

Monday 17 November 1997

I

(Information)

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

1997/98 SESSION

Sittings of 17 to 21 November 1997
 PALAIS DE L'EUROPE – STRASBOURG

MINUTES OF THE SITTING OF MONDAY 17 NOVEMBER 1997

(97/C 371/01)

Proceedings of the sitting

IN THE CHAIR: Mr GIL-ROBLES GIL-DELGADO

*President**(The sitting opened at 5 p.m.)*

had been condemned; he felt that this sentence was excessive and called for the President to contact the French Justice Minister, Mrs Guigou, asking her to consider the law applicable in this case (the President replied that it was not Parliament's job to become involved in legal questions in a Member State; all he could do was to consider the matter and possibly ask for them to be treated more leniently);

1. Resumption of session

The session, adjourned on 6 November 1997, was resumed.

The President welcomed the release the previous day of the Chinese dissident, Wei Jingsheng, who had been awarded the 1996 Sakharov Prize. He also referred to reports just in of a devastating bomb attack perpetrated by extremists in Luxor on two tourist coaches, which had claimed numerous victims. He said that he would send a message of condolences, on behalf of Parliament, to the families of the victims and the authorities of their countries of origin.

— Mrs Bloch von Blottnitz, who referred to her remarks on 14 July 1997 (Minutes of that sitting, Item 3) and 17 September 1997 (Minutes of that sitting, Part I, Item 1) in which she had said that she was awaiting a reply following a Council presidency speech at a meeting in Zimbabwe claiming that Parliament had not adopted any position on the CITES, when in fact it had adopted a resolution on the subject; she said that she had still not received any reply (the President said that he would ask the Council why no reply had yet been sent);

2. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the previous sitting were approved.

The following spoke:

— Mr Corbett, who referred to the arrest of nine Liverpool football fans during a match in Strasbourg the previous month and the eight-month prison sentence to which three of them

— Mrs Díez de Rivera Icaza, who referred to the frequent timetable changes to which the special Air France flight for Spanish Members to Strasbourg was subjected by the authorities at Madrid-Barajas Airport, and asked the President to take action with these authorities; she also thanked Air France for having made it possible for Spanish Members to arrive in Strasbourg on time (the President observed that this state of affairs apparently applied in other cases as well, adding that he would ask the Secretary-General to look into the matter before taking any further action);

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— Mr McMillan-Scott who, in his capacity as rapporteur for China, referred to the President's announcement at the opening of the sitting concerning the release of Wei Jingsheng, and then referred to the Labour Party's ban on British members of the PSE Group from making comments on the electoral procedure for European elections (the President cut him off as this subject was not on the agenda and had in any case been referred to the committee responsible which had already dealt with it);

— Mr Andrews, who raised a human rights problem (the President cut him off as this subject was not on the agenda);

— Mr Dupuis, who referred to the President's announcement at the opening of the sitting, asked for Wei Jingsheng, who had not been able to receive his award the previous year, to be enabled to take part in the 1997 Sakharov Prize award ceremony at the next part-session in Strasbourg (the President replied that he would raise the issue at the Conference of Presidents with a view to reaching an agreement on the most appropriate time to invite Wei Jingsheng to Parliament);

— Mr McGowan, on the President's reply to Mr Corbett;

— Mr Fabre-Aubrespy, who referred to the new reference in the final draft agenda to committee meetings 'authorized by the President'; he commented that the reference was no doubt included following the conclusions drawn by the President from the Court of Justice judgement of 1 October 1997 and expressed disappointment that the President had not done likewise for the 1997 part-session calendar. He saw in this a dual interpretation of the Court's judgement (the President replied that it was the Conference of Presidents which had drawn the appropriate conclusions from this judgement: it had decided that it was not feasible to organize an extra part-session in November and had complied with the Edinburgh decision as far as committee meetings were concerned);

— Mr Gallagher, who criticized the President for not allowing Mr Andrews the floor, given that the latter had intended to speak on a question of citizens' rights just as Mr Corbett and Mr McGowan had done.

3. Documents received

The President announced that he had received the following texts:

(a) Council, a request for an opinion on:

— Proposal for a Council Decision on a joint action establishing a programme of exchanges, training and cooperation for persons responsible for action to combat organized crime (Falcone Programme) (COM(97)0528 — C4-0572/97 — 97/0916(CNS))

referred to
responsible: CIVI
opinion: BUDG, LEGA, CONT

(b) Commission:

(ba) proposals and/or communications:

— Proposal for a European Parliament and Council Decision establishing a Community initiative for 'The European City of Culture' event (COM(97)0549 — C4-0580/97 — 97/0290(COD))

referred to
responsible: CULT
legal basis: Art. 128 EC

— Communication to the European Parliament and Council: 'Guidelines for the negotiation of new cooperation agreements with the African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) countries' (COM(97)0537 — C4-0581/97)

referred to
responsible: DEVE
opinion: AGRI, BUDG, ENVI, WOME
languages available: DE, EN, FR

(bb) proposals for transfers of appropriations:

— Proposal for transfer of appropriations 52/97 between Chapters in Section III — Commission — Part A — of the General Budget for the European Union for the financial year 1997 (SEC(97)2055 — C4-0578/97)

referred to
responsible: BUDG

— Proposal for transfer of appropriations 53/97 between Chapters in Section III — Commission — Part A — of the General Budget for the European Union for the financial year 1997 (SEC(97)2056 — C4-0579/97)

referred to
responsible: BUDG

(bc) other texts:

— Eighth Annual Report on the Structural Funds — 1996 (COM(97)0526 — C4-0582/97)

referred to
responsible: REGI
opinion: AGRI, BUDG, ESOC, CONT, FISH

— Opinion on the application by the Republic of Cyprus for membership (COM(93)0313 — C4-0583/97)

referred to
responsible: FASE
opinion: committees concerned

languages available: DA, DE, EL, EN, ES, FR, IT, NL

(c) committees, reports and/or recommendations:

— Report on the future of the European Social Fund — Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Rapporteur: Mrs Jöns
(A4-0327/97)

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— Report containing a draft European Parliament recommendation to the Council on fundamentalism and the challenge to the European legal order — Committee on Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs

Rapporteur: Mr Oostlander
(A4-0328/97)

— Report on Agenda 2000: the 2000-2006 financial framework for the Union and the future financing system (COM(97)2000 — C4-0372/97) — Committee on Budgets

Rapporteur: Mr Colom i Naval
(A4-0331/97)

— Report on the Commission Staff Working Paper on external aspects of economic and monetary union CEEA (SEC(97)0803 — C4-0265/97) — Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy

Rapporteur: Mr Ruffolo
(A4-0338/97)

— Report on Opinion 1/97 of the Court of Auditors of the European Communities on the conditions applicable to the execution of expenses concerning the common foreign and security policy (C4-0220/97) — Committee on Budgetary Control

Rapporteur: Mrs Müller
(A4-0339/97)

— Report on the communication from the Commission to the Council and the European Parliament on the present and proposed Community role in combating tobacco consumption (COM(96)0609 — C4-0014/97) — Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection

Rapporteur: Mr Valverde López
(A4-0341/97)

— *** Recommendation on the draft Council Decision with a view to accession by the European Community to the Agreement of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, concerning the adoption of uniform technical prescriptions for wheeled vehicles, equipment and parts which can be fitted to, and/or be used on, wheeled vehicles, and the conditions for reciprocal recognition of approvals granted on the basis of these prescriptions ('Revised 1958 Agreement') (9868/97 — C4-0467/97 — 96/0006(AVC)) — Committee on External Economic Relations

Rapporteur: Mr Kittelmann
(A4-0342/97)

— Report on the communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions on the energy dimension of climate change (COM(97)0196 — C4-0232/97) — Committee on Research, Technological Development and Energy

Rapporteur: Mr Linkohr
(A4-0343/97)

— ***I Report on the proposal for a European Parliament and Council Decision establishing a programme of Community action to reinforce the functioning of the indirect taxation systems of the internal market (Fiscalis Programme) (COM(97)0175 — C4-0222/97 — 97/0128(COD)) — Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy

Rapporteur: Mr Secchi
(A4-0344/97)

— Report on amendment of Rule 154 of the European Parliament's Rules of Procedure concerning the report for the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe — Committee on the Rules of Procedure, the Verification of Credentials and Immunities

Rapporteur: Mr Dell'Alba
(A4-0345/97)

— ***I Report on the proposal for a European Parliament and Council Directive amending Directive 97/33/EC with regard to operator number portability and carrier pre-selection (COM(97)0480 — C4-0515/97 — 97/0250(COD)) — Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy

Rapporteur: Mr W.G. van Velzen
(A4-0346/97)

— Report on the Treaty of Amsterdam (CONF4007/97 — C4-0538/97) — Committee on Institutional Affairs

Rapporteurs: Mr Méndez de Vigo and Mr Tsatsos
(A4-0347/97)

— * Report on a draft Joint Action on making corruption in the private sector a criminal offence (10017/97 — C4-0478/97 — 97/0914(CNS)) — Committee on Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs

Rapporteur: Mr Bontempi
(A4-0348/97)

— * Report on the draft Joint Action adopted by the Council on the basis of Article K.3 of the Treaty on European Union on making it a crime to participate in a criminal organization in the Member States of the European Union (10407/1/97 — C4-0480/97 — 97/0913(CNS)) — Committee on Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs

Rapporteur: Mr Orlando
(A4-0349/97)

— Report on the Commission report on the construction-products Directive (COM(96)0202 — C4-0636/96) — Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy

Rapporteur: Mr Langen
(A4-0350/97)

— * Report on the proposal for a Joint Action to create a European judicial network (9804/97 — C4-0428/97 — 97/0911(CNS)) — Committee on Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs

Rapporteur: Mr Bontempi
(A4-0351/97)

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— ****I** Report on the proposal for a Council Directive concerning the framework agreement on part-time work concluded by UNICE, CEEP and the ETUC (COM(97)0392 — C4-0551/97 — 97/0221(PRT)) — Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Rapporteur: Mrs Jöns
(A4-0352/97)

— Report on the Commission report: 'Employment in Europe — 1997' (COM(97)0479 — C4-0549/97) — Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Rapporteur: Mr Hernández Mollar
(A4-0353/97)

— Report on the final report of the Group of Experts 'European Systems of Worker Involvement' (Davignon Report) (Hughes Procedure) (C4-0455/97) — Committee on Employment and Social Affairs

Rapporteur: Mr Menrad
(A4-0354/97)

— ***** Report on the draft Joint Action establishing a mechanism for evaluating the application and implementation at national level of international undertakings in the fight against organized crime (10406/2/97 — C4-0479/97 — 97/0912(CNS)) — Committee on Civil Liberties and Internal Affairs

Rapporteur: Mr Orlando
(A4-0355/97)

— Report on the communication from the Commission concerning an Action Plan for the Single Market (CSE(97)0001 — C4-0286/97) — Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy

Rapporteur: Mr von Wogau
(A4-0356/97)

— Report on the Commission communication on services of general interest in Europe (COM(96)0443 — C4-0507/96) — Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs and Industrial Policy

Rapporteur: Mrs Billingham
(A4-0357/97)

— ****I** Report on the proposal for a Council Recommendation on European cooperation in quality assurance in higher education (COM(97)0159 — C4-0263/97 — 97/0121(SYN)) — Committee on Culture, Youth, Education and the Media

Rapporteur: Mrs Heinisch
(A4-0358/97)

— Report on the Commission's follow-up of the recommendations made by the Committee of Inquiry into BSE — Temporary Committee to follow up the recommendations on bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE)

Rapporteur: Mr Böge
(A4-0362/97)

(d) *Members:*

(da) *oral questions (Rule 40):*

— des Places and Nicholson, on behalf of the I-EDN Group, to the Council: Report of the Temporary Committee to follow up the recommendations on BSE (B4-0899/97);

— des Places and Nicholson, on behalf of the I-EDN Group, to the Commission: Report of the Temporary Committee to follow up the recommendations on BSE (B4-0900/97);

(db) *oral questions for Question Time (Rule 41) (B4-0901/97):*

Izquierdo Rojo, Lindqvist, McKenna, Gahrton, Wibe, Cars, Teverson, Theorin, Howitt, Karamanou, Posselt, Andersson, Smith, Hyland, Gallagher, Killilea, Crowley, Sanz Fernández, Oddy, Cushnahan, Ephremidis, Theonas, McIntosh, Gerard Collins, Bertens, David W. Martin, Virgin, Evans, Izquierdo Rojo, Posselt, Oddy, Löow, Palacio Vallelersundi, Teverson, Eriksson, Theonas, Kjer Hansen, Marinho, McMahon, Corbett, Wibe, Ahlqvist, Svensson, Sjöstedt, Howitt, Hyland, Papayanakis, Apolinário, González Álvarez, Morris, Newens, Hatzidakis, Valverde López, Lindqvist, Fitzsimons, Needle, McKenna, Smith, Titley, Lambraki, Gahrton, McCarthy, Añoveros Trias de Bes, Carnero González, Hautala, Alavanos, Eisma, Gallagher, Crowley, Ahern, Killilea, Graenitz, Andrews, Ferrer, Sandbæk, Riis-Jørgensen, Cushnahan, Ephremidis, McIntosh;

(e) *Conciliation Committee:*

— Joint text approved by the Conciliation Committee for a European Parliament and Council Directive on common rules for the development of Community postal services and the improvement of quality of service (3627/97 — C4-0570/97 — 95/0221(COD))

— Joint text approved by the Conciliation Committee for a European Parliament and Council Directive concerning the processing of personal data and the protection of privacy telecommunications sector (3626/97 — C4-0571/97 — 00/0288(COD))

(f) *Parliament's Delegation to the Conciliation Committee:*

— *****III** Report on the joint text, approved by the Conciliation Committee, for a European Parliament and Council Directive on common rules for the development of the internal market of Community postal services and the improvement of quality of service (C4-0570/97 — 95/0221(COD))

Rapporteur: Mr Simpson
(A4-0360/97)

— *****III** Report on the joint text, approved by the Conciliation Committee, for a European Parliament and Council Directive concerning the processing of personal data and the protection of privacy in the telecommunications sector (C4-0571/97 — 00/0288(COD))

Rapporteur: Mr Medina Ortega
(A4-0361/97)

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4. Withdrawal of a motion for a resolution

On 28 October 1997, Mr Andrews withdrew his motion for a resolution B4-0821/97.

5. Referral to committee

The Environment Committee, originally authorized to draw up a report, had been asked for its opinion on the motion for a resolution on introducing legislation to protect women against infection from tampon-related toxic shock syndrome (B4-0548/95) (Rule 45) (authorized to draw up a report: WOME, originally asked for its opinion).

6. Petitions

The President had forwarded to the Committee on Petitions pursuant to Rule 156(5) the following petitions which had been entered in the register on 31 October 1997:

- by Mr W. l'Ecluse (No 1129/97);
- by Mr William Taylor (No 1130/97);
- by Mr Donal Glynn and Mr Leo Gibson (West Dublin Action Group) (No 1131/97);
- by Mr and Mrs Malik (No 1132/97);
- by Mr Sawhney (No 1133/97);
- by Mrs Vivien FitzGerald-Smith (Highlands Residents Association) (No 1134/97);
- by Mr Volker Krauspe (No 1135/97);
- by Mr Heinrich Kisker (No 1136/97);
- by Mrs Margit Delattre (No 1137/97);
- by Mr Vinko Mesaric (No 1138/97);
- by Mr Theodoros Kochilas (No 1139/97);
- by Mr Georgios Drougias (No 1140/97);
- by Mr Theodoros Thanopoulos (No 1141/97);
- by Mr Konstantinos Portokallidis (Panhellenic Association of Disabled Citizens — Elepaap) (No 1142/97);
- by Mr Georgios Ephremidis (No 1143/97);
- by Mr Georgios Giataganzidis (No 1144/97);
- by Mr Juan José González Sáez (Asociación de Farmacéuticos en Paro) (and 2 signatories) (No 1145/97);
- by Mrs Maryse Borremans (and 2 664 signatories) (No 1146/97);
- by Mr Pierre Savary (No 1147/97);
- by Mr Moncef Zid (No 1148/97);
- by Mr Umit Sen (No 1149/97);
- by Mrs Vincenza Cuccaro (No 1150/97);
- by Mr Tommaso Le Pera (Il Corriere di Cropani) (No 1151/97);
- by Mrs Anna Maria Dell'Anna (No 1152/97);
- by Mrs Patrizia Gambicorti (Comitato Unitario Della Valdera) (and 4 300 signatories) (No 1153/97);

- by Mr Carlo Sedioli (No 1154/97);
- by Mr Risto Ilkka Routti (No 1155/97);
- by Mr Pietari Maarannitty (No 1156/97);
- by Mr Antonio Miserere (No 1157/97).

7. Transfer of appropriations

The Committee on Budgets had considered proposal for transfer of appropriations 45/97 (SEC(97)1695 — C4-0474/97).

In view of the favourable ECU/BEF rate, the committee had authorized the following amounts:

Article A-2255	'Subscriptions to data bases'	ECU 19 000
Article A-240	'Postage and delivery charges'	ECU 30 000

The Committee on Budgetary Control had considered proposal for transfer of appropriations 39/97 (SEC(97)1767 — C4-0491/97) and had delivered a favourable opinion on it.

The Committee on Budgetary Control had considered proposal for transfer of appropriations 40/97 (SEC(97)1821 — C4-0508/97) and had authorized it in its entirety pursuant to Article 26(5)(c) of the Financial Regulation.

8. Order of business

The next item was the order of business.

The President announced that the final draft agenda for the November II and December I 1997 sittings had been distributed (PE 262.724/PDOJ) and that a number of changes had been proposed (Rule 96).

(a) *Sittings of 17-21 November 1997 in Strasbourg:*

Monday

- deadlines in relation to the statements on climate change (Item 388) had been extended as follows:
- motions for resolutions: 7 p.m. that evening
- amendments and joint motions: 4 p.m. on Tuesday.

The vote would be on Thursday.

Tuesday and Wednesday

- no changes

Thursday

- The UPE Group had asked for the Scapagnini report (A4-0308/97, Item 424) to be given a more favourable place on the agenda on Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday.

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The following spoke: Mr Scapagnini, rapporteur and chairman of the Research Committee, who said that, if no such place could be found, preferably on Wednesday, he would be prepared for his report to be postponed to a later part-session, Mr von Habsburg and Mrs Green, on behalf of the PSE Group.

The President put to the House the proposal that the report should be taken on Wednesday.

The House rejected this proposal.

The President then put to the House Mr Scapagnini's second proposal, i.e. postponing the report to a future part-session.

Parliament approved the proposal.

— On behalf of the PSE Group, Mrs Green asked for the Jöns report on the European Social Fund (A4-0327/97) to be included instead of the Scapagnini report which had now been postponed.

Mr Hughes, chairman of the Employment Committee, spoke on this request.

Parliament approved the request by EV (176 for, 106 against, 2 abstentions).

The President announced that the deadline for tabling amendments to this report would be 12 noon on Wednesday.

Friday

— no changes

(b) Sitzings of 3-4 December 1997 in Brussels:

— no changes

The following spoke:

— Mr Gutiérrez Díaz, who said that, contrary to normal practice, no fixed time had been set for Question Time to the Council in the final draft agenda (the President said that, as stated in the agenda, Question Time to the Council would be after the vote on the Méndez de Vigo and Tsatsos report (A4-0347/97), probably from 6.30 to 8 p.m., and that the sitting which would normally have finished at 7 p.m. would be extended for one hour, precisely to enable Question Time to continue for as long as usual);

— Mr Posselt, who repeated comments he had made on previous occasions to the effect that taking Question Time before the adjournment of the sitting had caused problems on a number of occasions; he insisted that the time allotted for this Question Time to the Council be scrupulously adhered to;

— Mrs Oomen-Ruijten, on behalf of the PPE Group, on Mr Posselt's remarks.

Requests for urgent procedure by the Commission (Rule 97):

— proposal for a Council Regulation on the conclusion of the Protocol establishing the fishing rights and financial contribution provided for in the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on fishing off the coast of Côte d'Ivoire for the period 1 July 1997 to 30 June 2000 (COM(97)0520 — C4-0565/97 — 97/0269(CNS)) *

— proposal for a Council Regulation on the conclusion of the Protocol establishing the fishing rights and financial compensation provided for in the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Republic of Cape Verde on fishing off the coast of Cape Verde for the period from 6 September 1997 to 5 September 2000 (COM(97)0521 — C4-0566/97 — 97/0270(CNS)) *

— proposal for a Council Regulation on the conclusion of the Protocol establishing, for the period 1 July 1997 to 30 June 2000, the fishing rights and financial compensation provided for in the Agreement between the European Economic Community and the Government of the Republic of Equatorial Guinea on fishing off the coast of Equatorial Guinea (COM(97)0522 — C4-0567/97 — 97/0268(CNS)) *

Reason for request

For internal reasons, the Commission had been unable to adopt the written procedures concerning these proposals before 22 and 23 October 1997. The time taken to do so meant that there was a risk of the problem of payment being raised and obligations arising from the fisheries agreements being suspended, i.e. in the case of the third countries a suspension of fishing which would be disastrous for the third countries which received financial compensation and the fleets which had been fishing since the date when the new protocols came into force. Such an occurrence would seriously damage the Community's credibility.

Parliament would vote on these requests at the beginning of the following day's sitting.

* * *

The order of business was thus established.

9. Speaking time

Speaking time for debates on the agenda for the sittings of 17 to 21 November and 3 and 4 December 1997 would be allocated pursuant to Rule 106 (see separate Agenda).

10. Topical and urgent debate (subjects proposed)

The President proposed the following four subjects for the next topical and urgent debate to be held on Thursday:

- International criminal tribunal
- Human rights
- Togo
- Disasters

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11. Climate change (debate)

The next item was a joint debate on a report by the Committee on Research, Technological Development and Energy, and Council and Commission statements.

Mr Linkohr introduced his report on the communication from the Commission to the Council, the European Parliament, the Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions — The energy dimension of climate change (COM(97)0196 — C4-0232/97) (A4-0343/97).

Mr Lahure, President-in-Office of the Council, and Mrs Bjerregaard, Member of the Commission, made statements on the third conference on climate change (Kyoto, December 1997).

IN THE CHAIR: Mr VERDE I ALDEA

Vice-President

The following spoke: Mr Pimenta, draftsman of the opinion of the Committee on the Environment, Mrs Graenitz, on behalf of the PSE Group, Mr Ferber, on behalf of the PPE Group, Mr Malerba, on behalf of the UPE Group, Mrs Plooi-j-van Gorsel, on behalf of the ELDR Group, Mr Maset Campos, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, Mrs Bloch von Blotnitz, on behalf of the V Group, Mr Weber, on behalf of the ARE Group, Mr Le Gallou, non-attached Member, Mrs McNally, Mrs Quis-thoudt-Rowohl, Mr Fitzsimons, Mr Eisma, Mrs González Álvarez, Mrs Ahern, Mr Macartney, Mr Bowe, Mr Spencer, Mrs Baldi, Mr Papayannakis, Mrs Breyer and Mrs Matikainen-Kallström.

IN THE CHAIR: Mr David W. MARTIN

Vice-President

The following spoke: Mr Sjöstedt, Mr Liese, Mr Virgin, Mr Valverde López, Mr Robles Piquer, Mr Lahure, and Mrs Bjerregaard.

The President announced that he had received the following motion for a resolution pursuant to Rule 37(2) from:

- Pimenta, on behalf of the Committee on the Environment, Public Health and Consumer Protection on the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP 3) to be held in Kyoto from 1 to 10 December 1997 (B4-0944/97).

The President closed the debate.

Vote: Minutes of 19.11.1997, Part I, Item 22.

12. EC-Turkey Customs Union * (debate)

Mr Kittelmann introduced his report, drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Security and Defence Policy, on the proposal for a Council Decision laying down the procedure for adopting the Community's position in the

Customs Union Joint Committee set up by Decision No 1/95 of the EC-Turkey Association Council on implementation of the final phase of the Customs Union (5372/97 — C4-0081/97 — 96/0020(CNS)) (reconsultation) (A4-0276/97).

The following spoke: Mr Ephremidis, on behalf of the GUE/NGL Group, Mr Kreissl-Dörfler, on behalf of the V Group, Mr Souchet, on behalf of the I-EDN Group, Mr Van Dam, and Mrs Bjerregaard, Member of the Commission.

The President closed the debate.

Vote: Minutes of 18.11.1997, Part I, Item 11.

13. Higher education **I (debate)

Mrs Heinisch introduced her report, drawn up on behalf of the Committee on Culture, Youth, Education and the Media, on the proposal for a Council recommendation on European cooperation in quality assurance in higher education (COM(97)0159 — C4-0263/97 — 97/0121(SYN)) (A4-0358/97).

The following spoke: Mrs Matikainen-Kallström, on behalf of the PPE Group, Mrs Guinebertière, on behalf of the UPE Group, Mrs Ryyänen, on behalf of the ELDR Group, Mrs Leperre-Verrier, on behalf of the ARE Group, Mr Lukas, non-attached Member, Mr Perry and Mrs Bjerregaard, Member of the Commission.

The President closed the debate.

Vote: Minutes of 18.11.1997, Part I, Item 10.

14. Amendment of Rule 154 (debate)

Mr Dell'Alba introduced his report, drawn up on behalf of the Committee on the Rules of Procedure, the Verification of Credentials and Immunities, on the amendment of Rule 154 of Parliament's Rules of Procedure concerning the report for the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (A4-0345/97).

The following spoke: Mr Ford, on behalf of the PSE Group, Mr Brendan Patrick Donnelly, on behalf of the PPE Group, and Mr Corbett.

The President closed the debate.

Vote: Minutes of 19.11.1997, Part I, Item 12.

15. Agenda for next sitting

The President announced the following agenda for the sitting of Tuesday 18 November 1997:

9 a.m. — 1 p.m., 3 — 7 p.m. and 9 p.m. — 12 midnight:

9 — 9.10 a.m.:

- topical and urgent debate (announcement of motions tabled)
- decision on urgent procedure

Monday 17 November 1997*9.10 a.m. – 10 a.m.:*

- Court of Auditors annual report and statement of assurance (with questions)

10 a.m. – 12.30 p.m., 3 – 5.30 p.m. and 9 p.m. – 12 midnight:

- joint debate on Böge report and 16 oral questions on BSE
- Menrad report on European systems of worker involvement
- joint debate on two reports (Jöns and Hernández Mollar) on part-time work and employment **I
- González Triviño report on aircraft safety **I
- Izquierdo Collado report on economic and social cohesion

- Gutiérrez Díaz report on International Fund for Ireland *

- Fontaine recommendation on practice of profession of lawyer ***II

- Junker report on integrating gender issues in development cooperation **I

12.30 p.m.:

- voting time
- topical and urgent debate (list of subjects selected)

5.30 – 7 p.m.:

- Question Time

(The sitting closed at 8.15 p.m.)

Julian PRIESTLEY
Secretary-General

José-María GIL-ROBLES GIL-DELGADO
President

Monday 17 November 1997

ATENDANCE REGISTER**17 November 1997**

The following signed:

d'Aboville, Adam, Aelvoet, Aglietta, Ahern, Aldo, Amadeo, Anastassopoulos, Andersson, André-Léonard, Andrews, Añoveros Trias de Bes, Aparicio Sánchez, Argyros, Arias Cañete, Augias, Avgerinos, Azzolini, Baggioni, Baldarelli, Baldi, Balfé, Banotti, Bardong, Barón Crespo, Barthet-Mayer, Barton, Barzanti, Belleré, Berend, Berès, Berger, Bernard-Reymond, Bertens, Berthu, Billingham, Blak, Bloch von Blottnitz, Blot, Böge, Bösch, Bonde, Bontempi, Boogerd-Quaak, Botz, Bourlanges, Bowe, de Brémond d'Ars, Breyer, Brok, Buffetaut, Burenstam Linder, Cabezón Alonso, Caccavale, Camisón Asensio, Campos, Capucho, Cardona, Carlotti, Carlsson, Cars, Casini Carlo, Cassidy, Castagnède, Castellina, Castricum, Caudron, Chanterie, Chesa, Chichester, Christodoulou, Coates, Colajanni, Collins Kenneth D., Colombo Svevo, Colom i Naval, Correia, Corrie, Cot, Cox, Crawley, Crowley, Cunha, Cunningham, Cushnahan, van Dam, Dankert, Dary, Daskalaki, David, De Clercq, De Coene, De Esteban Martin, De Giovanni, Dell'Alba, De Melo, Deprez, Desama, de Vries, Díez de Rivera Icaza, van Dijk, Dillen, Dimitrakopoulos, Donnay, Donnelly Alan John, Donnelly Brendan Patrick, Dührkop Dührkop, Duhamel, Dupuis, Dury, Dybkjær, Eisma, Elles, Elliott, Ephremidis, Eriksson, Estevan Bolea, Ettl, Evans, Ewing, Fabra Vallés, Fabre-Aubrespy, Falconer, Fantuzzi, Fayot, Ferber, Féret, Fernández-Albor, Ferrer, Filippi, Fitzsimons, Florenz, Fontaine, Ford, Fourçans, Fraga Estévez, Friedrich, Frischenschlager, Frutos Gama, Funk, Gahrton, Gallagher, García Arias, García-Margallo y Marfil, Garosci, Garot, Garriga Polledo, Gasòliba i Böhm, de Gaulle, Gebhardt, Ghilardotti, Gillis, Glante, Glase, Goepel, Goerens, Görlach, Gomolka, González Álvarez, González Triviño, Graenitz, Graziani, Green, Gröner, Grossetête, Günther, Guinebertière, Gutiérrez Díaz, Haarder, Habsburg-Lothringen, Hager, Hallam, Happart, Hardstaff, Harrison, Hatzidakis, Haug, Hautala, Hawlicek, Heinisch, Hendrick, Herman, Hernandez Mollar, Herzog, Hindley, Holm, Hoppenstedt, Hory, Howitt, Hughes, Hyland, Ilaskivi, Imaz San Miguel, Izquierdo Collado, Izquierdo Rojo, Jackson, Janssen van Raay, Jean-Pierre, Jensen Lis, Jöns, Kaklamanis, Karamanou, Karoutchi, Katiforis, Kelleth-Bowman, Keppelhoff-Wiechert, Kerr, Kestelijn-Sierens, Killilea, Kindermann, Kinnock, Kittelmann, Kjer Hansen, Klab, Klironomos, Kofoed, Kokkola, Konrad, Kreissl-Dörfler, Kristoffersen, Kronberger, Kuckelkorn, Kuhn, Kuhne, Laignel, Lalumière, Lambraki, Lambrias, Lang, Lange, Langen, Langenhagen, Lannoye, Larive, de Lassus Saint Genès, Le Gallou, Lehne, Lenz, Leperre-Verrier, Lienemann, Liese, Lindeperg, Lindholm, Linkohr, Linsler, Löow, Lukas, Lulling, Macartney, McCartin, McGowan, McKenna, McMahan, McMillan-Scott, McNally, Malangré, Malerba, Malone, Manisco, Manzella, Marinho, Marinucci, Maset Campos, Martens, Martin David W., Martin Philippe-Armand, Martinez, Mather, Matikainen-Kallström, Mayer, Medina Ortega, Megahy, Méndez de Vigo, Mendonça, Menrad, Miller, Miranda de Lage, Mohamed Ali, Mombaur, Monfils, Moorhouse, Moretti, Morris, Mosiek-Urbahn, Müller, Mulder, Murphy, Myller, Nassauer, Needle, Newman, Nicholson, Nordmann, Novo, Oddy, Olsson, Oomen-Ruijten, Oostlander, Otila, Paasilinna, Paasio, Pack, Palacio Vallelersundi, Panagopoulos, Papakyriazis, Papayannakis, Parigi, Pasty, Pérez Royo, Perry, Peter, Pettinari, Pex, Piecyk, Piha, Pimenta, Pinel, Pirker, des Places, Plooij-van Gorsel, Podestà, Poettering, Poisson, Pompidou, Porto, Posselt, Pradier, Pronk, Provan, Puerta, van Putten, Quisthoudt-Rowohl, Rack, Randzio-Plath, Rapkay, Rauti, Read, Reding, Rehder, Ribeiro, Riis-Jørgensen, Robles Piquer, Rosado Fernandes, de Rose, Roth-Behrendt, Rothe, Rothley, Roubatis, Rübig, Ruffolo, Ryyänänen, Sainjon, Saint-Pierre, Sakellariou, Salafranca Sánchez-Neyra, Sandbæk, Santini, Sarlis, Scapagnini, Scarbonchi, Schäfer, Schaffner, Schiedermeier, Schierhuber, Schlechter, Schleicher, Schmid, Schmidbauer, Schnellhardt, Schörling, Schröder, Schroedter, Schulz, Schwaiger, Seal, Secchi, Seppänen, Simpson, Sindal, Sisó Cruellas, Sjöstedt, Skinner, Smith, Soltwedel-Schäfer, Sonneveld, Sornosa Martínez, Souchet, Spaak, Speciale, Spencer, Stenmarck, Stewart-Clark, Striby, Sturdy, Svensson, Swoboda, Tamino, Tannert, Tappin, Telkämper, Terrón i Cusí, Teverson, Theato, Theonas, Theorin, Thomas, Thors, Tindemans, Titley, Todini, Tomlinson, Torres Marques, Trakatellis, Ullmann, Väyrynen, Valdivielso de Cué, Valverde López, Vandemeulebroucke, Vanhecke, Vecchi, van Velzen W.G., van Velzen Wim, Verde i Aldea, Verwaerde, Virgin, Virrankoski, Voggenhuber, Waddington, Walter, Watts, Weber, Weiler, Wemheuer, White, Whitehead, Wibe, Wiebenga, Wieland, Wiersma, Wijsenbeek, Wilson, von Wogau, Wolf, Wynn, Zimmermann