

SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

**Subject: Meeting of the Praesidium
Brussels, 5 September 2002**

I. POINTS SETTLED

1. Preparation of the Plenary session of 12-13 September

The Praesidium approved the agenda as well as the questionnaire for the plenary (CONV 225/02 and CONV 226/02). The Vice-Chairman Amato will introduce the debate on simplification of procedures and instruments.

2. Praesidium meetings

The Praesidium agreed that at its meeting on 17 October (at Val Duchesse, 10h30 to 17h00) it should consider a draft of the Treaty framework to be put forward to the plenary at the end of October.

The Praesidium also agreed that more whole day meetings would be required in 2003.

II. OUTSTANDING ISSUES

3. Simplification of the Treaties

The Praesidium had a first discussion on Treaty simplification. It was informed of the orientation that emerged from a co-ordination meeting of the European Parliament "composante". The Praesidium reached the conclusion that a text of a constitutional nature should be part of the Convention final product. The content of such constitutional text and its articulation with the rest of the provisions need further discussion. The Praesidium agreed to revert to the issue next week.

4. Second wave of working groups

Requests for inscription to working groups were still being received by the Secretariat. Since working groups will be officially established on 12 September, the Praesidium agreed to close their lists at its meeting on 11 September.

Mr Dehaene and Mr Barnier announced that they had already prepared annotated mandate documents for circulation to their respective working group. It was agreed that this procedure, as for the first wave of working groups, should be followed by all working groups: annotated mandates assist in preparing the work and better defining the scope of activities of working groups.

5. Calendar for 2003

The Praesidium received a draft calendar prepared by the Secretariat. It agreed that in early January, and before the first plenary session in 2003, it should have at least one all day session in order to make its assessment of the outcome of the autumn sessions. The Secretariat was invited to look into the possibility of one or two changes in the calendar, with a view to approval of the calendar by the Praesidium on 11 September.

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The next Praesidium meeting will take place on 11 September, at 16h00.
