

AMENDMENT FORM

Suggestion for amendment of Article : 19, Title IV, Part I

Suggestion for protocol :

By Ms / Mr : Hain

Status : - Member

Article 19 : The ~~Foreign Minister~~ European External Representative

1,2 OK.

3. The Foreign Minister shall be one of the Vice-Presidents of the Commission. He shall be responsible there for handling those external relations issues and for co-ordinating other aspects of the Union's external action, for which the Commission has responsibility. In exercising these responsibilities within the Commission, ~~and only for these responsibilities, he shall be bound by Commission procedures~~ he shall enjoy special status and not be bound by the Commission's duty to act collectively.

Explanation (if any) :

The title "European Foreign Minister" could be misleading as to the content of the job. References to it should therefore throughout be replaced by the European External Representative, as suggested in the report of the External Action Working Group.

Article 19.3 It is important to clarify the exact status of the "Foreign Minister" in the Commission. We assume that development and trade matters will be handled, as now, by Commissioners with specific responsibilities in those areas and therefore subject to Commission procedures. The "Foreign Minister" should however, NOT be bound by those procedures as this would compromise his need both to present the Commission view and to speak for the Council on an external issue.