

SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

**Subject: Meeting of the Praesidium
Brussels, 14 March 2002**

I. POINTS SETTLED

1. Requests from applicant countries

The Praesidium welcomed the suggestions contained in the paper dated 12 March and agreed that a revised version of that paper, specifying that the “invitee” to the Praesidium should be selected by the national Parliaments, should be circulated to all the Members of the Convention with a view to the Plenary Session.

2. Preparation for the Convention Session

The Praesidium agreed the agenda, circulated in doc. CONV.5/02. As to the introduction to the general debate, after discussion the Praesidium reached the conclusion that it would be preferable for this first debate to let the Members of the Convention to express themselves freely. It was therefore decided that no specific question would be added to the general question: “What is expected of the European Union”.

As to the length of the interventions, the Praesidium was of the opinion that the Chairman should exercise his right of limiting it (3 or 4 minutes) in order to allow all the Members to speak.

3. Draft working methods

After careful examination, the Praesidium reached agreement on a revised draft of the Working Methods which would be circulated to the Convention (CONV 9/02). Each Member of the Praesidium undertook to explain the revised draft to his/her component in order to ensure a smooth approval at the Plenary Session.

The Praesidium Meeting of Wednesday, 20 March would allow the Praesidium to assess the state of play and to decide the strategy for the Plenary Session.

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The next Praesidium Meeting will take place on 20 March, at 16h00.