EUROPEAN COMMISSION

SECRETARIAT-GENERAL

PV(2010)1907 final

Strasbourg, 9 March 2010

MINUTES

of the 1907th meeting of the Commission

held in Brussels

(Berlaymont)

on Wednesday 3 March 2010

(morning)

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<u>Single sitting</u>: Wednesday 3 March (morning)

The sitting opened at 9.07 hours with Mr BARROSO, President, in the chair.

<u>Present</u>:

Mr BARROSO	President	
Ms REDING	Vice-President	
Mr ALMUNIA	Vice-President	
Mr KALLAS	Vice-President	
Ms KROES	Vice-President	Item 14
Mr TAJANI	Vice-President	
Mr ŠEFČOVIČ	Vice-President	
Mr POTOČNIK		
Mr REHN		
Mr PIEBALGS		
Mr BARNIER		
Mr ŠEMETA		
Mr DALLI		
Ms GEOGHEGAN-QUINN		
Mr LEWANDOWSKI		
Ms DAMANAKI		
Mr OETTINGER		
Mr HAHN		
Ms HEDEGAARD		
Mr FÜLE		
Mr ANDOR		
Ms MALMSTRÖM		
Mr CIOLOŞ		

<u>Absent</u>:

Baroness ASHTON	High Representative/ Vice-President
Ms VASSILIOU	
Mr DE GUCHT	
Ms GEORGIEVA	

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

Mr BANNERMAN	A member of Baroness ASHTON's staff	
Ms SPANOU	Deputy Chef de cabinet to Ms VASSILIOU	
Mr HOFFMEISTER	Deputy Chef de cabinet to Mr DE GUCHT	
Ms FINK-HOOIJER	Chef de cabinet to Ms GEORGIEVA	

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 Commission Spokesperson Service	
Ms AHRENKILDE HANSEN	Commission Spokeswoman	
Mr SCHINAS	Bureau of European Policy Advisers	
Mr FRUTUOSO DE MELO	Deputy Chef de cabinet to the PRESIDENT	
Mr CABRAL	Adviser hors classe in the PRESIDENT's Office	Items 7 and 8
Ms DARMANIN	Chef de cabinet to Mr DALLI	Item 14
Mr SERVOZ	Secretariat-General	Item 8
Mr GRAY	European Commission Spokesperson Service	Item 8

Secretary: Ms DAY, Secretary-General, assisted by Mr GENISSON, Head of Unit in the Secretariat-General.

1. AGENDA
(OJ(2010)1907/3)

The Commission took note of that day's agenda.

2. WEEKLY MEETING OF CHEFS DE CABINET
(SEC(2010)1907)

The Commission considered the Secretary-General's report on the weekly meeting of Chefs de cabinet held on Monday 1 March.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 1905TH AND 1906TH COMMISSION MEETINGS (17 AND 24 FEBRUARY)
(PV(2010)1905 AND /2; PV(2010)1906)

The Commission approved the minutes of its 1905th and 1906th meetings.

4. INTERINSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS (SEC(2010)180)

The Commission took note of the record of the meeting of the Interinstitutional Relations Group held on Friday 26 February (SEC(2010)180).

It paid particular attention to the following points.

4.1. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

i) Action to be taken on Parliament's legislative opinions
(SP(2010)908)

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) 908, drawn up following the February II part-session of Parliament, the contents of which were noted.

ii) Ordinary legislative procedure
(point 1.2.1 of the IRG record)

– Transportable pressure equipment (Directive) – SIMPSON report – 2009/0131 (COD) – Preparation of an agreement at first reading

The Commission authorised Mr KALLAS to pursue contacts with Parliament and the Council in order to reach agreement at first reading following the line set out in SPI(2010)9.

iii) Preparation for the March I part-session of Parliament
(point 1.3 of the IRG record)

Ordinary legislative procedure – Codecision – 1st reading

– Convention implementing the Schengen Agreement and Regulation (EC) 562/2006 as regards movement of persons with a long-stay visa (Regulation) – COELHO report – 2009/0028 (COD)

The Commission approved the line set out in SP(2010)898.

Special legislative procedure – Consultation

– Allocation of financial intermediation services indirectly measured (FISIM) for the establishment of the gross national income (GNI) used for the purposes of the European Union budget and its own resources (Council Decision) – DEHAENE report – 2009/068 (CNS)

The Commission approved the line set out in SP(2010)899.

4.2. RELATIONS WITH THE COUNCIL

iv) Programming of Council business
(SI(2010)58)

The Commission took note of the information in SI(2010)58 on the Council meetings between Thursday 4 and Wednesday 17 March.

4.3. RELATIONS WITH PARLIAMENT

v) Results of February II part-session
(SP(2010)993)

The Commission took note of the information on Parliament's part-session held on 24 and 25 February in Brussels, set out in SP(2010)993.

vi) Presence of Members of the Commission at Question Time during Parliament's part-sessions in Strasbourg in 2010
(point 3.3 of the IRG record)

The Commission approved document SP(2010)939/2 setting out the list of Commission Members to be present at Question Time during Parliament's part-sessions in Strasbourg in 2010, for transmission to Parliament.

vii) Participation by Members of the European Parliament in international conferences
(point 3.6 of the IRG record)

– Conference of the Parties to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) (Doha, 13-25 March)

The Commission decided to agree to the request to the PRESIDENT from Mr Jerzy Buzek, President of Parliament, concerning the attendance of three Members of the European Parliament at the above-mentioned conference, with a reminder about the procedure to be followed.

5. MONITORING THE APPLICATION OF EUROPEAN UNION LAW

INFRINGEMENTS – HORIZONTAL CASE

EU Pilot Evaluation Report
(COM(2010)70 to /4 ; SEC(2010)182 et /2 ; SEC(2010)183)

The Commission approved the evaluation report on the EU Pilot initiative in COM(2010)70/4 for transmission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions and the European Ombudsman and, for information, to the national parliaments, together with staff paper SEC(2010)182/2, the contents of which were noted.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY MATTERS (SEC(2010)172)

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS (PERS(2010)17)

JOINT RESEARCH CENTRE – TERMINATION OF THE EXTERNAL SELECTION PROCEDURE TO APPOINT A GRADE AD14 DIRECTOR (EU-8) (PERS(2009)88 TO /6)

The Commission took note of the information at point 1 of PERS(2010)17 and, on a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Ms GEOGHEGAN-QUINN, decided to terminate – without making any appointment – external selection procedure COM/2009/10205 for the post of Director, Ispra Site Management, at the Joint Research Centre.

This decision would take effect immediately.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

ECONOMIC AND BUDGETARY SITUATION IN GREECE

The PRESIDENT raised once again the subject of the economic and budgetary situation in Greece, following the recent technical mission organised by the Commission and the European Central Bank, with the help of the International Monetary Fund. The purpose of the mission had been to analyse the progress made with the reforms announced by the Greek Government and assess the need for additional measures. The Greek Prime Minister, George Papandreou, had called a meeting of the Cabinet for that day (Wednesday 3 March), to consider a number of additional budgetary measures.

The PRESIDENT stressed the need for sustainable, long-term reforms. He praised the determination and courage of the Greek Government and promised the Commission's full support for the Government and the Greek people during this period of difficult but essential reforms. He then handed over to Mr REHN, who reported on the results of the technical mission and his contacts with the Greek authorities earlier in the week.

Mr REHN commended the excellent cooperation between the representatives of the Commission, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund throughout the mission. The Commission attached great importance to the achievement of the objectives set by the Greek Government, not only as regards progressive budgetary consolidation over the coming years but also in terms of the sustainability of the reforms.

He reviewed the various fiscal restraint measures announced by the Greek Government, which targeted both expenditure and revenue. Certain measures would have a major impact, such as the proposed savings in the public sector, including salaries, but also the reforms in the private sector, particularly as regards the increase in the tax burden.

He welcomed the Government's determination to implement these reforms, which were widely recognised by the public as being necessary. He felt that the fiscal and budgetary consolidation measures were on the right track. The Commission would continue to support the Greek authorities and would carefully monitor the implementation of the measures announced, in close cooperation with the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund. Finally, he mentioned the forthcoming meetings of the Eurogroup and the Economic and Financial Affairs Council, which would re-examine the dossier on 15 and 16 March.

The Commission then held an exchange of views, covering the following points in particular:

- the message of support for the reforms which the Greek Government had embarked on, the firm belief that these were the right response, and an appreciation of the close cooperation between the Commission and the Greek Government during the technical mission;

- given the need to restore the confidence of the public, taxpayers and financial markets, the importance of credible, sustainable and transparent reforms based on sound and reliable statistical data about expenditure and revenue;

- the major impact which the financial markets could have on the budgetary consolidation measures and currency stability; this subject needed to be discussed in greater detail in the Commission;

- the role of financial products, such as derivatives and credit default swaps, an area in which the Commission was currently preparing consultations with the stakeholders to examine the issues relating to future legislative initiatives;

- the importance of not ruling out at this stage the possibility of further initiatives in the future.

Mr REHN replied to the various comments and confirmed that Greece's programme of reforms was in line with the Council recommendations and that if the consolidation measures were maintained the goal of progressively reducing the budget deficit could be achieved.

The PRESIDENT wound up the discussion by thanking Mr REHN and all those who had helped to prepare and carry out the technical mission. He stressed the message of support which the Commission wanted to convey to Greece and his firm belief that, although the structural reforms embarked on by the Greek Government were far-reaching and painful, they were also necessary and should be based on full transparency, including transparency of statistical data.

He advocated continuing the close cooperation between the players involved, particularly between the Commission, the European Central Bank and the International Monetary Fund, given the medium and long-term nature of the measures and the importance of Greek budgetary consolidation for the monetary and economic cohesion of the euro zone and for the European Union as a whole.

The Commission took note of this information.

8. COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION – "EUROPE 2020" – A STRATEGY FOR SMART, SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GROWTH (COM(2010)2020 TO /3)

The PRESIDENT presented the communication which he was submitting to the Commission for approval, saying that it represented a major achievement demonstrating, three weeks after the present Commission took up office, its ability to respond on a collegiate basis to the most pressing challenges facing Europe. This had been done within the tight deadlines allotted and the resulting official document was an appropriate basis for the work of the European Council, the Council and Parliament. He underlined the collective nature of the effort and the large number of policies involved. The document showed that the Commission was willing to turn general policy aspirations into a pragmatic strategy.

The PRESIDENT thanked all the members for their cooperation and for the huge amount of work carried out by their departments. In-depth discussions had been held during the Bruges seminar on 25 and 26 February, which had been useful in producing a clear, balanced text dealing with the real challenges and providing practical solutions.

He went over the key messages that had emerged during the seminar, namely the European Union's low level of competitiveness even before the crisis and the long-term challenges it was already facing, such as an ageing population and pressure on resources; the fact that it was impossible not to take into account the current exceptional conditions and to act accordingly; the need for the European Union to adopt a coherent, comprehensive approach to achieve its ambitions; the fact that the proposals were properly balanced – smart, sustainable and inclusive – so as to build a broad consensus and dynamic approach; the fact that this strategy took account both of today's Europe, suffering the trials and tribulations of the crisis and experiencing severe pressure on its public finances, and of the aspirations for the

Europe of the future; the fact that tangible measures were being proposed to move the strategy forward; the original nature of the approach, which combined major objectives to be adapted at national level, new flagship initiatives and a tougher approach to governance.

The PRESIDENT underlined the fundamentally new elements in the strategy, which should be highlighted in communication efforts: an approach focusing on major themes, a stronger economic governance mechanism, and the adaptation of ambitious objectives at national level, mindful of the diversity of Member States and the need for full ownership of these objectives at the highest political echelons. Under the Lisbon Treaty, the Commission had the possibility of issuing warnings if Member States strayed from the agreed guidelines. The Commission's full authority over the implementation of the strategy represented a major difference compared with the Lisbon Strategy for Growth and Jobs, which had proved very difficult to implement because of national resistance.

There were two important arguments that should also underpin the presentation of this document: first, the fact that the impact of the financial crisis had revealed global and European economic interdependence – witness the implications of Greece's problems on the euro and on other Member States – hence the need for stronger economic governance. Second, the fact that the mechanisms in the Europe 2020 strategy and those in the Stability and Growth Pact differed considerably. The new mechanism to implement and monitor the strategy would be introduced in parallel with the Pact, whose integrity would be maintained.

The PRESIDENT hoped that the strategy, which he felt was a good basis for work, would be supported across the political spectrum since all the parties had been consulted and had contributed to the drafting process. He also trusted that the European Council would reach a general agreement on the objectives laid down and on the guidelines to be inserted into it up to June.

Turning to the questions that might be raised about the budget implications and resources, the PRESIDENT said that this should be discussed later as the priorities had first to be established. In any case, it was important to distinguish between what could be financed at European level and what could be done at national level since the plan was not to finance the entire strategy out of the Community budget. This would have to be coordinated at European level, however.

He concluded by saying that Mr Herman Van Rompuy, President of the European Council, and the Spanish Presidency of the Council had already expressed support for the strategy, and by underlining the major work carried out in cooperation with the latter. He asked all the Commission members to play an active part in the efforts to publicise this document and, where necessary, defend its content.

The Commission then held a brief debate during which the following points were raised:

– general support for this balanced document, and recognition of the extent of the work carried out by the Secretariat-General and the PRESIDENT's cabinet and of the quality of the text finalised by the college of Commissioners;

– the importance of investing in the efforts to publicise this issue and the fact that the "core script" distributed during the meeting was a sound basis;

– the need to focus on sustainable growth and job creation by improving competitiveness and productivity;

– the country reporting and surveillance mechanism which would mean considerable progress in strengthening economic governance in Europe;

– the preparation, currently in progress, of specific proposals on strengthening economic coordination and surveillance in Europe;

– the great importance of the strategy in the transport sector and its avant-garde approach in terms of the importance given to science, technology and innovation;

– the extremely positive nature of the social dimension of the document and the space given to the social market economy;

- the need to underpin the presentation of this economic strategy by reasserting the political dimension of Europe;

- the European leadership which had come to the fore as a result of this work, and the special value of such a visionary driving force in a time of crisis.

The PRESIDENT ended the debate by reiterating the importance of good communication by all in relation to this document, underlining how essential the forthcoming implementation phase would be.

He also gave special thanks to Mr Michel SERVOZ, Director at the Secretariat-General, for the work he had carried out under tight deadlines and under the guidance of the Secretary General.

Following a final linguistic revision, the Commission approved the communication on the Europe 2020 strategy set out in COM(2010)2020/3 for transmission to Parliament, the Council, the European Central Bank, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions, and, for information, to the national parliaments.

9. PROPOSAL FOR A REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL AMENDING COUNCIL REGULATION (EC, EURATOM) NO 1605/2002 ON THE FINANCIAL REGULATION APPLICABLE TO THE GENERAL BUDGET OF THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES (COM(2010)71 TO /3; SEC(2010)185)

The Commission adopted the proposal for a Regulation set out in COM(2010)71/3 for transmission to the European Parliament, the Council, the Court of Auditors and the European Central Bank and, for information, to the national parliaments.

10. PROPOSAL FOR A COUNCIL REGULATION LAYING DOWN THE MULTIANNUAL FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE YEARS 2007-2013 (COM(2010)72 AND /2; SEC(2010)184; SEC(2010)185)

The Commission adopted the proposal for a Regulation set out in COM(2010)72/2 for transmission to the European Parliament and the Council and, for information, to the national parliaments.

11. PROPOSAL FOR AN INTERINSTITUTIONAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT, THE COUNCIL AND THE COMMISSION ON COOPERATION IN BUDGETARY MATTERS (COM(2010)73 AND /2; SEC(2010)184; SEC(2010)185)

The Commission adopted the proposal for an Interinstitutional Agreement set out in COM(2010)73/2 for transmission to the European Parliament and the Council and, for information, to the national parliaments.

12. BUDGET IMPLEMENTATION AT 31 DECEMBER 2009 (SEC(2010)190 AND /2; SEC(2010)185)

Mr LEWANDOWSKI presented the information note he was laying before the Commission on the state of play in budget implementation at 31 December 2009. He placed it in its annual context, explaining that two other notes were published in June and October each year with the aim of anticipating implementation of the current budget, while this February note reported on implementation of the budget for the previous year. Although the overall picture for the 2009 budget was positive, commitments had been under-implemented in certain sectors, notably the European Fisheries Fund, the competitiveness and innovation programme, rural development, the programmes on animal and plant health, the pre-accession strategy and the European Social Fund; this had implications for the implementation of the policies in question. He asked all the Members of the Commission to monitor closely the state of play in budget implementation in the areas under their responsibility. Lastly, he stressed that budget implementation would also have an impact on the credibility of the Commission's proposals for the future multiannual financial framework, and hoped that the forthcoming note in June would show positive developments for 2010.

The Commission then held a brief debate during which it discussed the efforts that would have to be made in certain areas, such as the common fisheries policy, while stressing that this should not be at the expense of the necessary budgetary discipline.

The PRESIDENT endorsed Mr LEWANDOWSKI's views and noted the political impact of budget implementation on subsequent financial years. He stressed in particular the importance of investing in sources of growth and of ensuring that programmes were implemented effectively, although some delays were inevitable. He encouraged the Commission Members concerned to ensure that the funds that could make an effective contribution to recovery from the economic crisis were disbursed responsibly but quickly.

The Commission took note of this information and of Mr LEWANDOWSKI's note, distributed as SEC(2010)190/2.

13. RELATIONS WITH NON-MEMBER COUNTRIES

13.1. RELATIONS WITH UKRAINE (SEC(2010)244)

Mr FÜLE outlined the latest developments in relations with Ukraine following the recent presidential elections there and the official visit by the new President, Viktor Yanukovich, to Brussels on 1 March. Progress was being made and four priority areas for cooperation had been defined, in collaboration with Mr REHN, Mr OETTINGER, Ms MALMSTRÖM and Mr DE GUCHT, namely relations between Ukraine and the International

Monetary Fund, reform of the gas sector, the system for controlling migration, and negotiations on a detailed and comprehensive free-trade agreement. He stressed the importance of supporting the new Ukrainian administration in its reform efforts and promised to keep the Commission informed of future developments in these relations.

After receiving this information, the Commission agreed that Ukraine should be supported in its efforts, particularly in the context of the bilateral dialogue on visas.

The PRESIDENT was pleased that the new Ukrainian President, Mr Yanukovich, had chosen to make his first official visit to Brussels. He stressed the need to develop relations with this important partner, although Ukraine would have to continue its stabilisation efforts, particularly with a view to the unblocking of international financial aid. He thanked Mr FÜLE and Baroness ASHTON for their contribution and asked them to monitor this process.

The Commission took note of these observations and of the note from Baroness ASHTON and Mr FÜLE distributed as SEC(2010)244.

13.2. MEETING OF T.20 MINISTERS FOR GROWTH AND DEVELOPMENT OF SUSTAINABLE TOURISM (JOHANNESBURG, 22-24 FEBRUARY) (SEC(2010)238)

The Commission took note of the information note from Mr TAJANI in SEC(2010)238.

14. WRITTEN PROCEDURES, EMPOWERMENT AND DELEGATION OF POWERS

14.1. WRITTEN PROCEDURES APPROVED (SEC(2010)173 ET SEQ.; SEC(2010)242)

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted between 22 and 26 February.

Mr ALMUNIA drew the Commission's attention to two decisions concerning state aid cases adopted by written procedure on 26 February.

i) PE/2010/1121 – State aid No N 725/2009 Ireland – Establishment of a National Asset Management Agency (NAMA): Asset relief scheme for banks in Ireland

Mr ALMUNIA reported to the Commission on the aid scheme allowing NAMA to purchase impaired assets relating to the Irish real estate sector from participating banks. These operations were intended to help the banks strengthen their balance sheets. He explained that the banks concerned were required to submit restructuring plans for approval and to take the necessary steps to ensure they were implemented. Mr ALMUNIA believed the restructuring of the Irish financial sector essential to solving the country's economic and financial difficulties. He stressed that the Commission's departments had checked that the aid scheme met all the conditions set out in the Commission communication on the treatment of impaired assets in the banking sector, including those relating to the valuation of assets, remuneration and cost-sharing, and that, on the basis of those checks, the Commission could approve the aid scheme notified.

ii) PE/2010/1154 – State aid No C 9/2009 implemented by Belgium, France and Luxembourg in favour of Dexia SA

Mr ALMUNIA explained that Dexia had organised its restructuring in response to the difficulties it had experienced so as to ensure a return to long-term viability. He noted that the restructuring covered solutions for the bank's financing, the disposal of certain assets and a major balance-sheet reduction, established arrangements for cost-sharing and included measures to restrict distortions of competition. As the solution was considered satisfactory, the Commission had adopted a final, conditional decision approving the aid measures for Dexia. He confirmed that the Commission's departments would monitor implementation of the restructuring plan closely.

The PRESIDENT stressed the importance of complying with the competition rules during the current crisis and of their application to the financial sector.

The Commission took note of this information and of the note from Mr ALMUNIA set out in SEC(2010)242.

14.2. EMPOWERMENT (SEC(2010)174 ET SEQ.)

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted between 22 and 26 February.

14.3. DELEGATION AND SUBDELEGATION OF POWERS (SEC(2010)175 ET SEQ.)

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted under the delegation and subdelegation procedure between 22 and 28 February, as archived in e-Greffe.

14.4. SENSITIVE WRITTEN PROCEDURES (SEC(2010)176; SEC(2010)228)

The Commission took note of the sensitive written procedures for which the time limit expired between 1 and 5 March.

The Commission then discussed Mr DALLI's information note on the policy on genetically modified organisms (GMOs) in the human or animal food chains. Attention was drawn here to the PRESIDENT’s political guidelines, under which the Commission’s policy was to develop a European authorisation system based on scientific criteria, on the one hand, while leaving it to Member States, on the other, to decide whether to allow GMO crops on their territory. The Commission also discussed the following aspects:

– the relevance of this approach, which complies fully with the principle of subsidiarity, and the importance of early clarification of the legal aspects relating to implementation of the principle as regards the right of Member States to choose whether or not to authorise GMO crops on their territory;

– the very sensitive nature of this dossier in public opinion and in the European Parliament, and the need for effective communication to highlight the scientific bases underlying the Commission's approach and to encourage pragmatic debate;

– the need to maintain confidence in European agriculture, in particular through guarantees of traceability;

– the value of initiating an in-depth debate at an early date on a bioeconomic strategy based on scientific criteria and on the impact of GMOs on the environment.

Winding up, the PRESIDENT underlined the importance of introducing quickly and in any event before the summer break a framework which guaranteed that any decision adopted was based entirely on independent scientific advice, in particular that of the European Food Safety Authority, and at the same time respected the choices made by Member States on whether or not to authorise GMO crops on their territory.

The Commission took note of this information and of the note from Mr DALLI set out in SEC(2010)228.

14.5. *GENERAL EMPOWERMENT FOR NOMINATING PUBLIC POLICY MEMBERS OF THE SUPERVISORY BOARD OF THE EUROPEAN FINANCIAL REPORTING ADVISORY GROUP (EFRAG) (SEC(2010)229)*

The Commission granted the Member of the Commission responsible for the Internal Market and Services the general empowerment set out in SEC(2009)229 for the adoption, on behalf of the Commission and under its responsibility, of certain decisions relating to the nomination of public policy members of the supervisory board of the European Financial Reporting Advisory Group (EFRAG).

14.6. *GENERAL EMPOWERMENT IN THE FIELD OF THE COMMUNITY FRAMEWORK FOR THE COLLECTION, MANAGEMENT AND USE OF DATA IN THE FISHERIES SECTOR AND SUPPORT FOR SCIENTIFIC ADVICE REGARDING THE COMMON FISHERIES POLICY (SEC(2010)230)*

The Commission granted the Member of the Commission responsible for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries the empowerment set out in SEC(2009) 230 for the adoption, on behalf of the Commission and under its responsibility, of certain decisions in the field of the Community framework for the collection, management and use of data in the fisheries sector and support for scientific advice regarding the common fisheries policy.

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The meeting closed at 10.55.