

SUMMARY OF CONCLUSIONS

Subject: Meeting of the Praesidium

Brussels, 28 October 2002

POINTS SETTLED

1. Working method for institutional questions

The Praesidium agreed that Institutional questions should be discussed at Plenary sessions rather than in Working Groups. A first Plenary debate early in the New Year, on the overall institutional balance, would be appropriate; the Praesidium should exercise its role in structuring the debate; to that effect it should prepare a paper, noting the different proposals put forward, suggesting principles, and identifying questions to be addressed.

2. Preparation of the Plenary session of 7/8 November

The Praesidium approved the agenda for the next session (see doc. CONV 373/02) and agreed on the need for a questionnaire aimed at structuring the debate. The Secretariat's draft would be adjusted in contact with Mr Hänsch. (This was subsequently done: see doc. CONV 374/02).

3. Regional Working Group

The Praesidium had an exchange of views on the proposals contained in the contribution by Mr Kiljunen and others, circulated in doc. CONV 321/02. It noted that some were picked up in the report of Working Group IV (National Parliaments), and that the contact

group chaired by Vice-President Dehaene had recently met, and would meet again at the beginning of next year.

4. Letter by President COX

The Praesidium took note of a letter addressed to the President by the President of the European Parliament, concerning costs resulting from the three sites of the European Parliament.

OUTSTANDING ISSUES

5. Suggestion for a "deliberative poll"

Vice-President Amato asked the Praesidium to consider a paper describing a proposal to organise, in summer 2003, with the support of the larger TV networks, an event involving citizens of all countries participating in the Convention, with a view to promoting acceptance and support for the proposals put forward by the Convention.

*

* *

The next meeting will take place on 6 November, at 15h00.

p.m. Consideration could be given as to whether the meeting of the Praesidium foreseen for 28 November will in practice be required, in addition to the meeting foreseen for 21 November.
