order of precedence of the Vice-Presidents and other Members of the Commission laid down by the PRESIDENT;
- the rules for deputising decided on by the PRESIDENT;
- the allocation of portfolios decided on by the PRESIDENT;
- the identification of the departments reporting to each Commission Member, as set out in the annex to the PRESIDENT's decision. As clarified in that decision,

their responsibility was based on the mission statement sent by the PRESIDENT to each Member of the Commission.

6. COMMUNICATION TO THE COMMISSION CONCERNING THE UPDATING OF A NUMBER OF DELEGATED POWERS PREVIOUSLY GRANTED IN THE CONTEXT OF THE COMMISSION'S COMPETENCES (SEC(2010)141 AND /2)

The Commission approved the communication concerning the updating of a number of delegated powers, distributed as SEC(2010)141/2.

This decision would take effect on 17 February.

7. ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY MATTERS (SEC(2010)106/3)

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

(PERS(2010)12/3)

The PRESIDENT stressed the importance of the organisational and administrative items on the agenda for this first meeting of the new Commission.

He began by pointing out that the Commission was taking note at this meeting of the decision he had himself taken on 10 February concerning the organisation of the responsibilities of its Members, pursuant to Article 17(6) of the Treaty on European Union. This decision gave legal form to the announcement made on 27 November 2009 and to the role he had himself conferred on each Member (see item 5 of these minutes).

The PRESIDENT referred first of all to the administrative and structural decisions which derived directly from this new organisation of responsibilities. These decisions concerned in particular the creation of two new Directorates-General and, in agreement with Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, Mr OETTINGER, Mr POTOČNIK and Ms HEDEGAARD, the appointment of Mr Philip LOWE to the post of

Director-General of the new Directorate-General for Energy and Mr Jos DELBEKE to the post of Director-General of the new Directorate-General for Climate Action.

The PRESIDENT went on to mention the decisions on a number of changes to the structure of other Commission departments in accordance with the mission statements he had sent to every Member. He said that the details of these reorganisations would be adopted by simplified procedure to allow them to be implemented as quickly as possible, and noted that they were the result of extensive preparatory work in which all stakeholders had been involved so that the necessary adjustments could be made in the most balanced way possible.

He also proposed the creation of a task force to hold strategic discussions on the budget and research activities, and pointed out in addition that the Commission would be adopting its new Rules of Procedure and rules giving effect to its Rules of Procedure at its next meeting.

The PRESIDENT also stated that, in view of the priority given to transatlantic relations between the EU and the United States, and in the light of the current challenges arising at a key moment for bilateral relations and global governance, he gave his full support to the proposal by Baroness ASHTON to appoint Mr João VALE DE ALMEIDA to the post of Head of the European Union Delegation in Washington.

It was then the turn of Mr ŠEFČOVIČ to remind the meeting of the administrative and budgetary context and the extensive and intensive preparatory work which had taken place in advance of the decisions on reorganisation. He also thanked the Members of the Commission concerned and their departments for the constructive atmosphere in which this work had been carried out.

Baroness ASHTON motivated that the post of Head of the EU Delegation in Washington had been vacant since the departure of the previous incumbent, Mr John BRUTON, in October 2009. She pointed out that the post had been part of the 2009 rotation and that it had not been possible to fill it because of the caretaker period. She welcomed the fact that Mr João VALE DE ALMEIDA's considerable

experience would mark a valuable contribution to the transatlantic partnership and would bring benefits for the Union as a whole. Mr João VALE DE ALMEIDA would also be a useful point of contact for Members of the Commission going to the United States on official visits. Baroness ASHTON concluded her remarks by saying that Mr João VALE DE ALMEIDA would take up his duties at a later date once the administrative and diplomatic formalities had been completed.

Replying to a question on the setting-up of the European External Service, Baroness ASHTON explained that it was still in the start-up phase and that details would be provided in due course.

The PRESIDENT stressed that Mr João VALE DE ALMEIDA's appointment had been well received in Washington and said that Mr João VALE DE ALMEIDA would continue to be responsible for the preparatory work on the European External Service until he took up his duties. He expressed the hope that the Service would be imbued with the spirit of the Commission and noted that a discussion would have to be held on this matter at the appropriate time.

7.1. DG ENERGY AND TRANSPORT / DG ENTERPRISE AND INDUSTRY / DG COMPETITION – TRANSFER OF ACTIVITIES AND ORGANISATIONAL ENTITIES

The Commission took note of the information in point 1 of PERS(2010)12/3 and, on a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, Mr ALMUNIA, Mr KALLAS, Mr TAJANI and Mr OETTINGER, decided:

- to transfer responsibility for state aid, including responsibility for the guidelines on state aid to ports, from the Directorate-General for Energy and Transport to the Directorate-General for Competition; DG Energy and Transport's Unit TREN.A.2 was accordingly transferred to DG Competition as the new COMP.F.5;
- to transfer the Units responsible for satellite navigation from the Directorate-General for Energy and Transport to the Directorate-General for Enterprise and Industry, with the exception of responsibility for

intelligent transport systems and the corresponding staff, who would remain with DG Energy and Transport; Units TREN.G3, G.4 and G.5 were therefore transferred to DG Enterprise and Industry as new units ENTR.F.6, F.7 and F.8.

These decisions would take effect immediately.

The PRESIDENT, Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, Mr LEWANDOWSKI, Mr ALMUNIA, Mr KALLAS, Mr TAJANI and Mr OETTINGER would adopt the decisions on the transfer of support staff and administrative appropriations at a later date by simplified procedure.

7.2. *DG ENVIRONMENT / DG HUMANITARIAN AID / DG HEALTH AND CONSUMERS – TRANSFER OF ACTIVITIES AND ORGANISATIONAL ENTITIES*

The Commission took note of the information in point 2 of PERS(2010)12/3 and, on a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, Mr DALLI, Mr POTOČNIK, Ms GEORGIEVA and Ms HEDEGAARD, decided:

- to transfer the units responsible for civil protection from the Directorate-General for the Environment to the Directorate-General for Humanitarian Aid, with the exception of responsibility for the Seveso Directive and the corresponding staff, who would remain with DG Environment; Units ENV.A.3 and A.4 were therefore transferred to DG Humanitarian Aid as new units ECHO.03 and 04;
- to transfer the Biotechnology, Pesticides and Health Unit from the Directorate-General for the Environment to the Directorate-General for Health and Consumers, with the exception of responsibility for biocides and the corresponding staff, who would remain with DG Environment; Unit ENV.D.4 was therefore transferred to DG Health and Consumers as a new unit SANCO.E.6.

These decisions would take effect immediately.

The PRESIDENT, Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, Mr LEWANDOWSKI, Mr DALLI, Mr POTOČNIK, Ms GEORGIEVA and Ms HEDEGAARD would adopt the decisions on the transfer of support staff and administrative appropriations at a later date by simplified procedure.

7.3. DG ENERGY AND TRANSPORT - SPLITTING DG ENERGY AND TRANSPORT INTO A DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR MOBILITY AND TRANSPORT AND A DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR ENERGY (SEC(2010)142/2)

The Commission took note of the information set out in point 3 of document PERS(2010)12/3 and, on a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, Mr KALLAS and Mr OETTINGER, decided to proceed with the separation of DG Energy and Transport into a Directorate-General for Mobility and Transport (DG MOVE) and a Directorate-General for Energy (DG ENER), and to:

- create a post of Director-General of the Directorate-General for Energy;
- transfer the activities and staff of the Energy Task Force (part of the staff of Directorate RELEX.L, Strategy, Coordination and Analysis) from the Directorate-General for External Relations to the Directorate-General for Energy;
- give DG Energy two Deputy Director-General posts, six Director posts and one Principal Adviser post; give DG Mobility and Transport one Deputy Director-General post, five Director posts and one Principal Adviser post; make provision for the two Directorates-General to share a Resources Directorate and a joint Internal Audit Service;
- take note of the principles set out in SEC(2010)142/2 in relation to the Resources Directorate and the joint Internal Audit Service common to the two Directorates-General.

These decisions would take effect immediately.

The PRESIDENT, Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, Mr KALLAS and Mr OETTINGER would adopt at a later date by simplified procedure the supplementary decisions on the respective organisation charts as regards the creation of middle management and adviser posts, the transfer of organisational entities and tasks, and the number and transfer of various levels of staff.

**7.4. DG ENVIRONMENT – SPLITTING DG ENVIRONMENT INTO A
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AND A
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR CLIMATE ACTION
(SEC(2010)142/2)**

The Commission took note of the information set out in point 4 of document PERS(2010)12/3 and, on a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, Mr POTOČNIK and Ms HEDEGAARD, decided to proceed with the separation of DG Environment into a Directorate-General for the Environment (DG ENV) and a Directorate-General for Climate Action (DG CLIM), and to:

- convert the post of Deputy Director-General of DG Environment into the post of Director-General of DG Climate Action;
- transfer the activities and staff of the Directorate-General for External Relations connected with international negotiations on climate change (part of the staff of Directorate RELEX.L, Strategy, Coordination and Analysis) to the Directorate-General for Climate Action;
- transfer the activities and staff of the Directorate-General for Enterprise and Industry connected with action on climate change (part of the staff of Unit ENTR.B.1, Sustainable Industrial Policy) to the Directorate-General for Climate Action;
- give the Directorate-General for Climate Action three Director posts and one Principal Adviser post; give the Directorate-General for Environment

six Director posts and one Principal Adviser post; make provision for the two Directorates-General to share a Resources Directorate and a joint Internal Audit Service (net creation altogether of three additional Director posts and one Principal Adviser post);

- take note of the principles set out in SEC(2010)142/2 in relation to the Resources Directorate and the joint Internal Audit Service common to the two Directorates-General.

These decisions would take effect immediately.

The PRESIDENT, Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, Mr POTOČNIK and Ms HEDEGAARD would adopt at a later date by simplified procedure the supplementary decisions on the respective organisation charts as regards the creation of middle management and adviser posts, the transfer of organisational entities and tasks, and the number and transfer of various levels of staff.

7.5. DG ENERGY – APPOINTMENT OF AD16 DIRECTOR-GENERAL

The Commission took note of the information in point 5 of PERS(2010)12/3 and, on a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Mr OETTINGER, decided under Article 7 of the Staff Regulations to fill the post of Director-General of the new Directorate-General for Energy by transferring in the interest of the service Mr Philip LOWE, an AD16 official and currently Director-General of the Directorate-General for Competition.

This decision would take effect immediately.

7.6. DG CLIMATE ACTION - APPOINTMENT OF AD15 DIRECTOR-GENERAL

The Commission took note of the information in point 6 of PERS(2010)12/3 and, on a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Mr POTOČNIK and Ms HEDEGAARD, decided under Article 7 of the Staff Regulations to fill the post of Director-General of the new Directorate-General for Climate Action by transferring in the interest of the service

Mr Jos DELBEKE, an AD15 official and currently Deputy Director-General of the Directorate-General for the Environment.

This decision would take effect immediately.

7.7. DG HUMAN RESOURCES AND SECURITY / SECRETARIAT-GENERAL – CREATION OF A TASK FORCE

The Commission took note of the information in point 7 of PERS(2010)12/3 and, on a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Ms GEOGHEGAN-QUINN, decided:

- to set-up a task force within the Commission whose mission is to clarify and to follow-up from an administrative point of view the decisions taken by the PRESIDENT regarding the responsibilities of the Commission members in charge of the research policy;
- under the chairmanship of the Secretary-General, the task force would be made up of the Directors-General in the Directorates-General for Human Resources and Security, Budget, Legal Service, Research, Joint Research Centre, Information Society and Media, Energy, Mobility and Transport, Enterprise and Industry, the Environment and Climate Action, or their representatives;
- the task force would send its proposals, if necessary at the various stages of preparation, to a steering group made up of the Chefs de Cabinet to the PRESIDENT, Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, Mr LEWANDOWSKI and Ms GEOGHEGAN-QUINN, plus the Secretary-General and the Directors-General in the Directorates-General for Human Resources and Security, Budget and the Legal Service. The steering group would examine the proposals to be put to the Commission.

These decisions would take effect immediately.

**7.8. DG DEVELOPMENT – APPOINTMENT OF AD15/16 DEPUTY
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
(PERS(2009)104 TO /4)**

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Deputy Director-General of the Directorate-General for Development and Relations with African, Caribbean and Pacific States (PERS(2009)104 and /2).

The Commission took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 16 October and 12 November 2009 (PERS(2009)104/3 and /4).

It proceeded to compare the applicants' qualifications for the post. It also considered the applicants' ability, efficiency and conduct in the service. On a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Mr PIEBALGS, it then decided to appoint Mr Christian LEFFLER to the post.

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

**7.9. DG RESEARCH – APPOINTMENT OF AD15/16 DEPUTY
DIRECTOR-GENERAL
(PERS(2009)81 TO /4)**

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Deputy Director-General, Scientific advances, in the Directorate-General for Research (PERS(2009)81 and /2).

The Commission took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 25 November and 4 December 2009 (PERS(2009)81/3 and /4).

It proceeded to compare the applicants' qualifications for the post. It also considered their ability, efficiency and conduct in the service. On a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and

Ms GEOGHEGAN-QUINN, it then decided to appoint Mr Rudolf STROHMEIER to the post.

This decision would take effect immediately.

**7.10. DG TRANSLATION – APPOINTMENT OF AN AD14 DIRECTOR (EU-8)
(PERS(2009)57 TO /6)**

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(2) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Director in Directorate A, Translation, of the Directorate-General for Translation (PERS(2009)57 to /4).

The Commission took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 4 and 11 December 2009 (PERS(2009)57/5 and /6).

It proceeded to compare the applicants' qualifications for the post. On a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Ms VASSILIOU, it then decided to appoint Mr Miroslav ADAMIŠ to the post.

This decision would take effect on 1 March 2010.

**7.11. DG HUMAN RESOURCES AND SECURITY – APPOINTMENT OF
AD14/15 DIRECTOR
(PERS(2009)137 TO /3)**

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Director, Investigation and Disciplinary Office of the Commission, in the Directorate-General for Human Resources and Security (PERS(2009)137).

The Commission took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 20 and 24 November 2009 (PERS(2009)137/2 and /3).

It proceeded to compare the applicants' qualifications for the post. It also considered their ability, efficiency and conduct in the service. On a proposal

from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, it then decided to appoint Ms Karen WILLIAMS to the post.

This decision would take effect on 1 March 2010.

**7.12. DG HUMAN RESOURCES AND SECURITY – APPOINTMENT OF
AD14/15 PRINCIPAL ADVISER
(PERS(2009)147 TO /3)**

The Commission had before it an application under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Principal Adviser, HR Professionalisation, in the Directorate-General for Human Resources and Security (PERS(2009)147).

The Commission took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 3 and 11 December 2009 (PERS(2009)147/2 and /3).

The Commission proceeded to consider the applicant's qualifications for the post. It also considered his ability, efficiency and conduct in the service. On a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, it then decided to appoint Mr Fernando GARCIA FERREIRO to the post.

This decision would take effect on 1 March 2010.

**7.13. OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND PAYMENT OF INDIVIDUAL
ENTITLEMENTS - APPOINTMENT OF AD14/15 DIRECTOR (EU-27)
(PERS(2009)110 TO /5)**

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii), Article 29(1)(b) and Article 29(2) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Director in the Office for Administration and Payment of Individual Entitlements (PERS(2009)110 to /3).

The Commission took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 21 December 2009 and 7 January 2010 (PERS(2009)110/4 and /5).

It proceeded to compare the applicants' qualifications for the post. On a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, it then decided to appoint Mr Stephen QUEST to the post.

This decision would take effect on 1 April 2010.

**7.14. DG REGIONAL POLICY – APPOINTMENT OF AD14/15 DIRECTOR
(PERS(2009)106 TO /3)**

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Director, Audit, in the Directorate-General for Regional Policy (PERS(2009)106).

The Commission took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 19 October and 3 December 2009 (PERS(2009)106/2 and /3).

It proceeded to compare the applicants' qualifications for the post. It also considered the applicants' ability, efficiency and conduct in the service. On a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Mr HAHN, it then decided to appoint Ms Lena ANDERSSON PENCH to the post.

This decision would take effect immediately.

**7.15. DG HEALTH AND CONSUMERS – APPOINTMENT OF AD14
PRINCIPAL ADVISER (EU-12)
(PERS(2008)94 TO /6)**

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(2) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Principal Adviser in the Directorate-General for Health and Consumers (PERS(2008)94 to /4).

The Commission took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 10 March and 16 July 2009 (PERS(2008)94/5 and /6).

It proceeded to compare the applicants' qualifications for the post. On a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Mr DALLI, it then decided to appoint Ms Despina SPANOU to the post.

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

**7.16. DG HEALTH AND CONSUMERS – APPOINTMENT OF AD/14
DIRECTOR OF THE EXECUTIVE AGENCY FOR HEALTH AND
CONSUMERS
(PERS(2009)122 TO /3)**

The Commission had before it an application for the post of Director of the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers (PERS(2009)122).

The Commission took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 23 and 29 October 2009 (PERS(2009)122/2 and /3).

The Commission proceeded to consider the applicant's qualifications for the post. On a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Mr DALLI, the Commission decided:

- to appoint Mr BRIOL as Director of the Executive Agency for Health and Consumers;
- to second Mr BRIOL to the Agency in the interest of the service for the duration of the appointment, with a view to exercising the functions of Director as a member of the temporary staff in grade AD14.

This decision would take effect immediately.

**7.17. DG HEALTH AND CONSUMER AFFAIRS – LIST OF CANDIDATES
FOR THE AD14 POST OF DIRECTOR OF THE EUROPEAN CENTRE
FOR DISEASE PREVENTION AND CONTROL
(PERS(2009)140 AND /2)**

Having noted the procedure followed as set out in point 17 of PERS(2010)12/3, the Commission, on a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Mr DALLI, decided:

- to approve the list of three candidates set out in point 17 of PERS(2010)12/3;
- to consider this list as the Commission proposal;
- to ask Mr DALLI to communicate this list to the Management Board of the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control.

These decisions would take effect immediately.

**7.18. LEGAL SERVICE – APPOINTMENT OF AN AD14/15 PRINCIPAL
LEGAL ADVISER (EU-27)
(PERS(2008)139 TO /7)**

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii), 29(1)(b) and 29(2) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Principal Legal Adviser responsible for the “AIDE” (State aids and dumping) team in the Legal Service (PERS(2008)139 to /4, and /6).

The Commission took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 26 October and 12 November 2009 (PERS(2008)139/5 and /7).

It proceeded to compare the applicants’ qualifications for the post. On a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, it then decided to appoint Mr Vittorio DI BUCCI to the vacant post.

This decision would take effect immediately.

**7.19. LEGAL SERVICE – APPOINTMENT OF AN AD14/15 PRINCIPAL
LEGAL ADVISER
(PERS(2009)17 AND /2)**

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Principal Legal Adviser responsible for the "PERS" (Personnel and administration) team in the Legal Service (PERS(2009)17).

The Commission took note of the opinion of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 4 June 2009 (PERS(2009)17/2).

It proceeded to compare the applicants' qualifications for the post. It also considered their ability, efficiency and conduct in the service. On a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, it then decided to appoint Mr Julian CURRALL to the vacant post.

This decision would take effect immediately.

**7.20. BUREAU OF EUROPEAN POLICY ADVISERS – AMENDMENT OF
DECISION C(2004)1597/5 ON A NEW POLICY FOR THE
ENGAGEMENT AND USE OF TEMPORARY AGENTS
(C(2010)1005)**

The Commission took note of the information in point 20 of PERS(2010)12/3 and, on a proposal from Mr KALLAS, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, adopted the decision in C(2010)1005 amending its decision C(2004)1597/5 of 28 April 2004 with regard to temporary staff recruited under Article 2(c) of the Conditions of Employment Applicable to Other Servants of the Communities.

This decision would take effect immediately.

**7.21. OFFICE FOR THE ADMINISTRATION AND PAYMENT OF
INDIVIDUAL ENTITLEMENTS – MODIFICATION OF THE
ORGANISATION CHART AND TRANSFER OF A GRADE AD15
OFFICIAL**

The Commission, on a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, decided:

- to create a post of Principal Adviser at the Office for the Administration and Payment of Individual Entitlements;
- to transfer Ms Dominique DESHAYES, an AD15 official, to this post, in the interest of the service, under Article 7 of the Staff Regulations;
- to abolish this post on the date of departure of its holder.

These decisions would take effect immediately.

**7.22. DG EXTERNAL RELATIONS – PROMOTION OF AN AD11 OFFICIAL
(PERS(2010)14)**

The Commission took note of the information in point 22 of PERS(2010)12/3 and, on a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Baroness ASHTON, adopted the decision in document PERS(2010)14 on the promotion to AD12 of Ms Pilar JUÁREZ BOAL, who died on 12 January 2010 in the performance of her duties during the earthquake in Haiti.

This decision would be backdated to 1 January 2009.

7.23. DG HUMAN RESOURCES AND SECURITY – EXTENSION OF THE CONTRACTS OF THE SPECIAL ADVISERS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMISSION
(PERS(2010)15)

The Commission took note of the information in point 23 of PERS(2010)12/3 and, on a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, decided to authorise Mr ŠEFČOVIČ to modify the contracts of several special advisers set out in PERS(2010)15 in order to postpone the expiry date of these contracts until the starting date of the contracts of the special advisers appointed to assist the new Commission Members and to insert, where appropriate, the corresponding number of working and/or mission days.

This decision would be backdated to 10 February 2010.

7.24. DG EXTERNAL RELATIONS – APPOINTMENT OF AD15 HEAD OF DELEGATION

The Commission took note of the information in point 24 of PERS(2010)12/3 and, on a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Baroness ASHTON, decided under Article 7 of the Staff Regulations to fill the post of Head of the Commission Delegation in Washington in the Directorate-General for External Relations by transferring in the interest of the service Mr João VALE DE ALMEIDA, an AD15 official and currently Director-General of External Relations. In accordance with diplomatic practice, this decision was subject to the agreement of the host country.

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

7.25. SECRETARIAT GENERAL – ACTIVITIES OF A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION AFTER LEAVING OFFICE
(SEC(2010)143/2)

The Commission approved the communication in SEC(2010)143/2 concerning the activities planned by Ms WALLSTRÖM after leaving the

Commission. The Commission concluded that the activities in question were compatible with the second paragraph of Article 245 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

**7.26. SECRETARIAT GENERAL – ACTIVITIES OF A MEMBER OF THE COMMISSION AFTER LEAVING OFFICE
(SEC(2010)144)**

The Commission approved the communication in SEC(2010)144 concerning the activities planned by Ms FERRERO-WALDNER after leaving the Commission. The Commission concluded that the activities in question were compatible with the second paragraph of Article 245 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union.

8. INTERINSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS

8.1. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

**i) Action to be taken on Parliament's legislative opinions
(SP(2010)773)**

The Commission decided to empower the Commission Members responsible for the sectors in question, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Mr ŠEFČOVIČ 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(2010)773, drawn up following the February I part-session of Parliament, the contents of which were noted.

8.2. RELATIONS WITH THE COUNCIL

ii) Results of the Eurogroup and Economic and Financial Affairs Council meetings (Brussels, 15 and 16 February)

The PRESIDENT asked Mr REHN to explain the developments on the

markets and the measures to be taken following the discussions of the Eurogroup on Monday 15 February and the Economic and Financial Affairs Council of Tuesday 16 February on the economic and budgetary situation in Greece.

Mr REHN began by reviewing the package of decisions adopted by the Commission on 3 February concerning the updated stability programme, the excessive deficit procedure and Greece's economic policies. The Commission had lent its full support to Greece in its efforts to redress its economic and budgetary situation, while at the same time pointing to the risks which could jeopardise the objectives set out in its stability programme. These related in particular to the optimistic macroeconomic scenario, the evolution of financial markets and the hopes being pinned on revenue generated by measures to tackle tax evasion. However, since the Commission adopted these recommendations the situation had continued to deteriorate rapidly, and these risks had in fact started to materialise, particularly in the case of the macroeconomic indicators, the widening gap between the yield on Greek and German 10-year bonds and the new risks linked to the Greek banking sector. In the light of these macroeconomic risks, the developments on the markets and their impact on the national budget, further measures might be required in order to meet the targets for reducing the public deficit.

Turning to the discussions in the Eurogroup meeting on 10 February, Mr REHN noted the consensus on the need for a unified response to the situation. The declaration issued at the end of the informal meeting of Heads of State or Government noted that the situation in Greece would be evaluated in March and the Commission could, if necessary, call for additional measures. The Eurogroup meeting on 15 February, for its part, decided, in line with the Commission's recommendation, to urge Greece to adopt the necessary measures between now and mid-March if these risks materialised. The Greek Government, itself, had declared that it was willing to adopt such additional measures if they proved necessary.

Mr REHN then outlined the surveillance measures introduced by the

Commission with a view to presenting its evaluation in mid-March. It was sending a technical mission consisting of experts from the Commission, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund to analyse the progress made in implementing the measures already announced and to assess the need for additional measures.

Finally, he drew the Commission's attention to the conclusions of the informal meeting of Heads of State or Government on 11 February on the coordination of actions by all the Member States of the euro zone in order to safeguard the financial stability of the euro zone as a whole. The conclusions of this meeting were discussed in the Economic and Financial Affairs Council, which examined in particular the creation of a coordinated assistance framework and the conditions for such a framework at European level, as well as relations with the International Monetary Fund. He was convinced that the European Union had the necessary instruments to act and that it was essential to present a united and reassuring political response to the difficulties the euro zone was currently experiencing.

The Commission then held a discussion in which the following aspects were highlighted:

- a request for clarification about the positions adopted by the Heads of State or Government in the debate about the situation in Greece, particularly as regards the arrangements for any financial support that might be given to Greece;
- the fact that certain risks attached to the country's economic situation had materialised and the importance of emphasising the swift and effective implementation of the measures announced and plans for additional measures; at the same time, the need to step back a little in order to assess the effectiveness of the measures taken by the Greek Government;

- in addition to the case of Greece, the financial fragility of several countries in the euro zone, the responsibility of the euro zone for dealing with such cases, and the importance of finding a European solution;
- for the future, the need to take steps as soon as possible to introduce more sophisticated instruments, such as an early warning system and measures to control derivatives;
- the fact that the crisis was currently getting worse and was now reaching the heart of the euro zone, and the need for a coordinated economic policy to ensure that the euro remained attractive to the Member States that had not yet adopted the single currency, and for strong and united political leadership;
- in view of the market unrest, the importance of being able to guarantee the reliability of Greek statistical data as soon as possible;
- concern about the potential repercussions of the situation in the Greek banking sector on other countries in the region;
- the need for Greece to combine measures that produced rapid results with far-reaching longer-term reforms and for the Commission to respect and support the huge efforts the Greek population was preparing to make;
- the growth of public debt at national, regional and local levels in recent decades and the problems associated with the over-indebtedness of a large number of public bodies throughout Europe;
- the importance of ensuring that the mission to be sent to Greece drew on the best expertise available.

Mr REHN thanked the members of the Commission for their comments and stressed the need rapidly to pursue the discussions on how to improve the stability of the euro zone. Proposals would be submitted over the coming weeks on the coordination of economic policies, surveillance and the

implementation of the Stability and Growth Pact, as the crisis had demonstrated the need to strengthen the instruments related to this. He tackled the question of the possible repercussions of the Greek situation on the region, particularly via the banking sector, and more generally the need to look carefully at the situation of other Member States.

However, he stressed the need for caution and consistency in the public communications on this issue; replies for use in such situations would be made available to all Members of the Commission. It was important to restore confidence to the international markets and to Greek society, and more generally to help build a consensus within the euro zone. As a final point he welcomed the adoption of the proposal for a regulation on Eurostat's audit powers, which would help to put the process on a sound footing.

The PRESIDENT endorsed Mr REHN's comments. He emphasised the importance of the Commission finding a consensus on this issue and of coordinated communication with the outside world.

Referring to the origin of Greece's current difficulties, he pointed out that there were sound reasons for the rules of the Stability and Growth Pact and it was important that they be respected by those Member States who had agreed to them.

The best way to help Greece was to encourage it to implement the necessary measures to achieve the fiscal targets for 2010 as soon as possible. The optimistic macroeconomic scenario, the failure of the markets to regain confidence, despite the Greek plan, and the worrying developments in the banking sector would mean that Greece had to adopt additional measures. He added that these additional measures should be presented in the report that the Greek authorities must submit by March 16.

He also mentioned the availability – raised at the informal meeting of Heads of State or Government – to ensure the financial stability in the euro area. In this sense the crisis was an opportunity to enhance the cohesion of the euro

zone and improve its operation and surveillance, and he welcomed the Member States' response to the Commission proposal to strengthen the audit powers of the European Union's Statistical Office.

Although he recognised the expertise of the International Monetary Fund and the cooperation between the IMF and the European institutions, the PRESIDENT noted that, particularly since the entry into force of the Lisbon Treaty, the Treaties provided all the instruments necessary to ensure an internal solution, which would also involve cooperation with the European Central Bank.

The Commission took note of this information.

**iii) Results of the informal meeting of Heads of State or Government
(Brussels, 11 February)**

The PRESIDENT began by reporting on the discussions at the informal meeting of Heads of State or Government, both the content and the media coverage of which had been dominated by the question of Greece's economic and budgetary situation.

He described the informal contacts which had preceded the meeting and paved the way for the draft declaration of the European Union's support for Greece. He noted in particular the breakfast with Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Council, José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, the Spanish Prime Minister who holds the six-monthly presidency of the Council, Jean-Claude Juncker, President of the Eurogroup, and Jean-Claude Trichet, President of the European Central Bank. He also mentioned the meeting with the German Chancellor, Angela Merkel, the French President, Nicolas Sarkozy, and Mr Van Rompuy and Mr Trichet, during which an informal agreement was reached on the substance of the declaration, which was then approved during the lunch of the Heads of State or Government.

He felt that this declaration was a strong sign of European Union unity and of the solidarity within the euro zone, in particular, and he welcomed the fact

that the European leaders had agreed on a unanimous and coordinated communication and sent a clear message to Greece on the need to introduce real changes. The introduction of surveillance measures and the reporting obligation had also helped to strengthen the Greek Government's resolve.

The PRESIDENT said that the declaration clearly highlighted the role of the Greek Government and the euro zone in finding solutions and pointed out that at no point had the Greek Government sought financial aid.

He admitted, however, that the market's reaction to the declaration had not been as positive as he had hoped. Any additional measures that might have to be taken in 2010 would in any case benefit from the reinforced surveillance mechanism.

He then described the discussions at the informal meeting on the future Europe 2020 strategy and, more briefly, on the next stages in the efforts to combat climate change.

A constructive debate on the future Europe 2020 strategy had followed his introduction, based on a PowerPoint presentation which had been prepared in all the languages of the different Heads of State or Government attending the meeting. This had also been distributed to participants and was now available on the Internet.

He then repeated the presentation for the Commission, prefacing it by noting the unprecedented nature of the current economic crisis and stressing that it was far from over yet. It was particularly important as the economy began to recover to resist the temptation to return to the former state of affairs.

Returning to the present economic situation, he noted that the dramatic effects of the crisis had completely offset the previous gains made in GDP, industrial output and employment. He also spoke of the need, at European level, to develop a sustainable response to the crisis that would address the problems that had been left unresolved, such as the ageing of the population and Europe's productivity.

Admittedly, the room for manoeuvre was limited, particularly in view of public finances, which had been severely squeezed by the crisis, the financial system, where further corrective measures were still needed, and the pressure of global competition, which was fierce. He firmly believed that when framing Europe's response to the crisis it was vital to learn lessons from the past, to acknowledge the interdependence of the economies in Europe (and hence the need for coordination between Member States) and the value of building on the EU's strengths, notably the internal market and the euro, and its growing influence in the G20.

Now was the time to decide how Europe should ideally look in 2020, envisaging the scenario of a strong recovery that would make it possible to return to the former growth path or even improve on it, rather than the prospect of slow recovery or a lost decade for European society. This was the framework within which, over the coming months, he wanted to define the response to this historic challenge posed by the economic crisis, aimed at ensuring sustainable recovery but recognising that this would entail a different sort of economy, taking into account long-term realities and based on three priorities for sustainable growth and employment: growth based on knowledge, a high level of employment and green growth. Europe's success would depend on its ability to act together to develop a coherent vision at all levels – national and European – and in all areas of competence.

He wound up by explaining the next stages in the process of preparing the Europe 2020 strategy, which would need to have a limited number of clearly identified objectives. A first draft of this document would be sent to Members of the Commission, their cabinets and the directors-general and debated at the Commission's seminar on 25 and 26 February and at the next formal Commission meeting. The document was scheduled for adoption on 3 March with a view to its presentation at the Spring European Council. He thanked the Commission Members for the contributions they had already submitted and urged them to continue this preparatory work, while taking care to maintain the focus of the objectives.

The PRESIDENT then replied to a number of questions about the debate at the informal meeting of Head of State or Government on the development of European economic governance and on the improvements that should be proposed for the Lisbon Strategy for growth and jobs and the close link that should be drawn between the new Europe 2020 strategy and the Stability and Growth Pact.

Although lack of time had prevented any specific progress on this point at the informal meeting of Heads of State or Government on 11 February, the PRESIDENT said it was vital for the European Union to learn lessons from the outcome of the conference in Copenhagen last December and to discuss with its international partners ways of moving forward the international climate change negotiations.

Referring to the unsatisfactory nature of the results of the conference, the PRESIDENT stressed how important it was for the European Union that its partners ultimately move closer to its goals for reducing climate change. The EU should press ahead and implement the pledges undertaken as part of the package of measures on climate and energy, but also in relation to financing aid to combat climate change and in the area of energy security. The European Union had a particular responsibility towards developing countries, and the least developed countries above all.

He had asked Ms HEDEGAARD to meet the EU's various international partners as soon as possible to harmonise their positions better, hopefully with a view to producing some initial ideas for the Spring European Council. It was important to be able to count on the support of the Member States for this process, which should be seen as a collective move, and to do everything possible to continue to set their sights high.

The PRESIDENT stressed that the Commission should retain the initiative on this issue and pursue its consultations in an effort to secure a consensus with the EU's international partners and among its own Member States. The EU had to honour its commitments at internal level and prepare several scenarios,

for example envisaging the possibility of a 30% cut in EU greenhouse gas emissions.

The Commission took note of this information.

iv) Programming of Council business

(SI(2010)43)

The Commission took note of the information in SI(2010)43 on the Council meetings between 18 February and 3 March.

8.3. RELATIONS WITH PARLIAMENT

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

(SP(2010)775 to /3)

The Commission took note of the information in SP(2010)775 to /3 on the proceedings of the part-session of Parliament held in Strasbourg from 8 to 11 February.

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The meeting closed at 11.43.