EUROPEAN COMMISSION

SECRETARIAT-GENERAL

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Brussels, 9 November 2011

MINUTES

of the 1975th meeting of the Commission

held in Brussels

(Berlaymont)

on Wednesday 12 October 2011

(morning)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<u>Single sitting</u>: Wednesday 12 October 2011 (morning)

The sitting opened at 08.05 with Mr Barroso, President, in the chair.

<u>Present</u>:

Mr BARROSO	President	
Baroness ASHTON	High Representative/Vice-President	Items 1 to 17 (in part)
Ms REDING	Vice-President	
Mr ALMUNIA	Vice-President	
Ms KROES	Vice-President	
Mr TAJANI	Vice-President	
Mr ŠEFČOVIČ	Vice-President	Items 1 to 17 (in part)
Mr POTOČNIK	Member	
Mr REHN	Member	
Mr PIEBALGS	Member	Items 10/16 (in part) and 17
Mr BARNIER	Member	
Ms VASSILIOU	Member	Items 1 to 17 (in part)
Mr ŠEMETA	Member	
Mr DALLI	Member	
Ms GEOGHEGAN-QUINN	Member	
Mr LEWANDOWSKI	Member	Items 1 to 17 (in part)
Ms DAMANAKI	Member	Items 1 to 10/16 (in part), and 17 (in part)
Ms GEORGIEVA	Member	
Mr OETTINGER	Member	Items 1 to 17 (in part)
Mr HAHN	Member	
Ms HEDEGAARD	Member	
Mr FÜLE	Member	Items 1 to 17 (in part)
Mr ANDOR	Member	
Ms MALMSTRÖM	Member	Items 1 to 17 (in part)
Mr CIOLOŞ	Member	Items 1 to 16

Absent:

Mr KALLAS	Vice-President
Mr DE GUCHT	Member

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

Mr FITCH	Deputy Chef de cabinet to Mr KALLAS	Items 10/16 (in part) and 17
Mr VANHEUKELEN	Chef de cabinet to Mr DE GUCHT	Items 1 to 17 (in part)

The following also sat in:

Mr LAITENBERGER	Chef de cabinet to the PRESIDENT	Items 10/16 (in part), and 17
Mr FRUTUOSO DE MELO	Deputy Chef de cabinet to the PRESIDENT	Items 1 to 16
Mr ROMERO REQUENA	Director-General, Legal Service	
Mr VANDERSTEEN	Acting Director-General, DG Communication	
Mr DOENS	Head of the Commission Spokesperson Service	
Ms AHRENKILDE HANSEN	Commission Spokeswoman	Items 1 to 17 (in part)
Mr SCHINAS	Bureau of European Policy Advisers	
Mr CABRAL	Adviser hors classe in the PRESIDENT's office	Item 17
Ms VANNINI	Adviser in the PRESIDENT's Office	
Mr SUARDI	Deputy Chef de cabinet to Mr REHN	
Ms ARNOULD	A member of Mr PIEBALGS's staff	Items 1 to 10/16 (in part)
Mr MARKOPOULIOTIS	Chef de cabinet to Ms DAMANAKI	Items 10/16 (in part), and 17 (in part)
Mr MADRE	A member of Mr CIOLOŞ's staff	Items 1 to 16

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

1. AGENDAS
(OJ(2011)1975/3; SEC(2011)1159/3)

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

2. WEEKLY MEETING OF CHEFS DE CABINET
(RCC(2011)1975)

The Commission considered the Secretary-General’s report on the weekly meeting of Chefs de cabinet held on Monday 10 October.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND SPECIAL MINUTES OF 1974TH MEETING (5 OCTOBER)

The Commission held over approval of the minutes of its 1974th meeting for the following week.

4. WRITTEN PROCEDURES, EMPOWERMENT AND DELEGATION OF POWERS

4.1. WRITTEN PROCEDURES APPROVED
(SEC(2011)1160 ET SEQ.)

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted between 3 and 7 October.

4.2. EMPOWERMENT (SEC(2011)1161 ET SEQ.)

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted between 3 and 7 October.

4.3. DELEGATION AND SUBDELEGATION OF POWERS (SEC(2011)1162 ET SEQ.)

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted under the delegation and subdelegation procedure between 3 and 7 October, as archived in e-Greffe.

4.4. SENSITIVE WRITTEN PROCEDURES (SEC(2011)1163 AND /2)

The Commission took note of the sensitive written procedures for which the time limit expired between 10 and 14 October and of the 'finalisation' written procedures initiated following the weekly meeting of Chefs de cabinet on 10 October.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY MATTERS (SEC(2011)1164/2)

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS
(PERS(2011)135/2)

5.1. DG ENLARGEMENT - APPOINTMENT OF AD15/16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL (PERS(2011)83 TO /4)

The Commission had before it the list of applications under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Deputy Director-General of DG Enlargement (PERS(2011)83 and /2).

It took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 5 and 21 September (PERS(2011)83/3 and /4).

The Commission 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 Mr FÜLE, it then decided to appoint Mr Joost KORTE to the post.

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

5.2. *DG REGIONAL POLICY – APPOINTMENT OF AD14/15 DIRECTOR (PERS(2011)70 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, 'Austria, Czech Republic, Germany, the Netherlands, Slovakia, Slovenia', in DG Regional Policy (PERS(2011) 70).

It took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 20 July and 15 September (PERS(2011)70/2 and /3).

The Commission 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 Mr HAHN, it then decided to appoint Mr Erich UNTERWURZACHER to the post.

This decision would take effect on 1 January 2012.

5.3. *DG EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND INCLUSION - AMENDMENT OF ORGANISATION CHART AND APPOINTMENT OF AD15 ADVISER HORS CLASSE*

On a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Mr ANDOR, the Commission decided:

- to create an AD15 post of Adviser hors classe in DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion;
- to fill that post by transferring in the interest of the service under Article 7 of the Staff Regulations Ms Eleni SAMUEL, an AD15 official and currently Deputy Director-General in DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion;
- to abolish the post after the departure of its holder;
- to postpone Ms SAMUEL's retirement date until 1 December 2012, among other reasons because Cyprus would be holding the Council Presidency in the second half of 2012.

These decisions would take effect on 1 December 2011.

5.4. DG EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND INCLUSION – APPOINTMENT OF AD15 DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL

On a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT and Mr ANDOR, the Commission decided to fill the post of Deputy Director-General of DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion by transferring in the interest of the service under Article 7 of the Staff Regulations Mr Zoltan KAZATSAY, currently Deputy Director-General of DG Mobility and Transport.

This decision would take effect on 1 December 2011.

5.5. DG HUMAN RESOURCES AND SECURITY – APPROVAL OF LISTS OF CANDIDATES FOR HEAD OF EUROPEAN UNION DELEGATION POSTS (PERS(2011)136 TO 140)

The Commission took note of the information at point 5 of PERS(2011)135/2 and, on a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, decided to approve the lists of candidates in PERS(2011)136 to 140 for the posts of Head of the European Union Delegations to South Sudan, the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Eritrea, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and Syria; these lists would serve as a basis for the competent authority of the European External Action Service to make final appointments.

The Commission agreed that approval of the list of candidates for the post of Head of the European Union Delegation to South Sudan did not necessarily mean that it would decide to open a delegation to that country.

These decisions would take effect immediately.

5.6. SECRETARIAT GENERAL / DG BUDGET / DG HUMAN RESOURCES AND SECURITY – ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE TASK FORCE FOR GREECE

The Commission took note of the information at point 6 of PERS(2011)135/2 and, on a proposal from Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, Mr REHN and Mr LEWANDOWSKI, decided:

- that middle or senior managers who were made available to the task force by DGs that provided substantive support in that context for the policies within their remit would be transferred to Adviser or Principal Adviser posts in their DG of origin; these posts would be created temporarily and abolished after the departure of the post holder;
- that, by way of derogation from the Commission decisions on middle management staff (C(2008)5028/2) and advisers (C(2008)5029/2), the officials concerned would be given priority for immediate assignment to another middle management post corresponding to their profile in their original DG, once their period in the task force had ended.

These decisions would take effect immediately.

5.7. CREATION OF A SUPPORT GROUP FOR PORTUGAL

The Commission took note of the PRESIDENT's decision, under Article 22 of its Rules of Procedure, to set up a support for Portugal.

6. COMMISSION DECISION ON A PROCEEDING UNDER ARTICLE 101 OF THE TREATY ON THE FUNCTIONING OF THE EUROPEAN UNION (*CASE COMP/39482 – EXOTIC FRUIT – BANANAS*) (C(2011)7273 TO /7; RCC(2011)992)

The Commission:

– took note of the opinions of the Advisory Committee on Restrictive Practices and Dominant Positions of 3 and 10 October in C(2011)7273/3 and /7;

– took note of the final report of the Hearing Officer of 10 October in C(2011)7273/4;

– adopted, in the authentic language (English), the Decision in C(2011)7273/5 finding that the companies to which the decision was addressed had infringed Article 101 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, requiring them to put an end to the infringements immediately and imposing on some of them fines totalling EUR 8 919 000;

– decided that the decision in C(2011)7273/5 would be notified to the companies concerned, together with the final report of the Hearing Officer;

– decided that the key parts of the Decision, together with the Advisory Committee's opinions and the Hearing Officer's final report, would be published in the official languages of the Union in the *Official Journal of the European Union* (with business secrets and other confidential information removed);

– decided also to publish the decision on the internet (with business secrets and other confidential information removed).

7. COMMUNICATION FROM THE COMMISSION TO THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND THE COUNCIL – ENLARGEMENT STRATEGY AND MAIN CHALLENGES 2011-2012

(COM(2011)666 TO /3; SEC(2011)1200 TO /3; SEC(2011)1201 TO /3; SEC(2011)1202 TO /3; SEC(2011)1203; SEC(2011)1204 AND /2; SEC(2011)1205 AND /2; SEC(2011)1206 TO /3; SEC(2011)1207 TO /3; SEC(2011)1180; RCC(2011)987)

The Commission approved the Communication in COM(2011)666/3, for transmission to the European Parliament and the Council and, for information, to the national parliaments, together with the 2011 progress reports on Croatia, Turkey, Iceland, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo[1], as set out in SEC(2011)1200 to /3, SEC(2011)1201 to /3, SEC(2011)1202 to /3, SEC(2011)1203, SEC(2011)1204 and /2, SEC(2011)1205 and /2, SEC(2011)1206 to /3, and SEC(2011)1207 to /3 respectively, the contents of which were noted.

8. COMMISSION OPINION ON THE APPLICATION FOR ACCESSION TO THE EUROPEAN UNION BY THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

(COM(2011)667; SEC(2011)1182; RCC(2011)987)

The Commission adopted the opinion in COM(2010)667 for transmission to the European Parliament and the Council and, for information, to the national parliaments.

[1] Under UN Security Council Resolution 1244/1999.

**9. COMMISSION OPINION ON SERBIA'S APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP OF THE EUROPEAN UNION
(COM(2011)668 TO /3; SEC(2011)1208 TO /3; SEC(2011)1181; RCC(2011)987)**

The Commission adopted the opinion set out in COM(2011)668/3, for transmission to Parliament and the Council, and, for information, to the national parliaments, together with the analytic report set out in staff paper SEC(2011)1208/3, the contents of which were noted.

**10. PROPOSAL FOR A REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL ON THE FINANCING, MANAGEMENT AND MONITORING OF THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY
(COM(2011)628 TO /3; SEC(2011)1153; SEC(2011)1154; SEC(2011)1155; SEC(2011)1156; RCC(2011)978; RCC(2011)982; RCC(2011)986)**

**11. PROPOSAL FOR A REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL ESTABLISHING A COMMON ORGANISATION OF THE MARKETS IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS ('THE SINGLE CMO REGULATION')
(COM(2011)626 TO /3; SEC(2011)1153; SEC(2011)1154; SEC(2011)1155; SEC(2011)1156; RCC(2011)978; RCC(2011)982; RCC(2011)986)**

**12. PROPOSAL FOR A COUNCIL REGULATION DETERMINING MEASURES ON FIXING CERTAIN AIDS AND REFUNDS RELATED TO THE COMMON ORGANISATION OF THE MARKETS IN AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS
(SEC(2011)629 AND /2; SEC(2011)1153; SEC(2011)1154; SEC(2011)1155; SEC(2011)1156; RCC(2011)978; RCC(2011)982; RCC(2011)986)**

13. PROPOSAL FOR A REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL ON SUPPORT FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT BY

THE EUROPEAN AGRICULTURAL FUND FOR RURAL DEVELOPMENT (EAFRD)
(COM(2011)627 TO /3; SEC(2011)1153; SEC(2011)1154; SEC(2011)1155; SEC(2011)1156; RCC(2011)978; RCC(2011)982; RCC(2011)986)

14. PROPOSAL FOR A REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL ESTABLISHING RULES FOR DIRECT PAYMENTS TO FARMERS UNDER SUPPORT SCHEMES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE COMMON AGRICULTURAL POLICY
(COM(2011)625 TO /3; SEC(2011)1153; SEC(2011)1154; SEC(2011)1155; SEC(2011)1156; RCC(2011)978; RCC(2011)982; RCC(2011)986)

15. PROPOSAL FOR A REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL AMENDING COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) 73/2009 AS REGARDS THE APPLICATION OF DIRECT PAYMENTS TO FARMERS IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 2013
(COM(2011)630 TO /3; SEC(2011)1156; RCC(2011)978; RCC(2011)982; RCC(2011)986)

16. PROPOSAL FOR A REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL AMENDING COUNCIL REGULATION (EC) 1234/2007 AS REGARDS THE SINGLE PAYMENT SCHEME AND SUPPORT TO VINE-GROWERS
(COM(2011)631 TO /3; SEC(2011)1156; RCC(2011)978; RCC(2011)982; RCC(2011)986)

The PRESIDENT launched the discussion on the proposals concerning the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) listed in points 10 to 16 of these minutes, which were submitted to the Commission this day for adoption. He started by emphasising the balanced nature of the package. Mr CIOLOŞ had already taken into account a number of comments raised by the other Members, therefore the Commission had a good basis for discussion.

Mr CIOLOŞ presented all the proposals which, in his view, constituted an ambitious yet realistic reform of the CAP, fully in line with the guidelines and reforms already adopted and implemented under the CAP (which should be extended and improved). The reform also followed on from the Europe 2020 strategy and the decisions adopted in June by the Commission on the next multiannual financial framework 2014-2020.

As regards the emphasis to be placed on the second pillar of the CAP concerning environmental protection and the contribution to combating climate change, it was important first and foremost to decide on quantifiable and verifiable targets and indicators. Moreover, in the first pillar, 30% of direct aid to farmers would have to be linked to environmental protection from now on, hence the importance of this proposal for the sector. He said, however, that he was willing to include in recital 28 of the Regulation on rural development a reference to the need for Member States to at least maintain the current level of agri-environmental measures.

As for flexibility between the pillars, Mr CIOLOŞ felt that the proposal was balanced, with 5% of transfers permitted from the first pillar to the second, in addition to the 10% that could be transferred under modulation, hence a total of 15%.

The support scheme for young farmers would be compulsory for Member States, not for the actual farmers, and was an essential condition for preserving equality between farmers in the European Union.

The Commission then held an in-depth debate on these proposals to reform the Common Agricultural Policy, during which the following points in particular were raised:

– the need to make progress, to be ambitious and to highlight the added value and improvements brought by the proposed reform of the CAP during the period from 2014 to 2020, the main innovation being the greater importance given to environmental protection and the fight against climate change;

– the importance of making sure that the targets are achievable and that the means are available for achieving them so that the proposals do not lose their credibility; the need to make clear how the system has been simplified and how effective the recommended measures are, and not to increase the administrative burden caused by the management of the CAP, at either European or national level;

– the question whether an ambitious minimum percentage should be established for expenditure under pillar II of the CAP, designed for agri-environmental measures, or on the contrary whether, rather than applying a purely mechanical criterion, the Member States should be given broad discretionary powers;

– as for the objective of convergence of direct payments, the concern expressed by some Commission Members that things should be speeded up with an eye to a 2018 deadline in order to guarantee a more equal distribution of income in the European context; the need, in the view of other Members, to take account of the unfavourable situation in which some Member States might find themselves because of the convergence conditions laid down; the case, made by some, for prudence when pursuing convergence in order to guarantee both fairness and competitiveness;

– positive comments to the effect that the CAP was better integrated into the Europe 2020 Strategy for sustainable and inclusive growth;

– satisfaction that food security had also been taken into account in the proposed reform;

– support for the target of having 7% of arable land on all farms earmarked for conserving landscape features and biodiversity, and a mention of the case for strengthening the concept of green cover;

– as regards the principle of flexibility between pillar I and pillar II of the CAP, and the case for leaving a sufficient margin to Member States to adapt their financing decisions to their specific situations, some Members considered that the envisaged 5% flexibility margin could be raised, while others focused more on the need to promote the sources of growth offered by pillar II, as a continuation of the Europe 2020 strategy, and to highlight both productivity and the quality of agricultural production; the meeting was reminded too of the importance of ensuring that the application of this flexibility margin remained consistent with the objective of convergence in certain Member States;

– as regards the schemes for encouraging small farmers and young farmers, a reminder of the demographic developments in the sector and the consequent need for restructuring, and for stemming the population drain from rural areas in Europe; the importance, underlined by some speakers, of maintaining the optional nature of these schemes for Member States so that they could take account of specific national conditions; the usefulness of these schemes in guaranteeing agricultural and agri-food production capacity in Europe, an objective that is extremely important in the current economic situation, given the huge number of jobs in this sector in the EU;

– the importance of allowing Member States more flexibility to define the eligible areas qualifying for the single entitlement per hectare, and of taking steps to avoid territorial imbalances;

– the case, underlined by a majority of the Commission Members, for maintaining the date of 2015 initially set to end the special sugar regime;

– as regards the reserve for agricultural crises, now constituted outside the ordinary CAP budget, the concern that the funds should be used for strictly limited cases of major or serious crises, and that the concept of exceptional circumstances should be clarified and defined precisely and a clear distinction made between this type of financing and traditional support measures, such as private storage support; a reminder also of the special conditions of agricultural activity and the fact that it was highly dependent on external factors that could result in crises, the adverse effects of which must be alleviated;

– a warning about the difficulty of implementation and the excessive administrative burden which could result from the proposal that 7% of arable land on each farm be devoted to maintaining biodiversity, and about the effects this could have on European production and bioenergy imports, as well as on the protection of certain natural resources in non-EU countries;

– a mention of the risk of a reduction in European financing that could lead to a drop in the support for arable land given to certain non-government organisations working on nature protection;

– a question about the definition of ‘active farmer’ and a request, in this case, for a more detailed impact assessment than that proposed;

– the need to ensure good communication to the public and good information for the farming sector, in particular on aspects relating to the CAP's environmental objectives.

In reply to the various questions and comments, Mr CIOLOŞ pointed out first of all that the common agricultural policy had a strong economic and social dimension and that, although the agricultural sector must still evolve and adapt, it was important to bear in mind all the recent reforms shouldered by farmers and not to change the ground rules too abruptly.

As regards giving the common agricultural policy an ecological slant, the proposal sought to reserve 30% of direct payments under pillar I for measures to promote biodiversity and combat climate change; given the amounts of funding involved, he felt that this represented a great advance and a major reform of the sector.

He also pointed out that the approach being proposed for pillar II focused on adhering to the objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy and on setting priorities, leaving Member States with the choice of how to attain those objectives, but providing them with support through partnership contracts. In this context he said he could accept certain changes to the present text of the proposal for a Regulation on rural development, i.e. inclusion in a recital of the figure of 25% mentioned during the meeting and a form of words referring to the management priorities, which were broader than agri-environmental measures alone, and to climate change mitigation.

He was also willing to propose a figure of 10% for transfers from the first to the second pillar, but was much less keen on making the support scheme for young farmers optional.

He was, however, open to the idea of spelling out the concept of 'crisis' by including a reference to circumstances that went beyond normal developments on the markets.

Lastly, he argued that European agriculture must improve its economic and ecological competitiveness in order to face the challenges of the future and that it must do so through simple, practical and easily verifiable measures that took into account the needs and constraints of the agricultural world.

Winding up the debate, the PRESIDENT thanked Mr CIOLOŞ for his work and his constructive approach to the dossier. He reminded the meeting of the efforts already made by European farmers to adapt to the new global situation, whether it be in terms of taking environmental factors into account ('greening'), the quality and traceability of products, or consumer protection. In this context he felt it was important to maintain equal treatment between agricultural products from Europe and those from non-EU countries.

He also stressed that the reform of the CAP must be pursued and that these were very important proposals which would require, more than ever, the unanimous support of all Commission Members in the subsequent interinstitutional negotiations. He asked each of them to do their utmost to defend these proposals in the outside world, particularly in the Member States and vis-à-vis the farming industry.

The PRESIDENT then proposed that the Commission adopt the following specific conclusions on the various issues raised:

(i) he suggested retaining, as a balanced solution, the 2018 deadline mentioned in the proposal for convergence between Member States in terms of direct payments;

(ii) on the concept of 'active farmers', he stressed the importance of laying down a definition at European level, for the sake of the proposal's credibility;

(iii) as regards the single entitlement per hectare to be assigned to all eligible areas, he felt that the proposed solution of setting this entitlement to zero in certain cases was an acceptable compromise;

(iv) he proposed keeping the young farmers' scheme compulsory for the time being as a clear signal of the Commission's determination to provide support for young farmers;

(v) as regards the new crisis reserve fund set up in accordance with the Commission's decision of 29 June on the Multiannual Financial Framework, he suggested spelling out more clearly in the proposal that this fund would in future finance measures which, by definition, could be used as a safety net only in well-defined crisis situations, i.e. in circumstances that went beyond normal market conditions;

(vi) concerning the reference to a percentage of environmental measures to be geared to rural development, he agreed with the possibility of more explicit encouragement for Member States to intensify their efforts and therefore suggested that the minimum target of 25% be maintained and mentioned in the recitals of the proposal;

(vii) he suggested an amendment that would set 2015 as the date for the end of the current sugar regime, as had already been mentioned in the Council's discussions on the reform of the sector in November 2005;

(viii) on the degree of flexibility between the first and second pillars, he proposed 10% as a compromise, pointing out that 'modulation' transfers to the second pillar already existed and that the 10% would come on top of this;

(ix) lastly, with regard to the proposal establishing rules for direct payments, currently COM(2011)625/3, he confirmed that the title of the last column in

Annex II (‘*National ceilings referred to in Article 6*’) should read *‘2019 and subsequent year*’.

The PRESIDENT noted the Commission’s unanimous support for these conclusions and its agreement on the following amendments to be made to the English-language versions of the proposed texts:

- **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing a common organisation of the markets in agricultural products (Single CMO Regulation) – COM(2011)626/2 and /3**

  – **on page 7, the fourth paragraph would read as follows:**

  “*Certain sectoral aids are removed (e.g. skimmed milk, hops and silkworms). The milk quota system and the wine planting ban are set to expire under existing legislation which is thus left unchanged in this respect. Sugar quotas are set to expire by 30 September 2015. A single animal disease / loss of consumer confidence provision and a general market disturbance clause are provided with the latter expanded to cover all sectors in the current Single CMO.*”;

  – **on page 30, recital 148 would read as follows:**

  “*(148) Pursuant to Regulation (EU) No [COM(2010)799] several sectoral measures, including on milk quotas, sugar quotas and other sugar measures and the restrictions on the planting of vines, as well as certain state aids, will expire within a reasonable period following the entry in force of this Regulation. After the repeal of Regulation (EU) No [COM(2010)799], the relevant provisions should continue to apply until the end of the schemes concerned.*”;

  – **on page 34, the title of Section 2 of Chapter I of Part V would read as follows:**

  “*Section 2 Market support measures related to animal diseases and loss of consumer confidence due to public, animal or plant health risks*”;

  – **on page 137, the first paragraph of Article 160 (‘*Use of the Reserve*’)**

would read as follows:

"*Funds transferred from the Reserve for crises in the agricultural sector under the conditions and procedure referred to in paragraph 14 of the Interinstitutional Agreement between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission on cooperation in budgetary matters and on sound financial management [footnote] shall be made available for the measures to which this Regulation applies for the year or years for which the additional support is required and which are implemented in circumstances that go beyond normal market developments.*";

– **on page 139, paragraph 1(a) of Article 164 ('*Repeals*') would read as follows:**

"*(a) as regards the sugar sector, Title I of Part II, Articles 248, 260 to 262 and Part II of Annex III until the end of the 2014/2015 marketing year for sugar on 30 September 2015.*";

– **on page 140, paragraph 1 of Article 166 ('*Entry into force and application*') would read as follows:**

"*1. This Regulation* shall enter into force on the seventh day *following that of its publication in the Official Journal of the European Union.*

It shall apply from 1 January 2014.

However, Articles 7, 16 and 101 and Annex III, as regards the sugar sector, shall only apply after the end of the 2014/2015 marketing year for sugar on 1 October 2015." ;

- **Proposal for a Council Regulation determining measures on fixing certain aids and refunds related to the common organisation of the markets in agricultural products – COM(2011)629/2**

  – **on page 9, recital 5 would read as follows:**

"(5) Pursuant to Regulation (EU) No [COM(2010)799] several sectoral

measures, including on the scheme for production refunds for sugar will expire at the end of the 2014/2015 marketing year for sugar. After the repeal of Regulation (EU) No [COM(2010)799], the relevant provisions of that Regulation related to that scheme should nevertheless continue to apply until the end of the schemes concerned. For that reason, the measures on fixing of the production refund for the products of the sugar sector as provided for in Article 4 of Regulation (EU) No [COM(2011)193] should continue to apply until the end of the 2014/2015 marketing year." ;

- **on page 12, paragraph 1 of Article 5 ('*Repeals*') would read as follows:**

"*1. Regulation (EU) No […] is repealed.*

However, Article 4 of Regulation (EU) No […] shall continue to apply to the sugar sector until 30 September 2015." ;

- **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council on support for rural development by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) – COM(2011)627/3**

  - **on page 16, the following sentence would be added to the end of recital 25:**

"*In order to ensure that afforestation of agricultural land is in line with the aims of environmental policy the power to adopt acts in accordance with Article 290 of the Treaty should be delegated to the Commission in respect of the definition of certain minimum environmental requirements."* ;

  - **on page 17, the last sentence in recital 28 would read as follows:**

"*Member States should maintain the level of efforts made during the 2007-2013 programming period and have to spend a minimum of 25% of the total contribution from the EAFRD to each rural development programme for climate change mitigation and adaptation and land management, through the agri-environment-climate, organic farming and payments to areas facing natural or other specific constraints measures.*";

– **on page 48, paragraph 2 of Article 23 (‘*Afforestation and creation of woodland*’) would be amended and a new paragraph 3 would be added, so that they would read as follows:**

“*2. Both agricultural and non-agricultural land shall be eligible. Species planted shall be adapted to the environmental and climatic conditions of the area and answer to minimum environmental requirements. No support shall be granted for the planting of short rotation coppice, Christmas trees or fast growing trees for energy production. In areas where afforestation is made difficult by severe pedo-climatic conditions support may be provided for planting other perennial woody species such as shrubs or bushes suitable to the local conditions.*

3. The Commission shall be empowered to adopt delegated acts in accordance with Article 90 concerning the definition of the minimum environmental requirements referred to in paragraph 2.”;

- **Proposal for a Regulation of the European Parliament and of the Council establishing rules for direct payments to farmers under support schemes within the framework of the common agricultural policy – COM(2011)625/3**

– **on page 30, paragraph 1 of Article 14 (‘*Flexibility between pillars*’) would read as follows:**

“*1. Before 1 August 2013, Member States may decide to make available as additional support for measures under rural development programming financed under the EAFRD as specified under Regulation (EU) No […] [RDR], up to 10 % of their annual national ceilings for calendar years 2014 to 2019 as set out in Annex II to this Regulation. As a result, the corresponding amount shall no longer be available for granting direct payments.”*.

Subject to the inclusion of the above amendments in COM(2011)626/2 and /3, COM(2011)629/2, COM(2011)627/3 and COM(2011)625/3, and subject to final linguistic revision of all of the texts, the Commission:

- adopted the proposal for a Regulation in COM(2011) 628/3, for transmission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions, the European Data Protection Supervisor and the national parliaments, together with the impact assessment and the summary thereof in staff working papers SEC(2011)1153 and SEC(2011)1154, the contents of which were noted;

- also took note of the opinion of the Impact Assessment Board on the above proposal for a Regulation, as set out in SEC(2011)1155;

- adopted the proposal for a Regulation in COM(2011)626/2 and 3, for transmission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions, the European Data Protection Supervisor and the national parliaments, together with the impact assessment and the summary thereof in staff working papers SEC(2011)1153 and SEC(2011)1154, the contents of which were noted;

- also took note of the opinion of the Impact Assessment Board on the above proposal for a Regulation, as set out in SEC(2011)1155;

- adopted the proposal for a Council Regulation in COM(2011)629/2, for transmission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions and the European Data Protection Supervisor, and, for information, to the national parliaments, together with the impact assessment and the summary thereof in staff working papers SEC(2011)1153 and SEC(2011)1154, the contents of which were noted;

- also took note of the opinion of the Impact Assessment Board on the above proposal for a Council Regulation, as set out in SEC(2011)1155;

- adopted the proposal for a Regulation in COM(2011)627/3, for transmission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions, the European Data Protection Supervisor and the national parliaments, together with the impact assessment and the summary thereof in staff working papers SEC(2011)1153 and

SEC(2011)1154, the contents of which were noted;

- also took note of the opinion of the Impact Assessment Board on the above proposal for a Regulation, as set out in SEC(2011)1155;

- adopted the proposal for a Regulation in COM(2011)625/3, for transmission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions, the European Data Protection Supervisor and the national parliaments, together with the impact assessment and the summary thereof in staff working papers SEC(2011)1153 and SEC(2011)1154, the contents of which were noted;

- also took note of the opinion of the Impact Assessment Board on the above proposal for a Regulation, as set out in SEC(2011)1155;

- adopted the proposal for a Regulation in COM(2011)630/2 and /3 for transmission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions, the European Data Protection Supervisor and the national parliaments;

- adopted the proposal for a Regulation in COM(2011)631/2 and /3 for transmission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions, the European Data Protection Supervisor and the national parliaments.

17. INTERINSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS (RCC(2011)984)

The Commission took note of the record of the meeting of the Interinstitutional Relations Group held on Friday 7 October (RCC(2011)984).

It paid particular attention to the following points.

17.1. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

i) Ordinary legislative procedure
(point 1.2 of the IRG record)

Dossiers at Parliament first reading

– Agricultural product quality schemes (Regulation) – GARCÍA PÉREZ report – 2010/0353 (COD)

The Commission approved the line set out in SI(2011)355.

– Amendment of Directives 89/666/EC, 2005/56/EC and 2009/101/EC as regards the interconnection of central, commercial and companies registers (Directive) – LECHNER report – 2011/0038 (COD)

The Commission approved the line set out in SI(2011)356/2.

ii) Preparation for the October I part-session of Parliament
(point 1.3 of the IRG record)

Ordinary legislative procedure – Codecision – 1st reading

– Implementation of Article 10 of the United Nations' Firearms Protocol and establishment of export authorisation, import and transit measures for firearms, their parts and components and ammunition (Regulation) – IACOLINO report – 2010/0147 (COD)

The Commission approved the line set out in SP(2011)8490.

– Amendment of Council Regulation (EC) 1215/2009 introducing exceptional trade measures for countries and territories participating in or linked to the European Union's Stabilisation and Association process (Regulation) – MOREIRA report – 2010/0036 (COD)

The Commission approved the line set out in SP(2011)8491.

17.2. RELATIONS WITH THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL AND THE COUNCIL

iii) Programming of Council business

(SI(2011)359)

The Commission took note of the information in SI(2011)359 on the Council meetings between 13 and 26 October.

iv) Preparations for the European Council and the summit of the Heads of State or Government of the euro area (Brussels, 23 October 2011) – A roadmap to stability and growth

(COM(2011)669; INFO(2011)1021)

The PRESIDENT introduced the discussion, the purpose of which was to prepare the Commission's contribution to the European Council and to the summit of the Heads of State or Government of the euro area. He pointed out that these meetings, originally scheduled for 17 October, would finally take place on 23 October in Brussels. This postponement was opportune given that the current differences in points of view and interests were not favourable to the shaping of a credible, coherent and complete response in the run-up to the G20 summit in Cannes in the context of an extremely serious situation marked by the spreading of the crisis to the ‘major’ economies.

Referring to the roadmap to stability and growth which he was today submitting for approval, he stressed that it must consist of five elements: (1) decisive action with regard to Greece; (2) enhancement of the euro area's backstops against the crisis, in particular the European Financial Stability Facility; (3) strengthening of the banks, by recapitalisation if necessary; (4) acceleration of the structural reforms and frontloading of stability and growth-enhancing policies; (5) the institutional dimension, with a more robust and integrated economic governance of the euro area in future.

The PRESIDENT said that a valid and convincing agreement could be achieved only by combining these five elements, in such a way as to take account of the sensitivities of certain Member States. The Commission had been proposing many of these elements for some time but the Member States had not necessarily grasped the urgency of implementing them or the need for a global approach incorporating all of them. Last January the proposal had been made to strengthen the European Financial Stability Facility and he himself, in a letter at the beginning of August, had called for urgent implementation of the decisions concerning Greece taken on 21 July, a message reiterated in his speech on the state of the Union. The Member States were beginning to realise the urgency of the situation, partly as a result of pressure from non-EU countries.

The brief communication presented today was in line with the approach taken in the speech on the state of the Union and contained the now familiar themes of growth, the strengthening of the European Financial Stability Facility and economic governance. Work on the technical aspects was still under way with the Member State capitals but the framework was in place. The part relating to Greece and to the question of sovereign debt reflected the discussions held at recent Commission meetings.

The proposals on bank recapitalisation were a little more detailed owing to the work already initiated and carried out jointly by Mr ALMUNIA, Mr REHN and Mr BARNIER on the basis of the analysis made by the European Banking Authority, which would ultimately be responsible for putting forward the precise figures once the framework was in place. The communication provided for an exercise enabling stress tests to be performed on the banks once the sovereign bonds had been valued at their actual market price; banks which did not reach a certain threshold must first of all raise funds from private sources before drawing on public resources, in strict compliance with state aid rules.

The PRESIDENT concluded by referring to the set of measures making up the roadmap and the political and economic interdependence of its various elements. He pointed out that the Member States of the euro area were waiting for guidelines concerning such a coherent approach. Given the postponement of the European Council and of the summit of the Heads of State or Government of the euro area, more concrete proposals could still be submitted at the next Commission meeting.

Lastly, he announced that the roadmap would be presented that day to the European Parliament and asked for the Commissioners' support while pointing out that the Commission now had the right and also the duty to set out a comprehensive approach in a dangerous scenario in which there would be no second chance.

Taking the floor, Mr REHN referred to the different points of view among the Member States and the need for the Commission to work to bring them closer together through a complete and coherent strategy, so that political decisions could be taken on 23 October.

The turmoil on the financial markets, caused chiefly by the situation in Greece, was now affecting most of the sovereign debt market and the European banking system and had brought growth virtually to a standstill.

He explained that the current decline in business and consumer confidence indicated an additional slowdown in economic activity in the next quarters and pointed to a higher risk of a new recession, in a context in which unemployment had reached 10% and public finances were clearly in the red. Furthermore, there was the risk that if the turmoil in the financial markets were not closely monitored it could lead to a situation comparable to or even worse than that of autumn 2008.

Mr REHN also mentioned the crisis in confidence affecting governance of the euro area. This crisis had been much aggravated by the slow and cumbersome nature of decision-making in the Union, whether these decisions related to managing the crisis or to setting guidelines for the Member States concerning prudent policies when times were more favourable.

He regretted the fact that, despite the Commission's calls at the beginning of the year for a comprehensive political response, such a response had not materialised. Now was the last chance to come up with one. He warned against undue optimism on the basis of the more positive atmosphere on the stock markets in the last few days, which was closely linked to the expectation of a full response to the sovereign debt crisis in Europe, in particular through bank recapitalisation, and stressed the need to fulfil these expectations and provide the Member States with a common political approach.

Mr REHN in his turn referred to the five elements of the roadmap presented today, which must remain inseparable. They were highly ambitious and it was important to send a decisive and consistent signal to the Member States and to public opinion.

Mr ALMUNIA then took the floor and stressed the importance of the proposed measures in combating the sovereign debt crisis and the problems of the banking sector. However, the ultimate objective, namely restoring growth, would also require a recovery in demand, something that would also need to be addressed.

He agreed fully with the line taken with regard to Greece and pointed out that communication efforts should stress the political will to ensure the integrity of the euro area.

With regard to the reference in the roadmap to a possible treaty change, this would have to be carefully prepared.

Lastly, as regards the banking sector, he intended to formally propose that the special state aid system for this sector be extended to beyond 2011, by making certain marginal adjustments.

Noting the seriousness of the current economic situation, Mr BARNIER stressed that the proposals made must be at once strong and coherent, ambitious and pragmatic, and could serve as a basis for the work done by the Council and the other institutions.

He pointed out that part of the work referred to in the roadmap was the responsibility of the European Central Bank and the European Banking

Authority, whose task it would be to further develop the measures, particularly those relating to bank recapitalisation.

Unlike the 2008 crisis, the current challenge related to sovereign risk and not to the banks as such. It was therefore necessary first of all to tackle the problem of sovereign debt.

He believed that the roadmap presented today adequately covered all the matters needed for a credible response and would facilitate the work of the European Central Bank and the European Banking Authority and the reaching of an agreement on 23 October.

The Commission held a detailed discussion during which the following main aspects were raised:

– broad support for the content of the ambitious and realistic roadmap and the global approach outlining the measures needed to restore confidence in the European Union; the importance for the Commission of asserting its role following the commitments made by the PRESIDENT in his state of the Union speech;

– the need for the Commission to demonstrate not only its decisive role as a facilitator between euro-area and non-euro area Member States in order to strengthen the Union as a whole, but also its leading role in guiding the Member States in their search for solutions to the economic and financial crisis;

– the challenge for the Commission of stressing in this communication both the need to use the decisions adopted on 21 July as a basis and put them into operation, and the possibility of going beyond that agreement, in particular by increasing the ‘firepower’ of the support mechanisms by maximising the use of the European Financial Stability Facility;

– the importance of stressing the political will of all concerned to find a lasting solution for Greece within the euro area;

- questions on the possibility of giving more detail in the text about the sustainability of Greece's sovereign debt and private sector involvement;

- questions on the involvement of the European Central Bank and its possible role as a lender of last resort;

- the importance for the banking sector of demonstrating, as part of the recapitalisation process, its long-term viability; the need in this context to highlight the conditionality of the recapitalisation arrangements and the fact that the burden on financial institutions and public authorities would be distributed fairly in order to avoid any distortion of competition; also in this context, the need to emphasise the responsibility of the banks and to avoid moral hazard; the usefulness of additional equity buffers to prevent the distribution of dividends before the recapitalisation process was complete;

- the need to implement the recapitalisation measures announced without delay and to specify the conditions for calling on the European Financial Stability Facility; but also the importance of leaving to the European Banking Authority the task of presenting its proposals on the bank recapitalisation strategy, in accordance with its powers;

- the need to improve the stress tests to enhance their credibility;

- the need for the Commission to present a programme for stimulating new growth and promote a uniform approach to the definition of growth factors;

- the need to stress the importance of completing the internal market and the gains to be obtained from actions focused on sectors with high growth potential, particularly in connection with the digital agenda; the need to improve the competitiveness of small and medium-sized undertakings and facilitate their access to credit;

- a reminder that a policy debate on growth factors was to be held in mid-

November in connection with the launch of the Annual Growth Survey for 2012;

– the need to make a clear distinction between measures that would apply to the Union as a whole and those that would be confined to Member States in the euro area; the need for economic governance to be enhanced within an overall framework to ensure that the Member States outside the euro area were not left in isolation;

– the importance of pointing out that any revision of the Treaties could only take place once the immediate euro-area support mechanisms had been implemented.

The PRESIDENT thanked the speakers for their contributions. He noted the Commission's unanimous support for the proposed text, distributed as COM(2011)699, and its agreement that the following amendments should be made to the English version:

– **on page 2, the fourth sentence of the introduction would read as follows:**

"*The crisis threatens to become systemic.*";

– **on page 2, point 2 in the box would read as follows:**

"*2. Enhance the Euro area's backstops against the crisis*";

– **on page 3, the last bullet point in section 1 would read as follows:**

"• *Continued support from the Commission Task Force on Greece, underpinning full and timely implementation of the programme and channelling the available structural funds to strengthen competitiveness and return to growth*";

– **on page 3, the title of section 2 would read as follows:**

"*Enhancing the Euro area's backstops against the crisis*";

– **on page 3, the third bullet point in section 2 would read as follows:**

"*Improving the capacity of the EFSF to intervene by purchasing government debt in primary markets and to intervene in secondary markets where exceptional market circumstances and risks to financial stability exist, under appropriate conditionality.*";

– **on page 4, the first paragraph of section 3 would read as follows:**

"*Both in regulatory and financial terms huge efforts have been deployed to strengthen Europe's banks given their role in the stability and functioning of our economy. Banks have also considerably improved the quality and quantity of their capital base."*;

– **on page 4, the last sentence of the second paragraph of section 3 would read as follows:**

"*Swift adoption of CRD IV will establish a robust capital ratio for banks and implement the Basel III standards.*";

– **on page 4, the first sentence of the fourth paragraph of section 3 would read as follows:**

"*To restore confidence in the EU banking sector, a coordinated, targeted recapitalisation effort is needed, in conjunction with the other elements of this strategy.*";

– **on page 4, the fourth bullet point in section 3 would read as follows:**

"*Banks that do not retain the necessary capital should present recapitalisation plans and implement them as swiftly as possible. In practical terms, national supervisors should set these requirements through their existing supervisory powers in the form of additional buffers which prevent the distribution of dividends or bonuses pending the recapitalisation.*";

– **on page 5, the second paragraph of section 4 would read as follows:**

"*We have several structural growth levers to hand at EU level – getting more out of the single market, maximising our trade performance and exploiting the potential of recently concluded trade agreements are just some of the elements. Moreover, the current crisis shows that we have to mainstream competitiveness into EU policies. Particular gains can be obtained from actions focused on technology sectors with high growth potential through development of a digital single market."*;

– **on pages 5 and 6, the bullet points in section 4 under "*Getting more out of what has already been agreed at EU level*", would read as follows:**

" • *Full implementation of the Services directive.*

• *Completion of the integrated market for energy which would give consumers choice between suppliers and make markets fully accessible for energy providers.*

• *Implementation of the late payments directive should be advanced from March 2013 to January 2012, in order to help SMEs.*

• *Full implementation of the Free Trade Agreement with Korea.*";

– **on page 6, the bullet points in section 4 under "*Accelerating adoption of what is pending in co-decision*", would read as follows:**

" • *The proposed unitary European patent protection valid in 25 Member States would lead to an estimated 80% reduction in costs for companies.*

• *The pending revision of the directive on annual accounts would simplify reporting requirements in particular through exemptions for micro enterprises.*

- *Increasing co-financing rates for Structural Funds in programme countries as proposed would enable the rapid mobilisation of EU funds in support of growth.*
- *The proposed energy savings directive would promote more efficient use of energy.*
- *Concluding the further trade agreements which are underway with key strategic partners.*
- *Adopting the proposals on savings tax and other tax initiatives already presented.*
- *Giving the Commission the mandate to negotiate tax agreements for the whole EU with third countries to effectively fight tax evasion whilst avoiding double taxation.*
- *Adopting the optional Common European Sales Law."*;

– **on page 6, the bullet points in section 4 under *"Fast-track future proposals that the Commission will propose in the coming months"*, would read as follows:**

" • *The twelve proposals of the Single Market including:*

  – *Facilitating access to venture capital across Europe through an EU passport.*

  – *Providing a common legal base for mutual recognition of e-authentication and electronic signature across borders.*

  – *Revising the public procurement framework to provide simpler rules and more transparent procedures.*

- *Other proposals:*

  – *A Young Opportunities initiative to boost youth employment, in particular access to a first job.*

– *Collective rights management/copyright law to create a single market for copyright – it is estimated that this could treble on line music sales.";*

– **on page 8, the first and second bullet points in the fourth paragraph of section 5 would read as follows:**

"• *Setting out provisions for strengthening the economic and budgetary surveillance of Euro area Member States requesting or receiving financial assistance from the EFSF, ESM, IMF or another IFI. The Commission will make a proposal to the Council and the European Parliament under Article 136.*

• *Monitoring the national budgetary policies of Euro area Member States in excessive deficit procedure/programme countries through a Commission/Council procedure which would enable the Commission/Council to intervene, for example to examine national draft budgets ex-ante, to request a second reading in serious cases, to suggest amendments in the course of the year and to monitor budgetary execution. The Commission will make a proposal to the Council and the European Parliament under Article 136 setting out the graduated steps and conditions that should apply in such cases.";*

– **on page 8, the last paragraph of section 5 would read as follows:**

"*Finally, it may be appropriate to enshrine some or all of these steps in the formal framework of a Treaty revision. This would not serve as an immediate response to the current crisis which must be addressed through the swift and decisive implementation of the measures presented in this Communication. Once this has been done, Treaty changes could be envisaged to consolidate and give even greater impact to the new Community architecture that is now being put in place via secondary legislation. Treaty change may also be helpful to ensure the coherence of deeper integration within the Euro area with the Union as a whole, in particular the Single Market.*".

With the above changes, and subject to final linguistic revision, the Commission approved the communication in COM(2011)669 for transmission to Parliament and the Council, and, for information, to the European Central Bank, the European Investment Bank, the European Economic and Social Committee, the Committee of the Regions, and the national parliaments.

The Commission also took note of the information from Mr REHN in INFO(2011)1021.

17.3. RELATIONS WITH PARLIAMENT

v) Action taken on non-legislative resolutions adopted by Parliament at its July 2011 part-session
(point 3.5.2 of the IRG record)

The Commission approved SP(2011)297/2 and /3 on the action taken on the non-legislative resolutions adopted by Parliament at its July 2011 part-session.

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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 13.08.