

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

**Subject: Meeting of the Praesidium
Brussels, 6 November 2002**

POINTS SETTLED

1. Assessment of the preliminary debate on the draft Treaty framework and follow-up

The Praesidium felt that the preliminary debate, which would continue on Friday 8 November, had so far proved that the architecture of the draft treaty was broadly accepted by the Convention, since most comments only referred to the content or possible content of specific provisions.

It was confirmed that from the beginning of 2003, in the light of the outcome of the debate in plenary on the Working Groups' recommendations, the Praesidium would draft sections of the treaty to be put forward to the Convention. It was also confirmed that institutional questions would be discussed in Plenary, not in working groups, and that the discussion should be initiated on the basis of a paper prepared by the Praesidium, with the support of the Secretariat, aimed at structuring the debate.

2. Preparation of the session on 7-8 November

The Praesidium heard from Mr Hänsch and Mr Christophersen a presentation of the reports of their Working Group, and agreed that it would need to reflect carefully in the light of comments offered in plenary on elements which could then be translated into Treaty language. The Praesidium considered that the debate in plenary as regards "Social Europe" would also be important. The Praesidium would need to assess at its next meeting what could be done in order to meet concerns expressed.

3. Spring day in 2003

The Praesidium was informed about an initiative supported by five members (Ms A. Palacio, Mssrs M. Barnier, H. Christophersen, O. Duhamel and G. Katiforis) and financed by the Commission (Prince programme) consisting in organising on the same day next Spring discussion on Europe in all schools in each of the countries participating in the Convention.

OUTSTANDING QUESTIONS

4. Public opinion information and consultation

The Praesidium heard a presentation by the President of the idea of organising a major one-day press campaign early in 2003 and by Vice-President Amato of the idea of organising next summer a "deliberative poll" . It agreed to revert to these issues at its next meeting.

*

* *

The next meeting will take place on 21 November, at 15h00. It is recalled that the meeting of 28 November has been cancelled.
