

SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

**Subject: Meeting of the Praesidium
Brussels, 26 September 2002**

I. POINTS SETTLED

1. Preparation of the plenary session of 3-4 October

a) outcome of Working groups on legal personality (draft report in working document 29/02 of WG III) and on subsidiarity (doc. CONV 286/02)

The Praesidium congratulated Mr. Amato and Mr. Mendez de Vigo for the work carried out by the working groups on Legal Personality and Subsidiarity.

The Praesidium welcomed the substance of the recommendations emerging from these working groups, in particular:

- the attribution of a single legal personality to the E.U., which could also facilitate the merge of the EC and EU Treaties;
- the early warning mechanism which allows greater involvement of national Parliaments.

The Praesidium had an exchange of views on elements of the reports which could give rise to some difficulty or criticism in Plenary. In particular, were mentioned:

- as to the Legal Personality working group report, the elements concerning the competence of the Court of Justice on all external agreements, the negotiation of “cross-pillar” agreements and external representation;
- as to the Subsidiarity working group report, the link between the early warning and the right of appeal to the Court of Justice, the question whether the right of early warning should be given to whole Parliaments or just to one Chamber, and the attribution to the

Committee of the Regions of a right of appeal to the Court.

The Praesidium agreed that, once the reports were forwarded to Members of the Convention, it would be for the Plenary to discuss them. However, the Praesidium had a key role in drawing conclusions from such debates with a view to the subsequent detailed definition of the resulting building blocks.

b) Motions to the Praesidium, requesting

- a plenary debate on the issue of a “social Europe”
- the setting up of a working group on a “social Europe”
(motions by Mr Voggenhuber, Ms Van Lancker and Ms Kaufmann).

The Praesidium agreed that the motions should be put on the agenda of the next Plenary Session, on 3rd October, as a specific item, in order to allow for a procedural discussion (see docs. CONV 300/02 and CONV 302/02).

II. OUTSTANDING ISSUES

- **Preview of Working groups on Charter and National Parliaments**
- **Treaty simplification**

The Praesidium agreed to revert to these issues at its next meeting.

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Next meeting will take place on the 2nd October, 15h00.