

**UDENRIGSMINISTERIET**

**EUROPAUDVALGET  
(2. samling)**

Alm. del - bilag 971 (offentligt)

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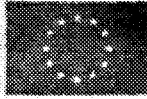
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Til underretning for Folketingets Europaudvalg vedlægges formandskabets notat om forbindelserne med Rusland: Formandskabets arbejdsprogram vedrørende iværksættelse af fælles strategi, 10983/02.

*Ulf Tønnes*



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 15 July 2002 (15.07)**

**10983/02**

**NIS 94  
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PESC 292**

**"I/A" ITEM NOTE**

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from : Presidency  
dated : 15 July 2002  
to : Council/Coreper

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Subject : Relations with Russia  
- Presidency Work Plan on the implementation of the Common Strategy of  
the European Union on Russia

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Subject to a confirmation at the level of COREPER, the Council is invited to take note of the Presidency's work plan regarding the implementation of Common Strategy of the EU on Russia which has been elaborated under the responsibility of the Presidency (cf Annex) <sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> The Presidency's Work Plan was received only in English.

COMMON STRATEGY OF THE EUROPEAN UNION ON RUSSIA

DANISH PRESIDENCY WORK PLAN

In June 1999 the Cologne European Council adopted a Common Strategy of the European Union with the aim of developing and reinforcing a strategic partnership between the EU and Russia. The Council decided that at the beginning of each Presidency the Presidency should present a work plan with specific priorities for implementation of the Common Strategy during the relevant semester.

The Danish Presidency's work plan has been developed in close cooperation with the Council Secretary-General/High Representative and the Commission and has taken into account recommendations from the previous Presidency. The work plan is based on ongoing measures put in hand during previous Presidencies, the conclusions of the Feira and Gothenburg European Councils and, lastly, the outcome of the IXth EU-Russia Summit in Moscow on 29 May 2002.

The Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) remains the contractual basis for relations between the EU and Russia and the full implementation of the PCA continues to offer the best opportunities for real progress in reinforcing the EU-Russia strategic partnership. Moreover, the EU's relations with Russia have developed within the framework of the Northern Dimension, which needs to be further developed not least in light of the impending enlargement of the European Union. It is also important to include in the EU-Russia dialogue the development of a comprehensive approach within the EU towards the Union's new neighbours and thereby the importance of not creating new divisions in Europe.

We propose the following priorities for the work plan for the second semester of 2002:

PROMOTING THE CONSOLIDATION OF DEMOCRACY, THE RULE OF LAW AND PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS IN RUSSIA

- by supporting Russia in its reform process, including in the consolidation and further reform of its public institutions;
- by especially focussing on the ongoing reform of the judicial system. Encouraging progress has already been made in the reform of the judicial system, which is important to protect citizens' rights and freedoms, as a prerequisite for the development of a market economy, and as a means of creating a favourable climate for European and Russian investments. By using the cooperation instruments available, the EU should focus on the direction of the present judicial reform process with a view to identify possible areas of support. A seminar on expert-level will be arranged in Moscow for this purpose;
- by continuing to monitor the situation in Chechnya; encourage the efforts by the Russian Federation to normalise the situation and ensure the safe voluntary return of refugees; while insisting on observance of human and civil rights, prosecution of those who violate them, improved conditions for the distribution of humanitarian assistance, and efforts at a peaceful settlement that would fully respect the territorial integrity of the Russian Federation; when possible in cooperation with OSCE.

INTEGRATION OF RUSSIA INTO A COMMON EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AREA

- by accelerating negotiations on Russian WTO membership and coordinating and focussing the assistance offered with a view to helping Russia create the necessary conditions for membership as soon as possible;

- by elaborating and furthering the concept of a Common European Economic Space developed in the High-level Group with a view to promoting legislative approximation and regulatory convergence. Examine impact of economic integration on the Russian and EU economies and launch convergence work in the key sectors identified by the work plan;
- by endeavouring to create progress in the energy dialogue between the EU and Russia based on the common expectation that mutually beneficial solutions may be found to shared problems with regard to security of supply, improving energy efficiency, protecting the environment and promoting European key investments in the Russian energy sector. In this context, arrange a conference on Energy Security and Energy Supply, including energy efficiency and savings, in the Kaliningrad Region in the fall of 2002;
- by the Presidency inviting Mr. Viktor Khristenko, Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation and the Vice-President of the Commission, Mrs. Loyola de Palacio, to discussions on energy matters of common interests in preparation of the EU-Russia Summit in November 2002;
- by making progress towards full implementation of the PCA ; formal adoption of new dispute settlement procedures i.a. to be used to address long-standing trade irritants; identify ways of tackling the Transsiberian over flight issue; other priorities include adoption and enforcement of IPR legislation, definition of disciplines applicable to state aid and dealing with customs delays;
- by furthering scientific and technological cooperation on the basis of the EU-Russia Agreement in this field and promoting studies of the implications of the Information Society;
- by seeking to ensure that the EC's and the member states' assistance to Russia is complementary and, as far as possible, more focussed on the priorities of the Common Strategy;

COOPERATION TO STRENGTHEN STABILITY AND SECURITY IN EUROPE AND BEYOND

- by encouraging cooperation in the fight against terrorism;
- by consolidating and streamlining the close network of informal and formal EU-Russia consultations and cooperation on current international issues and crisis management, including the monthly meetings between the PSC and Russia agreed at the VIIIth EU-Russia Summit in Brussels on 3 October 2001;
- by identifying international issues where EU-Russia dialogue and cooperation could be brought forward and, building on present structures, identify areas, within ESDP, of concrete cooperation i.a. long haul air transport and operations (EUPM);
- by increasing efforts to engage Russia in all aspects of civil crisis management, including in the CIS countries; an invitation could be issued to the Russian minister for EMERCOM or high level officials to a meeting in Brussels;
- by strengthening EU /Russia cooperation in and on the OSCE;
- by including in the political dialogue the Russian implementation of OSCE and Council of Europe commitments;
- by ensuring Russian cooperation – also within the OSCE - aimed at solving conflicts in and between CIS countries and between CIS countries and the international community, including Moldova, South Caucasus and Belarus;
- by promoting intensified cooperation under the Joint Action on non-proliferation and disarmament. Closely follow the implementation of the Joint Action and reflect on a possible widening of its scope.

## ADDRESSING COMMON CHALLENGES ON THE EUROPEAN CONTINENT

- by ensuring follow-up to the ministerial meeting Fifteen plus Russia on the margins of the Council of JHA the 25-26 April 2002 to evaluate the progress of the Action Plan to combat organised crime – in particular crime related to drugs, trafficking in Women, trafficking in stolen vehicles and other highly taxed goods as well as crime related to money laundering –, assess implementing arrangements and tighten co-operation in other JHA fields - in particular police co-operation (including an agreement on police co-operation between Europol and Russia), measures against illegal immigration and management of borders and visas - and to tackle the possibilities of a wider and deeper co-operation on justice and home affairs;
- by opening negotiations on a re-admission agreement with Russia;
- by addressing Kaliningrad matters within EU and PCA institutions not least in the light of the opportunities and challenges presented by enlargement for this region. While due attention should be paid to transit and visa issues, a broader approach addressing economic integration, transport, energy, environment and related issues should be pursued;
- by arranging a conference on high expert and political adviser level on the economic development of Kaliningrad;
- by seeking to ensure Kaliningrad as an important priority for TACIS;
- by deepening the measures undertaken in the framework of the Northern Dimension in pursuit of the conclusions of the Gothenburg European Council. A Ministerial on the Northern Dimension and its Arctic aspects will be held in Greenland in late August and a further high level meeting will be convened to map out future actions from 2003. Priority should be given to better framework conditions for private business, cross-border cooperation, border management, environment, crime, civil protection and Kaliningrad;

- by continuing the efforts to improve coordination and interoperability between TACIS, PHARE and Interreg and facilitating the dialogue between the CIS beneficiaries and their counterparts in the EU and PHARE countries;
- by ensuring that the MNEPR negotiations reach a final and successful conclusion, promoting the Northern Dimension Environmental Partnership (NDEP) and encouraging Russia to provide the necessary financial contribution as a prerequisite for the establishment of the support fund;
- by further developing the cooperation on nuclear waste clean-up, marine pollution and health hazards in North West Russia, including NDEP, waste water plants and MNEPR;
- by considering supporting the new "Environmental Strategy for the Newly Independent States" developed by the CIS countries as an element of the framework for cooperation with the EU. The strategy is expected to be adopted at the next ministerial conference in Kiev, 2003;
- by promoting an EU water initiative for the CIS countries for a strategic partnership for access to safe drinking water and sanitation and sustainable water management based on the principle of integrated river basin management;
- by facilitating an early ratification of the Kyoto Protocol by Russia and the EU, enhancing the efficient use of energy and combating climate change and allowing the EU and Russia to participate in the Kyoto mechanisms, particularly emissions trading and Joint Implementation.