

EUROPEAN COUNCIL THE PRESIDENT

Brussels, 26 October 2010

SN 32/10

&addressee

&form of address

It is my pleasure to invite you to the meeting of the European Council in Brussels on 28 and 29 October 2010.

After our traditional meeting with the President of the European Parliament, we will begin our afternoon meeting by looking at the results of the Task Force on economic governance. I will first report to you on the recommendations and proposals it has agreed. These recommendations will make the European economies more crisis-proof and constitute a great leap forward in strengthening the economic pillar of EMU. We should therefore call for the effective implementation of the new surveillance arrangements as soon as possible, including by reaching agreement on the Commission's legislative proposals by summer 2011. We should then focus on the issues raised in the Task Force which require further work. I have invited the President of the ECB to attend this part of our meeting.

The second subject for Thursday afternoon is the preparation of the G20 Seoul Summit. Finance Ministers have already conducted important preparatory work, including on the IMF. For our part, we should focus on the key issues, such as the responses to be brought to global macroeconomic imbalances and financial regulatory reform. The discussion will help me, together with José Manuel Barroso, as well as the other EU members of the G20, get a sense of the issues the European Union should defend as a matter of priority.

Over dinner, we will also discuss the preparations of forthcoming bilateral summits, in line with our decision last September to set strategic orientations in advance of key events. I will start by sharing with you my assessment of the summit with China. We will then focus mainly on the upcoming meeting with President Obama, but if you have points to make on the meetings with Russia or Ukraine or on other summits you are welcome to do so.

On Friday morning, we will go through and approve our draft conclusions. This will provide an opportunity for those of you who would like to say a word about the preparation of the Cancún Conference to do so.

&salutations

H. VAN ROMPUY