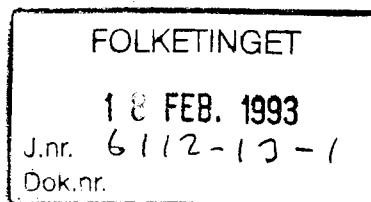




SEVENTH CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEES



20 October 1992

Dear Colleague

We have pleasure in sending you the agenda for the 7th Conference of European Affairs Committees to be held in London on 10-11 November. This was adopted unanimously at the troika meeting on 12 October.

The troika meeting also agreed a number of points amplifying certain agenda items. Thus, on the first day, as part of item 3, delegations will be invited to draw to the attention of the Conference particular matters of concern in this area to citizens of their own countries; a number of these concerns will have surfaced in the course of the recent wide public debate in all Member States on the Maastricht Treaty. The discussion will also encompass the possible role of Conferences of the Parliaments. It is intended that this wide-ranging debate should occupy the bulk of the morning session.

Mr Tristan Garel-Jones MP, Minister of State at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office will be hosting a luncheon in honour of delegates at Lancaster House on 10 November. In the evening, there will be a reception for delegates at Speaker's House, House of Commons, to be jointly hosted by the Speaker of the House of Commons and the Lord Chancellor (as Speaker of the House of Lords), which will be followed by a dinner at a City restaurant, to be hosted by us. Delegates will receive their formal invitations to all social events when registering for the Conference.

On the second day, it is intended that the main discussion will be on item 1. It is intended that items 2 to 4 should be discussed only briefly - if there is a need for lengthy discussion of any of these topics, the Presidency will propose that it stands over to a future Conference. After a Communique has been adopted, we hope delegates will remain to join us for an informal buffet luncheon after the formal closure of the Conference.

This agenda has been drawn up so as to provide plentiful scope for both formal and informal exchanges, and thus build on the development of relations between the parliaments of the Community which this series of Conferences has so successfully fostered. We look forward to welcoming you all to London next month.

Jimmy Hood, Chairman
Select Committee on
European Legislation,
House of Commons

Lord Boston of Faversham
Chairman, Select Committee
on European Communities,
House of Lords

AGENDA FOR THE 7TH CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN AFFAIRS COMMITTEES

The following agenda was adopted unanimously by the Troika at its meeting on 12 October 1992.

Tuesday 10 November

9.45 a.m. First Session

1. Welcome by the co-chairmen.
2. Adoption of the Agenda.
3. The rôle of national parliaments and the European Parliament in ensuring democratic accountability in the Community: what practical steps can be taken to improve the present position?

Discussion will include the rôle of Conferences of the Parliaments.

3.00 p.m. Second Session

4. The application of Community Law¹.
5. Address by Foreign Secretary in his capacity as President-in-Office of the Council of Ministers.
6. Questions to the Foreign Secretary.

Wednesday 11 November

9.00 a.m. Third Session

1. The ratification process and the future development of the Community.

This discussion will primarily relate to the Maastricht Treaty, but may also extend to the European Economic Area Treaty.

2. Correspondency between European Parliaments (COREU-P): Review of experience since initiation of the experiment by the Belgian Chamber of Representatives.
3. Access of the press to the working sessions of future conferences.
4. 8th Conference of European Affairs Committees.
5. Adoption of Communiqué.

At 12.30 p.m. Closure of the Conference.

¹ Data on the implementation of internal market legislation will be circulated by the Presidency before the meeting. The Ninth annual report to the European Parliament on Commission monitoring of the application of Community law - 1991 was published in the Official Journal, No. C 250, 28.9.92, p.1.