

INITIAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SEIMAS OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA AS THE PRESIDENCY PARLIAMENT

ON THE RULES OF PROCEDURE OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE FOR THE COMMON FOREIGN AND SECURITY POLICY AND THE COMMON SECURITY AND DEFENCE POLICY

TO THE AD HOC REVIEW COMMITTEE WORKING GROUP

5 September 2013

Vilnius

In accordance with the decision made by the Conference of Speakers of the European Union Parliaments, hereinafter referred to as the Conference of Speakers, on 20-21 April 2012 in Warsaw that a review of the arrangements for the Inter-Parliamentary Conference for the Common Foreign and Security Policy (CFSP) and the Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP), hereinafter referred to as the Inter-Parliamentary Conference, should be conducted after two years from its first meeting and that conclusions from such review should be submitted to the relevant meeting of the Conference of Speakers;

In accordance with Article 9 of the Rules of Procedure of the Inter-Parliamentary Conference, adopted on 9-10 September 2012 in Pafos, which states that the “Inter-Parliamentary Conference may appoint an ad hoc review committee which would, eighteen (18) months from the first meeting of the Inter-Parliamentary Conference, evaluate the workings of the Inter-Parliamentary Conference and make recommendations thereon to be deliberated upon by the Conference of EU Speakers”;

Pursuant to the decision made by the Inter-Parliamentary Conference on 24-25 March 2013 in Dublin to appoint the Ad Hoc Review Committee, hereinafter referred to as the AHRC, to conduct a review of arrangements for the Inter-Parliamentary Conference as well as to establish a Working Group of the AHRC to conduct a preliminary review of arrangements for the Inter-Parliamentary Conference;

The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania as the Presidency Parliament, after careful consideration of the proposals on the Rules of Procedure submitted by the delegations of the national Parliaments, proposes the following initial recommendations:

1. To replace the current abbreviation of the “Inter-Parliamentary Conference” with an acronym in order to distinguish this conference from other inter-parliamentary conferences, such as COSAC and the Interparliamentary Conference on Economic and Financial Governance of the European Union. One proposed acronym is COFDAC.
2. Apart from the plenary meetings, side events, such as topical debates in smaller groups, working groups or concurrent break-out sessions, could be organised in the framework of the Inter-Parliamentary Conference.
3. Draft Conclusions of the Inter-Parliamentary Conference should be communicated by the Presidency Parliament to all delegations before the relevant meeting in a reasonable time for any amendments to be considered and submitted.
4. To define the composition and the role of the Presidential Troika of the Inter-Parliamentary Conference, which could consist of the delegations of the national Parliaments of the Presidency, the preceding Presidency, the following Presidency, and the European Parliament.
5. The Presidency Parliament, when setting up the draft agenda, should foresee more time for debate in order to ensure that each parliamentary chamber present is able to contribute during each debate should they wish.
6. To foresee the possibility for political groups, organised along the lines of the European political parties, to convene informal meetings prior to meetings of the Inter-Parliamentary Conference.
7. These Rules of Procedure are drawn up in a single original in English and French, each of these texts being equally authentic. They shall enter into force on the adoption date.