



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



9559/10 (Presse 106)

PRESS RELEASE

3012th Council meeting

General Affairs

Brussels, 10 May 2010

President

Mr Miguel Ángel MORATINOS
Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation of Spain

P R E S S

Main results of the Council

*The Council discussed an annotated draft agenda for the **European Council** meeting to be held on 17 June.*

*It approved mandates for the negotiation of association agreements with **Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia**, aimed at upgrading relations with the three countries.*

*It approved a draft directive on the deployment of **intelligent transport systems** in the field of road transport.*

*And following on from the Euro Group agreement of 2 May to activate support via bilateral loans to **Greece**, the Council adopted a decision setting out measures to be taken by Greece to reduce its government deficit.*

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¹ Where declarations, conclusions or resolutions have been formally adopted by the Council, this is indicated in the heading for the item concerned and the text is placed between quotation marks. Documents for which references are given in the text are available on the Council's Internet site (<http://www.consilium.europa.eu>). Acts adopted with statements for the Council minutes which may be released to the public are indicated by an asterisk; these statements are available on the Council's Internet site or may be obtained from the Press Office.

PARTICIPANTS

The governments of the Member States and the European Commission were represented as follows:

Belgium:

Mr Steven VANACKERE

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Minister of Foreign Affairs and Institutional Reforms

Bulgaria:

Mr Konstantin DIMITROV

Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs

Czech Republic:

Mr Michal SEDLÁČEK

Deputy Minister, Office of the Government

Denmark:

Mr. Jonas BERING LIISBERG

Deputy Permanent Representative

Germany:

Mr Edmund DUCKWITZ

Permanent Representative

Estonia:

Mr Urmas PAET

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Ireland:

Mr Dick ROCHE

Minister for European Affairs

Greece:

Mr Theodoros N. SOTIROPOULOS

Permanent Representative

Spain:

Mr Miguel Ángel MORATINOS CUYAUBÉ

Mr Diego LOPEZ GARRIDO

Minister for Foreign Affairs and Cooperation
Secretary of State for European Affairs

France:

Mr Philippe ETIENNE

Permanent Representative

Italy:

Mr Ferdinando NELLI FEROCI

Permanent Representative

Cyprus:

Mr Andreas MAVROYIANNIS

Permanent Representative

Latvia:

Mr Aivis RONIS

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Lithuania:

Mr Audronius AŽUBALIS

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Luxembourg:

Mr Christian BRAUN

Permanent Representative

Hungary:

Mr Péter BALÁZS

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Malta:

Mr Richard CACHIA CARUANA

Permanent Representative

Netherlands:

Mr Tom de BRUIJN

Permanent Representative

Austria:

Mr Hans-Dietmar SCHWEISGUT

Permanent Representative

Poland:

Mr Jan TOMBINSKI

Permanent Representative

Portugal:

Mr Manuel LOBO ANTUNES

Permanent Representative

Romania:

Mr Teodor BACONSCHI

Minister for Foreign Affairs

Slovenia:

Mr Mitja GASPARI

Minister for Development and European Affairs

Slovakia:

Ms Olga ALGAYEROVA

State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Finland:

Ms Astrid THORS

Minister for Migration and European Affairs

Sweden:

Ms Amelie VON ZWEIGBERGK

State Secretary for European Affairs

United Kingdom:

Mr Kim DARROCH

Permanent Representative

.....

Commission:

Mr. Maroš ŠEFČOVIČ

Member

ITEMS DEBATED**PREPARATION OF THE JUNE EUROPEAN COUNCIL**

The Council examined an annotated draft agenda for the European Council meeting to be held on 17 June (doc. [9282/10](#)).

The European Council is expected to focus on:

- Jobs and growth: adoption of the Europe 2020 strategy;
- G-20: preparation of the Toronto summit;
- Development policy: UN millennium development goals;
- Climate change.

The European Council will also hear a presentation by Felipe Gonzalez, chairman of a reflection group on the future of Europe, and will be called on to endorse the Council's conclusions on implementation of the European pact on immigration and asylum.

The Council will hold a further discussion at its meeting on 14 June, on the basis of draft European Council conclusions.

MEETINGS ON THE SIDELINES OF THE COUNCIL

- EU-Turkey Association Council (*doc.* [9687/10](#))

OTHER ITEMS APPROVED**ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL AFFAIRS****Greece - Measures to reduce its government deficit**

The Council adopted a decision, addressed to Greece, intended to strengthen budgetary surveillance and giving notice to take measures to reduce its government deficit (*doc.* [9443/10](#)).

This follows the Euro Group agreement of 2 May to activate support via bilateral loans to Greece from the other 15 Euro area member states, centrally pooled by the Commission. The decision sets out the main elements of policy conditionality for the granting of that support.

For details, see press release [9544/10](#).

NEIGHBOURHOOD POLICY**Relations with Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia - Association agreements**

The Council adopted directives for the negotiation of association agreements with Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia, to replace the current partnership and cooperation agreements with the three countries.

It also agreed on the position to be adopted by the EU within the joint committees established by the partnership cooperation agreements with a view to establishing new subcommittees in several policy areas.

The joint declaration of the Prague Eastern Partnership Summit of 7 May 2009 stressed a common wish to deepen and intensify bilateral relations between the EU and its eastern European partners (*doc.* [8435/09](#)).

GENERAL AFFAIRS

Report on work in the Council's different configurations

The Council took note of a report from the presidency on decisions taken and issues currently under discussion within its different configurations (*doc* [9052/10](#)).

TRANSPORT

Intelligent transport systems in road transport

The Council approved its position at first reading on a draft directive on the deployment of intelligent transport systems (ITS) in the field of road transport (*docs.* [6103/10](#) + [9223/10](#) *ADD 1*) and the corresponding statement of the Council's reasons (*doc.* [6103/10](#) *ADD 1*).

The text will be submitted to the European Parliament for a second reading. If the Parliament accepts the Council's position, the directive will be considered adopted in this form.

The aim of the draft directive is to accelerate and coordinate deployment of interoperable ITS in road transport, including interfaces with other transport modes, by creating the necessary conditions and mechanisms through a coherent EU-wide framework.

For details, see press release [9579/10](#).

APPOINTMENTS

Economic and Social Committee

The Council adopted a decision appointing as member for the remainder of the current term of office, which runs until 20 September 2010:

Mr Egbert BIERMANN, Hauptvorstand IG BCE [Main Executive Board of the Industrial Union of Mining, Chemical and Energy Workers]
