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Directorate-General for Presidency  
 Directorate D - Relations with national Parliaments

23 May 2011

<b>Original Text of the COSAC Rules of Procedure</b>	<b>Proposal of the Hungarian Presidency for the amended COSAC Rules of Procedure</b>	<b>Proposal for EP Position</b>
<b>Rules of Procedure of the Conference of Community and European Affairs Committees of Parliaments of the European Union</b>	<b>Rules of Procedure of the Conference of <i>Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs</i> of Parliaments of the European Union</b>	+
	<b>PREAMBLE</b>	+

<p>These Rules of Procedure are designed to facilitate and improve the work of the Conference of Community and European Affairs Committees of Parliaments of the European Union, hereinafter referred to as COSAC, established in Paris 16-17 November 1989.</p>	<p>These Rules of Procedure are designed to facilitate and improve the work of the Conference of <b>Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs of Parliaments of the European Union</b><sup>1</sup>, hereinafter referred to as COSAC, established <b>on</b> 16-17 November 1989 <i>in Paris</i>.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>
<p>They may be applied to the meetings of other parliamentary Committees convened by the Parliament holding the Presidency of the EU.</p>	<p>They may be applied to the meetings of other parliamentary Committees convened by the Parliament <b>of the Member State</b> holding the Presidency of the Council, <b>hereinafter referred to as the Presidency Parliament</b>.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>
<p>On the basis of the XXVII COSAC in Copenhagen from 16-18 October 2002 it was decided at the extraordinary XXVIII COSAC in Brussels on 27 January 2003 to strengthen co-operation between the National Parliaments in the EU, to extend the rules of procedure with new rules for voting and to adopt guidelines for effective parliamentary scrutiny of governments in connection with Community issues (Copenhagen Parliamentary Guidelines).</p>	<p>On the basis of the XXVII COSAC <b>on 16-18 October 2002</b> in Copenhagen it was decided at the extraordinary XXVIII COSAC on 27 January 2003 <i>in Brussels</i> to strengthen co-operation between the national Parliaments in the EU, to extend the Rules of Procedure with new rules for voting and to adopt guidelines for effective parliamentary scrutiny of governments in connection with Community issues (Copenhagen Parliamentary Guidelines).</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p><i>This text is outdated; therefore it is proposed to delete it.</i></p>

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<sup>1</sup> The term 'Parliaments of the European Union' refers to the national Parliaments of the Member States of the European Union (hereinafter referred to as 'national Parliaments') and the European Parliament.

<p>The members of COSAC intend to work for the implementation of the Copenhagen Parliamentary Guidelines in accordance with their own parliamentary practice <sup>(2)</sup>. The guidelines are laid down in a separate declaration.</p>	<p>The members of COSAC <i>intend to work in accordance with the Guidelines for interparliamentary cooperation in the European Union as adopted at the Conference of Speakers of the European Union Parliaments on 19-21 June 2008 in Lisbon and in accordance with their own parliamentary practice<sup>3</sup>.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>
<p>These Rules of Procedure, which were adopted by the XXIX COSAC in Athens on 5-6 May 2003, replace the rules of procedure that were adopted in Helsinki on 11-12 October 1999.</p>	<p>These Rules of Procedure adopted by <i>the ..... COSAC on ..... replace the Rules of Procedure that were adopted by the XXXVIII COSAC on 14-16 October 2007 in Estoril.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>

<sup>2</sup> As stated in the protocol on the role of National Parliaments, it is up to each National Parliament to decide the extent to which the guidelines published as the 'Copenhagen Parliamentary Guidelines' in the Official Journal of the European Union C 154 of 2 July 2003 should be implemented.

<sup>3</sup> As stated in the Protocol on the Role of National Parliaments in the European Union, the way in which national Parliaments scrutinize their governments in relation to the activities of the Union is a matter for the particular constitutional organisation and practice of each Member State.

<p><b>1. TASKS AND COMPETENCES FOR COSAC</b></p>	<p><i>No amendment has been proposed.</i></p>	<p>+</p>
<p>COSAC enables a regular exchange of views, without prejudicing the competences of the parliamentary bodies of the European Union.</p>	<p><i>1.1. No amendment has been proposed.</i></p>	<p>+</p>
<p>The Protocol on the Role of National Parliaments in the European Union to the Amsterdam Treaty amending the Treaty on the European Union, the Treaties establishing the European Communities and certain related acts, empower COSAC to make any contribution it deems appropriate for the attention of the institutions of the European Union and to examine Union legislative activities, proposals and initiatives.</p>	<p><i>1.2. <b>Article 10 of</b> the Protocol on the Role of National Parliaments in the European Union to the Treaty <b>of Lisbon</b> amending the Treaty on European Union, the Treaty establishing the European Community, empowers COSAC to <b>submit</b> any contribution it deems appropriate for the attention of the <b>European Parliament, the Council and the Commission and to promote the exchange of information and best practice between national Parliaments and the European Parliament, including their special committees. It may also organise interparliamentary conferences on specific topics, in particular to debate matters of common foreign and security policy, including common security and defence policy.</b></i></p>	<p><i>Comment: It is proposed to keep the current text with one modification, i.e. replacing the reference to Amsterdam Treaty by a reference to the Treaty of Lisbon. The paragraph would read as follows:</i></p> <p><i>Text:</i></p> <p>The Lisbon Treaty marks a new stage in the process of European Integration undertaken with the establishment of the European Communities.</p> <p>The Protocol on the Role of National Parliaments in the European Union to the <b>Treaty of Lisbon</b> empowers COSAC to make any contribution it deems appropriate for the attention of the institutions of the European Union and to examine Union legislative activities, proposals and initiatives</p>

<p>Contributions made by COSAC shall in no way bind National Parliaments or prejudice their position.</p>	<p>1.3. Contributions made by COSAC shall <i>not</i> bind national Parliaments <i>and shall not</i> prejudice their positions.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2. FREQUENCY AND DATES OF MEETINGS</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2. ORGANIZATION OF MEETINGS</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>
<p><b>2.1. Ordinary meetings</b></p> <p>One ordinary meeting of COSAC shall be held during each Presidency of the Council of the European Union taking account of different parliamentary practices of Member States, of election periods and of the dates of public holidays in Member States. The date of the next meeting shall be fixed and announced by the date of the preceding meeting at the latest.</p>	<p><b>2.1. <i>Plenary</i> meetings</b></p> <p>One <i>plenary</i> meeting of COSAC shall be held during each Presidency taking account of different parliamentary practices of Member States, of election periods and of the dates of public holidays in Member States. The date of the next meeting shall be fixed and announced by the date of the preceding meeting at the latest.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p><i>Comment:</i> <i>It is proposed to keep the current text.</i></p>

<p><b>2.2. Extraordinary meetings</b></p> <p>Extraordinary meetings of COSAC shall be held, if deemed necessary, by an absolute majority of the Chairpersons of the Community and European Affairs Committees of the National Parliaments and of the appropriate body of the European Parliament.</p>	<p><b>2.2. Extraordinary meetings</b></p> <p>Extraordinary meetings of COSAC shall be held, if deemed necessary, by an absolute majority of the Chairpersons of the <i>Committees for Union Affairs</i> of the national Parliaments and of the appropriate body of the European Parliament.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <p><i>It is suggested to use the wording "<b>representatives of the European Parliament</b>" instead of "the appropriate body of the European Parliament".</i></p>
<p><b>2.3. Meetings of the Chairpersons</b></p> <p>A preparatory meeting of the Chairpersons of the Community and European Affairs Committees and of the representative of the European Parliament shall be held prior to meetings of COSAC, in agreement with the presidential Troika. Each delegation consists of two members of its Parliament.</p>	<p><b>2.3. Meetings of the Chairpersons</b></p> <p>A preparatory meeting of the Chairpersons of the <i>Committees for Union Affairs</i> and of the representative(s) of the European Parliament shall be held prior to <i>each plenary</i> meeting of COSAC, in agreement with the Presidential Troika of COSAC. Each delegation consists of two <i>Members</i> of its Parliament.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <p><i>Presidency proposal is supported with the replacement of the word "<b>plenary</b>" by "<b>ordinary</b>".</i></p>
<p><b>2.4. Extraordinary meetings of the Chairpersons</b></p> <p>Extraordinary meetings of the Chairpersons of the Community and European Affairs Committees and the appropriate body of the European Parliament shall be held, if proposed, by the Presidency, after consulting</p>	<p><b>2.4. Extraordinary meetings of the Chairpersons</b></p> <p>Extraordinary meetings of the Chairpersons of the <i>Committees for Union Affairs</i> and the appropriate body of the European Parliament shall be held, if proposed, by the Presidency <i>Parliament</i>, after consulting the Presidential</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <p><i>It is suggested to use the wording "<b>representatives of the European Parliament</b>" instead of "the appropriate body of the European Parliament".</i></p>

<p>the Presidential Troika, or, if deemed necessary, by an absolute majority of the Chairpersons of the Community and European Affairs Committees of the National Parliaments and of the appropriate body of the European Parliament.</p>	<p>Troika, or, if deemed necessary, by an absolute majority of the Chairpersons of the <i>Committees for Union Affairs</i> of the national Parliaments and of the appropriate body of the European Parliament.</p>	
<p><b>2.5. The Presidential Troika of COSAC</b></p> <p>The Presidential Troika of COSAC consists of the Presidency, the preceding Presidency, the next Presidency, and the European Parliament. Each delegation consists of two members of its Parliament.</p> <p>Agendas for Troika meetings shall be circulated to all National Parliaments and to the European Parliament not less than two weeks before meetings, and minutes of Troika meetings shall be circulated to all the National Parliaments and to the European Parliament not more than two weeks after such meetings.</p>	<p><b>2.5. The Presidential Troika of COSAC</b></p> <p>The Presidential Troika of COSAC consists of the <i>delegations of the national Parliaments of the</i> Presidency, the preceding Presidency, the <i>following</i> Presidency, and the European Parliament. Each delegation consists of two <i>Members</i> of its Parliament.</p> <p><i>Deleted the Paragraph on "Agendas for Troika meetings..." and moved to 2.7., a new paragraph concerning all agendas have to be circulated.</i></p> <p><i>See 2.7.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>

<p><b>2.6. Working groups</b></p> <p>COSAC may decide to set up a working group to study a particular issue linked with the activities of the European Union. Such a working group shall also be set up, if deemed necessary, by an absolute majority of the Chairpersons of the Community and European Affairs Committees of the National Parliaments and of the appropriate body of the European Parliament. The Chairperson of the Community and European Affairs Committee of the Parliament of the Member State holding the Presidency shall act as the Chairperson of the working group. The Secretariat of the Parliament of the Member State holding the Presidency shall provide the secretariat for the working group.</p>	<p><b>2.6. Working groups</b></p> <p>COSAC may decide to set up a working group to study a particular issue linked with the activities of the European Union. Such a working group shall also be set up, if deemed necessary, by an absolute majority of the Chairpersons of the <i>Committees for Union Affairs</i> of the <i>n</i>ational Parliaments and of the appropriate body of the European Parliament. The Chairperson of the <i>Committee for Union Affairs</i> of the <i>Presidency</i> Parliament shall act as the Chairperson of the working group. The secretariat of the <i>Presidency</i> Parliament shall provide the secretariat for the working group.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p> <p><i>It is suggested to use the wording "<b>representatives of the European Parliament</b>" instead of "the appropriate body of the European Parliament".</i></p> <p><i>It is proposed to add to the last sentence: "<b><u>assisted by the COSAC Secretariat</u></b>".</i></p>
<p><b>2.7. Planning of the meetings</b></p> <p>COSAC shall establish a rolling, long term, calendar of its meetings.</p>	<p><i>Moved to Point 2.11. without any amendment.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>
	<p><b><i>2.7. Documentation of the meetings</i></b></p> <p><b><i>Agendas for all the aforementioned meetings shall be circulated to all national Parliaments and to the European</i></b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>

	<i>Parliament not less than two weeks before the meetings, and minutes of those meetings shall be circulated to all national Parliaments and to the European Parliament not later than two weeks after the meetings.</i>	
<p><b>3. PLACE OF MEETINGS</b></p> <p>Meetings shall take place in the Member State holding the Presidency. Extraordinary meetings, meetings of the Chairpersons, meetings of the Troika and meetings of working groups may be held elsewhere.</p>	<p><b>2.8. Place of the meetings</b></p> <p>Meetings shall take place in the Member State holding the Presidency. Extraordinary meetings, meetings of the Chairpersons, meetings of the <b>Presidential COSAC</b> and meetings of working groups may be held elsewhere.</p>	+
	<p><b>2.9. Convocation</b> (Moved here from Part 4.) <b>Plenary COSAC meetings, meetings of the Chairpersons of Committees for Union Affairs, extraordinary meetings and meetings of working groups shall be convened by the Presidency Parliament.</b></p>	<p>+</p> <p>Presidency proposal is supported with the replacement of the word "plenary" by "<b>ordinary</b>" and the text "<b>in agreement with the Presidential Troika</b>" added at the end.</p>
	<p>New Point inserted:</p> <p><b>2.10. Preparation of the meetings</b></p> <p><b>The delegations may send letters/documents</b></p>	+

	<p><i>relating to items on the agenda to the secretariat of the Presidency Parliament and the Presidency Parliament may also draw up discussion documents for the conference.</i></p>	
	<p><i>Moved from Point 2.7.</i></p> <p><b>2.11. Planning of the meetings</b></p> <p>COSAC shall establish a rolling, long term, calendar of its meetings.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>

4. COMPOSITION	3. COMPOSITION	+
<p><b>4.1. Ordinary and extraordinary meetings</b></p> <p>Each National Parliament shall be represented by a maximum of six members of its Community and European Affairs Committee(s). The European Parliament shall be represented by six Members. Each Parliament shall determine the composition of its own delegation.</p>	<p><b>3.1. Plenary and extraordinary meetings</b></p> <p>Each national Parliament shall be represented by a maximum of six <b>Members</b> of its <b>Committee(s) for Union Affairs</b>. The European Parliament shall be represented by six Members. Each Parliament shall determine the composition of its own delegation.</p>	<p>+</p> <p><i>Presidency proposal is supported with the replacement of the word "plenary" by "<b>ordinary</b>"</i></p>
<p><b>4.2. Observers from the Parliaments of applicant countries</b></p> <p>Three observers from the Parliaments of each applicant country shall be invited to ordinary and extraordinary meetings.</p>	<p><b>3.2. Observers from the Parliaments of <i>candidate</i> countries</b></p> <p>Three observers from the Parliaments of each <b>candidate</b> country shall be invited to plenary and extraordinary COSAC meetings.</p> <p><i>Two observers from the Parliaments of each candidate country shall be invited to the meetings of the Chairpersons of Committees for Union Affairs.</i></p>	<p><i>It is suggested to use the term "<b>member</b>".</i> <i>The text proposed:</i></p> <p><b>3.2. Observers from Parliaments of candidate countries</b></p> <p>Three <b>members of</b> the Parliament of each <b>candidate</b> country shall be invited <b>as observers</b> to <b>ordinary</b> and extraordinary meetings.</p> <p><b>Two <u>members</u> of the Parliament of each candidate country shall be invited as observers to meetings of the Chairpersons.</b></p>

<p><b>4.3. Other observers, specialists and special guests</b></p> <p>The Presidency shall invite observers from the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union and the European Commission, and it may invite observers from the embassies of the Member States of the European Union, and, after consulting the Presidential Troika, specialists and special guests.</p>	<p><b>3.3. Other observers, specialists and special guests</b></p> <p>The Presidency shall invite observers from the General Secretariat of the Council and the Commission, and it may invite observers from the embassies of the Member States of the European Union, and, after consulting the Presidential Troika, <i>other national Parliament</i>, specialists and special guests.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>It is proposed to keep the current text.</i></p>
<p><b>4.4. Public access to meetings</b></p> <p>Meetings of COSAC shall be public, unless otherwise determined.</p>	<p><b>3.4.</b></p> <p><i>No amendment has been proposed.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>5. CONVOCATION</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Deleted and moved to 2.9.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>
<p>Ordinary meetings and meetings of the Chairpersons and of working groups shall be convened by the Secretariat of the Parliament of the Member State holding the Presidency.</p>		
<p>Extraordinary meetings shall be convened by the Secretariat of the Parliament of the Member State where the meeting takes place</p>		

<b>6. DESIGNATION OF MEETINGS</b>	<b>4. DESIGNATION OF MEETINGS</b>	+
<p>The designation of ordinary and extraordinary meetings shall be 'Conference of the Community and European Affairs Committees (of the European Union's National Parliaments of the Member States and the European Parliament) — COSAC', with the name preceded by the number of the meeting in sequence, followed by the date and place of the meeting.</p>	<p><b>4.1.</b> The designation of <i>plenary</i> and extraordinary meetings shall be 'Conference of the <i>Parliamentary Committees for Union Affairs</i> of Parliaments of the <i>European Union</i> - COSAC', with the name preceded by a <i>Roman numeral</i> in sequence, followed by the date and <i>the</i> place of the meeting.</p>	<p>+</p> <p>Presidency proposal is supported with the replacement of the word "plenary" by "<i>ordinary</i>"</p>
<b>7. AGENDA</b>	<b>5. AGENDA</b>	+
<p><b>7.1.</b> Before the last ordinary meeting of each year the delegations shall indicate the subjects they propose be dealt with the following year. This matter shall be discussed at the end of the meeting. The Presidential Troika, paying due account to the provisions of Part II of the Protocol to the Amsterdam Treaty on the Role of National Parliaments in the European Union, proposes, at the beginning of each Presidency, one or several subjects drawn from the working programme of the Council</p>	<p><b>5.1.</b> Before the last <i>plenary</i> meeting of each year the delegations shall indicate the subjects they propose be dealt with the following year. This matter shall be discussed at the end of the meeting. The Presidential Troika, paying due account to the provisions of <i>Article 10</i> of the Protocol <i>on the Role of National Parliaments in the European Union to the Treaty of Lisbon</i>, proposes, at the beginning of each Presidency, one or several subjects drawn from the working programme</p>	<p><i>It is proposed to keep the current text with one modification, i.e. replacing the reference to Amsterdam Treaty by a reference to the Treaty of Lisbon.</i></p> <p>Before the last ordinary meeting of each year the delegations shall indicate the subjects they propose be dealt with the following year. This matter shall be discussed at the end of the meeting. The Presidential Troika, paying due account to the provisions of the Protocol of <b>the Treaty of Lisbon</b> on the Role of National Parliaments in the European Union,</p>

of the European Union, the European Parliament, and the European Commission, or from proposals made during the meeting referred to above.	of the Council, the European Parliament, and the Commission, or from proposals made <i>by the members of COSAC</i> during the meeting referred to above.	
7.1. A. The principal business on every draft Agenda shall be derived from COSAC's role as a body for exchanging information, in particular on the practical aspects of parliamentary scrutiny.	<b>5.2.</b> The principal business on every draft agenda shall be derived from <i>the role of COSAC</i> as a body for exchanging <i>information and best practices between national Parliaments and the European Parliament</i> , in particular on the practical aspects of parliamentary scrutiny.	+
7.2. A draft agenda shall be drawn up by the Chairperson of the Community and European Affairs Committee of the host Parliament, after consulting Chairpersons of the Community and European Affairs Committees and the representative of the European Parliament. National delegations may propose to the Presidency that a specific item is put on the agenda.	<b>5.3.</b> A draft agenda shall be drawn up by the Chairperson of the <i>Committee for Union Affairs</i> of the <i>Presidency</i> Parliament, after consulting <i>the</i> Chairpersons of the <i>Committees for Union Affairs</i> and the representative(s) of the European Parliament. <i>The</i> delegations may propose to the Presidency <i>Parliament</i> that a specific item is put on <i>or removed from</i> the <i>draft</i> agenda.	+
7.3. The meeting itself shall decide on its final agenda.	<b>5.4.</b> <i>No change</i>	+

<b>8. PREPARATION OF MEETINGS</b>	<i>Deleted</i>	+
8.1. The national delegations may send documents relating to items on the agenda to the secretariat of the host Parliament.	<i>Deleted</i>	+
8.2. The national delegation of the Member State holding the Presidency may draw up discussion documents for the conference.	<i>Deleted</i>	+
<b>9. LANGUAGES</b>	<b>6. LANGUAGES</b>	+
9.1. Each delegation is responsible for translating any document, which it submits into English or French.	<b>6.1.</b> Each delegation is responsible for translating any document, which it submits into English <i>and/or</i> French.	+
9.2. Participating Parliaments will receive conference documents in English or French. Each Parliament is responsible for translation into its national language.	<b>6.2.</b> Participating Parliaments will receive conference documents in English <i>and/or</i> French. Each Parliament is responsible for translation into its <i>official</i> language(s).	+
9.3. Simultaneous interpretation into the official languages of the EU is provided in the meetings.	<b>6.3.</b> Simultaneous interpretation into the official languages of the EU is provided <i>during the plenary</i> meetings.	<i>Presidency proposal is supported with the replacement of the word "plenary" by "ordinary"</i>

<p>9.4. The contributions of COSAC are drawn up in a single original in English and French, each of these texts being equally authentic.</p>	<p><b>6.4.</b> <i>No amendment has been proposed.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>
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10. COSAC CONTRIBUTIONS	7. COSAC CONTRIBUTIONS	+
<p>10.1. COSAC may address contributions to the institutions of the European Union pursuant to the Amsterdam Treaty Protocol on the Role of National Parliaments in the European Union.</p>	<p>7.1. COSAC may address contributions <i>for the attention</i> of the European <i>Parliament, the Council and the Commission</i> pursuant to the Protocol on the Role of National Parliaments in the European Union <i>to the Treaty of Lisbon.</i></p>	<p><i>The following text is proposed: (Lisbon Treaty text)</i></p> <p>7.1. COSAC may <b>submit any contribution it deems appropriate for the attention of the Council and the European Commission pursuant to Protocol on the Role of national Parliaments in the European Union to the Treaty of Lisbon.</b></p>
<p>10.2. Each national delegation may propose that a Contribution be adopted by COSAC. A draft contribution shall be drawn up if proposed by the Presidency, after consulting the Presidential Troika, or if deemed necessary by an absolute majority of the Chairpersons of the Community and European Affairs Committees of the National Parliaments and of the appropriate body of the European Parliament, or if decided in a meeting of COSAC.</p>	<p>7.2. Each delegation may propose that a contribution be adopted by COSAC. A draft contribution shall be drawn up if proposed by the Presidency <i>Parliament</i>, after consulting the Presidential Troika, or if deemed necessary by an absolute majority of the Chairpersons of the <i>Committees for Union Affairs</i> of the national Parliaments and of the appropriate body of the European Parliament, or if decided in a meeting of COSAC.</p>	<p>+</p> <p><i>It is suggested to use the wording "<b>representatives of the European Parliament</b>" instead of "the appropriate body of the European Parliament" and to add the following sentence at the end:</i></p>

<p>10.3. The draft of a contribution shall be communicated to the delegations in good time before the relevant meeting of COSAC to give them a reasonable period for scrutiny and remarks.</p>	<p><b>7.3.</b> <i>No amendment has been proposed.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>
<p>10.4. The final draft of a contribution shall be prepared at the preparatory meeting of the Chairpersons preceding the relevant meeting of COSAC. It shall embrace the observations and remarks by all delegations, including possible declarations concerning the vote.</p>	<p><b>7.4.</b> The final draft of a contribution shall be prepared at the preparatory meeting of the Chairpersons <i>during</i> the relevant meeting of COSAC. It shall embrace the observations and remarks by all delegations, including possible declarations concerning the vote.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>
<p>10.5. In general COSAC shall seek to adopt contributions by broad consensus. If this is not possible, contributions shall be adopted with a qualified majority of at least 3/4 of the votes cast. The majority of 3/4 of the votes cast must at the same time constitute at least half of all votes.</p>	<p><b>7.5.</b> <i>No amendment has been proposed.</i></p>	<p><i>The following text is proposed:</i></p> <p>7.5. COSAC <b>meetings</b> shall adopt contributions by consensus.</p>

10.6. Each delegation has two votes.	7.6.	+
10.7. After adoption, the contribution is published in the Official Journal of the European Union.	7.7. <i>No amendment has been proposed.</i>	<i>The following text is proposed:</i>  7.7. After adoption, <b>contributions are published in Series 'C' of the Official Journal of the European Union in the official languages of the European Union.</b>
	<i>New Point:</i>  7.8. <b><i>After adoption, the Presidency Parliament shall send the contribution to the Presidents of the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission inviting them to respond to the contribution.</i></b>	+
<b>11. ROLE OF THE PRESIDENCY</b>	<b>8. ROLE OF THE PRESIDENCY PARLIAMENT</b>	+

<p>11.1. The Community and European Affairs Committee of the Member State holding the Presidency of the Council of the European Union shall hold the Presidency of COSAC during that Presidency.</p>	<p><b>8.1.</b> The <b>Committee for Union Affairs</b> of the <b>Presidency Parliament</b> shall hold the Presidency of COSAC during that Presidency.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>
<p>11.2. The secretariat of the host Parliament shall prepare the documents for the meetings. It shall be assisted by the COSAC Secretariat.</p>	<p><b>8.2.</b> The secretariat of the <b>Presidency</b> Parliament shall prepare the documents for the meetings. It shall be assisted by the COSAC Secretariat.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>
<p>11.3. The Chairperson of the Community and European Affairs Committee of the host Parliament shall open the debate.</p>	<p><b>8.3.</b> The Chairperson of the <b>Committee for Union Affairs</b> of the <b>Presidency</b> Parliament shall open the debate.</p> <p><i>Amendment concerning the update to the Lisbon Treaty and consistency in the text.</i></p>	<p><i>The following text is proposed:</i></p> <p>8.3. <b>Meetings shall be chaired by</b> the Chairperson(s) of the <b>Parliamentary Committee for Union Affairs</b> of the host Parliament.</p>
<p>11.4. The Chairperson of the Community and European Affairs Committee of the host Parliament shall propose a timetable for the meeting and the length of speeches, which shall be four minutes, unless the meeting determines otherwise.</p>	<p><b>8.4.</b> The Chairperson of the <b>Committee for Union Affairs</b> of the <b>Presidency</b> Parliament shall propose a timetable for the meeting and the length of speeches, which shall be four minutes, unless the meeting determines otherwise.</p>	<p><i>The following text is proposed:</i></p> <p>8.4. The Chairperson(s) of the <b>Parliamentary Committee for Union Affairs</b> of the host Parliament shall <b>determine the organisation of debates. Speaking time shall in principle be limited to three minutes.</b></p>

11.5. The Secretariat of the host Parliament shall draw up brief minutes of the meeting. The draft is provided by the COSAC Secretariat.	<b>8.5.</b> The secretariat of the <i>Presidency</i> Parliament shall draw up brief minutes of the meeting. The draft is provided by the COSAC Secretariat.	<i>The following text is proposed:</i>  8.5. The Secretariat of the host Parliament shall draw up minutes of meetings <b>on the basis of a draft provided by the COSAC Secretariat.</b>
11.6. The Chairperson of the Community and European Affairs Committee of the host Parliament shall present the debate's conclusions, as drawn up by the Presidential Troika.	<b>8.6.</b> The Chairperson of the <i>Committee for Union Affairs</i> of the <i>Presidency</i> Parliament shall present the debate's conclusions, as drawn up by the Presidential Troika.	+
11.7. The secretariat of the Parliament holding the Presidency shall provide the secretariat for the activities of COSAC during its term. The secretariats of National Parliaments and of the European Parliament shall provide assistance.	<b>8.7.</b> The secretariat of the <i>Presidency</i> Parliament shall provide the secretariat for the activities of COSAC during its term. The <i>COSAC</i> Secretariat shall provide assistance.	+
<b>11 bis. THE COSAC SECRETARIAT</b>	<b>9. THE COSAC SECRETARIAT</b>	+
The COSAC Secretariat shall be composed of officials from the Parliaments of the Presidential Troika, and a permanent member who supports the Secretariat in its activities.	<b>9.1.</b> <i>Stylistically modified: Permanent Member with capital letters.</i> <i>No substantial amendment has been proposed.</i>	+

<p>The officials from the Parliaments of the Presidential Troika shall be appointed by each of the relevant Parliaments for a non renewable period of eighteen months.</p>	<p><b>9.2</b> <i>No amendment has been proposed.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>
<p>The permanent member shall be appointed by the COSAC Chairpersons on the proposal of the Presidential Troika. He or she shall be an official of a National Parliament and shall remain in office for two years with the possibility of one renewal.</p>	<p><b>9.3.</b> <i>Stylistically modified: Permanent Member with capital letters.</i>  <i>No substantial amendment has been proposed.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>
<p>The COSAC Secretariat shall assist the Presidency and the secretariat of the host Parliament in all its tasks. The members of the COSAC Secretariat shall perform their duties under the political responsibility of the COSAC Presidency and the Presidential Troika or according to the decisions taken by COSAC meetings. The permanent member shall coordinate the activities of the COSAC Secretariat under the direction of the Parliament holding the Presidency.</p>	<p><b>9.4.</b> The COSAC Secretariat shall assist the Presidency <b>Parliament</b> in all its tasks. The members of the COSAC Secretariat shall perform their duties under the political responsibility of the COSAC Presidency and the Presidential Troika or according to the decisions taken by COSAC meetings. The <b>Permanent Member</b> shall coordinate the activities of the COSAC Secretariat under the direction of the <b>Presidency</b> Parliament.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>
<p>The cost for seconding the permanent member of the Secretariat to Brussels and other necessary technical costs of the Secretariat are jointly borne by Parliaments wishing to contribute. The amount and the terms of payment for the co-financed</p>	<p>9.5. <i>Stylistically modified: Permanent Member with capital letters.</i>  <i>No substantial amendment has been proposed.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>

expenditure are defined in an agreement among the participating Parliaments.		
<b>12. DEBATE CONCLUSIONS</b>	<b>10. COSAC CONCLUSIONS AND COMMUNIQUES</b>	+
If the meeting decides to issue a communiqué, a draft, annexed with possible contributions adopted, shall be drawn up by the Presidential Troika.	<b>10.1.</b> If <i>COSAC</i> decides to <i>adopt conclusions or</i> issue a communiqué, a draft shall be drawn up by the Presidential Troika.	+
	<b>10.2.</b> <i>The draft of the conclusions shall be communicated to the delegations in good time before the relevant meeting of COSAC to give them a reasonable period for scrutiny and remarks.</i>	+
	<b>10.3.</b> <i>Conclusions and/or</i> communiqués shall be sent to the <i>national</i> Parliaments, the European Parliament, the Council, and the Commission by the secretariat of the <i>Presidency</i> Parliament.	+
<b>13. ECIPIENTS OF COMMUNIQUÉS</b>	<i>Moved to Part 10.</i>	+
Communiqués shall be sent to the Parliaments of the Member States and the European Parliament, to the Council of the European	<i>See 10.3.</i>	+

Union, and to the European Commission by the secretariat of the host Parliament.		
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14. REVISION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE	11. REVISION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE	11. REVISION OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
<p>14.1. Proposals for a revision of the Rules of Procedure must be sent, in writing, from one or several delegations of one or several Parliaments to all National Parliaments of the Member States and to the European Parliament at least a month before the meeting of COSAC.</p>	<p>11.1. <i>Modified according to the Treaty of Lisbon: national Parliament with a small "n".</i></p> <p><i>No substantial amendment has been proposed.</i></p>	<p><i>The following text is proposed:</i></p> <p>11.1. <b>COSAC delegations may submit proposals for a revision of the Rules of Procedure. These proposals shall be submitted in writing to the Presidency Parliament, at least one month before COSAC meetings.</b></p>
<p>14.2. Proposals for a revision of the rules should be put on the agenda of the first meeting of COSAC following the presentation of the proposal.</p>	<p>11.2. <i>Stylistically modified: adding "Rules of Procedure" instead of "rules".</i></p> <p><i>No substantial amendment has been proposed.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>
<p>14.3. Adoption of the proposal requires unanimity between the delegations present at the meeting. Abstentions by delegations shall not prevent the adoption of the proposal.</p>	<p>11.3. <i>No amendment has been proposed.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>

14.4. Quorum is at least 2/3 of the delegations.	11.4. <i>No amendment has been proposed.</i>	+
14.5. Each delegation has one vote.	11.5. <i>No amendment has been proposed.</i>	<i>The following text is proposed:</i>  11.5. Each delegation has <b>two</b> votes.
<b>15. ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	<b>12. ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>	<b>12. ENTRY INTO FORCE</b>
These Rules of Procedure shall enter into force as soon as they are published in the Official Journal of the European Union. They are drawn up in a single original in English and French, each of these texts being equally authentic.	<b>12.1.</b> <i>No amendment has been proposed.</i>	<i>The following text is proposed:</i>  12.1. <b>These Rules of Procedure</b> shall enter into force <b>on the date of publication</b> in the Official Journal of the European Union. They are drawn up in a single original in English and French, each of these texts being equally authentic <b>and shall be published in the official languages of the European Union.</b>
The text of these Rules of Procedure shall, for the authentication thereof, be drawn up in Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Slovenian, Slovak, Spanish and	<b>12.2.</b> The text of these Rules of Procedure shall, for the authentication thereof, be drawn up in <b>Bulgarian</b> , Czech, Danish, Dutch, English, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, <b>Irish</b> , Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese,	It is suggested to delete the first two sentences as it has been dealt with in Point 12.1.

<p>Swedish. The translations shall be agreed between the National Parliaments using those languages and the European Parliament.</p> <p>In any question relating to the interpretation of these Rules only the English and French versions shall have official status.</p>	<p><b>Romanian</b>, Slovenian, Slovak, Spanish and Swedish. The translations shall be agreed between the national Parliaments using those languages and the European Parliament.</p> <p>In any question relating to the interpretation of these Rules <b>of Procedure</b> only the English and French versions shall have official status.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">+</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><i>APPENDICES</i></p> <p><b>Declaration by the European Parliament on Rule 10.5 of the Rules of Procedure</b></p> <p>The European Parliament can abstain in any vote on a contribution which is also addressed to it.</p>	<p><i>No amendment has been proposed.</i></p>	<p style="text-align: center;">-</p> <p><i>It is suggested to delete the Appendices.</i></p>