

SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

**Subject: Meeting of the Praesidium
Brussels, 18 July 2002**

I. POINTS SETTLED

1. Working groups : progress reports from Chairmen

The six Chairpersons informed the Praesidium on the progress made in their Working Groups and on the possible outcome. The Praesidium noted with satisfaction that the Subsidiarity Working Group would be able to present its report to the Convention in time for the first October session and the Legal Personality and Charter Working Groups in time for the second October session. Oral previews will be given to the Convention by Mr Mendez de Vigo in September and MM Amato and Vitorino at the first session in October. The Praesidium also noted that the orientations emerging from the Subsidiarity Working Group and the National Parliaments Working Group on the Subsidiarity mechanism should be compatible.

2. New wave of Working Groups

The Praesidium agreed the mandates for the Working Groups on "External Action", "Defence" and "Simplification of Legislative Procedures and Instruments" (see doc. CONV 206/02).

The Praesidium also agreed that the new Working Groups would be chaired as follows:

- Group VII : External Action - Vice-President Dehaene
- Group VIII: Defence - M. Barnier
- Group IX: Simplification - Vice-President Amato
- Group X: Security and Justice - Mr Bruton

3. Secretariat paper on Simplification of the Legislative Process

The Praesidium agreed that, subject to possible amendments, to be forwarded to the Secretariat by Monday 22 July, 12h00, the paper would be circulated to Convention members with a view to the September session.

In addition, the Praesidium agreed that a more detailed questionnaire should be prepared and agreed at its 5 September meeting in order to better structure the debate in the Plenary. Speakers would be invited to specify, upon inscription on the list of speakers, which questions they intended to address. Interventions would then be grouped, in the order of the questionnaire. That should assist in making the debate more focused and more lively, with increased recourse to blue and green cards.

4. Proposed replies to Letters from

- a) German Conventioneels, re linguistic regime in Working Groups**
- b) Danish Education Minister, re Youth Convention**

The draft replies were approved.

5. Monthly report on the execution of the budget

The report was noted.

II. OUTSTANDING ISSUES

6. Secretariat paper on Public Relations and Visibility

Members of the Praesidium were invited to forward comments and/or suggestions to the Secretariat.

* * *

The next Praesidium meeting will take place on 5 September, at 15h00.
