

SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

**Subject: Meeting of the Praesidium
Brussels, 20 March 2002**

I. POINTS SETTLED

1. The Praesidium noted that the Economic and Social Committee had made a welcomed offer to assist in organising regular briefings with the European civil society network.

Mr Dehaene hoped that a member of the Praesidium would be present at such briefings.

2. Target date for completion of the Convention

The Praesidium, after discussion of the request by Mr Katiforis, reached the conclusion that the Convention should complete its work before summer 2003, but that it would be wrong to formally announce this.

3. List of speakers

The Praesidium agreed that the criteria on the basis of which the list of speakers is established by the Secretariat should be communicated to the Convention (see doc. CONV 11/02).

4. Travel expenses

The Praesidium adopted, on the basis of Art. 23 of decision 2002/176/EU, the decision on reimbursement of travel expenses of the Chairman and of the two Vice Chairmen.

5. Themes for subsequent Convention sessions

It was agreed that next session would be devoted to the "EU missions" (i.e. EU competencies). This theme, if not exhausted, could continue to be discussed at the May

session. The following theme would be "how the EU exercises its competencies" (taking into account both the aspect of democratic legitimacy and the aspect of efficiency).

The Praesidium also agreed that these sessions should be thoroughly prepared by the Praesidium which should aim at focusing the debate with short papers.

II. OUTSTANDING ISSUES

1. Youth session

After discussion on the basis of the paper prepared by the Secretariat and in the light of comments and suggestions from Mr Barnier and Mr Vitorino, it was agreed that the Youth session should consist of 210 young people, selected

- 168 by the members of the Convention representing the national parliaments and the Governments, taking into account proposals by national youth associations;
- 32 by the members representing the European Parliament, and 10 by the Commission, taking into account proposals by the European youth associations.

The youth session would be organised back to back to the July Convention session.

The secretariat would, in contact with the Commission services, finalise a proposal with a view to the next Praesidium meeting.

2. Autumn calendar

A draft calendar for the period September-December 2002 should be submitted to the Praesidium at its next meeting.

* * *

The next Praesidium Meeting will take place on 27 March, at 14h30.