

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE PRESIDENTIAL TROIKA OF COSAC
19 MAY 2004**

Present at the meeting:

Mr. Gay Mitchell TD (Irish Presidency), Mrs. Sharon Dijksma (Netherlands), Mr. Rene van der Linden (Netherlands), Mr. Giacoma Stucchi (Italy), Mr. Mario Greco (Italy), Mr. David Martin (EP), Mr. Inigo Mendez de Vigo (EP).

Agenda:

- 1) Adoption of Agenda
- 2) Information on invited guests
- 3) Chairman's report on the COSAC Secretariat
- 4) Chairman's introduction to COSAC agenda Third debate: Implementation of the Budget: Parliamentary scrutiny and the role of the Court of Auditors.
- 5) Any other business

Item 1: Agenda was adopted

Item 2: The Chairman informed that he had received a number of requests to attend the COSAC meeting from the Parliament's of Croatia, Macedonia, Ukraine, the counter terrorism coordinator, Mr. Gijs de Vries and CALRE. The members of the Troika had been consulted in advance in accordance with rule 4.3 of the rules of procedure of COSAC and unanimous agreement was indicated to all requests with the exception of CALRE.

Mr. Rene van der Linden and Mr. Mendez de Vigo raised the issue of inviting special guests to the COSAC meetings. They called for a closer look at COSAC's rules on the issue - to avoid overload in the future. The chairman replied that the present rules required that requests for invitations must be looked at by the presidency and a reply issued after consultation with the Troika.

Item 3: The Chairman informed the troika that he would make an oral statement on the operation of the secretariat.

Item 4: The Chairman thanked the European Parliament for its proposal to set up a network of Committees dealing with implementation of the EU-budget and said that the proposal would be included in the draft contribution to be discussed later on by COSAC.

Finally the Chairman told Troika that Professor Patricia Barker of Dublin City University had been invited to make brief introductory remarks on the role of the Court of Auditors.

Mr. Mendez de Vigo suggested that the chairman of the Budgetary Control Committee of the European Parliament, Ms. Diemut Theato, could take the floor following the introduction of Mrs. Barker. This was accepted.

Item 5: There being no other business the meeting was concluded.