

SUMMARY OF PROCEEDINGS

**Subject: Meeting of the Praesidium
Brussels, 27 March 2003**

POINTS SETTLED

- 1. Discussion on draft Articles of:**
 - Title VI : The democratic life of the Union**
 - Title IX : The Union and its immediate environment**
 - Title X : Union Membership**
 - Part III : General and Final Provisions**

The Praesidium reached agreement on the text of drafts of articles 33-37 (The democratic life of the Union), article 42 (The Union and its immediate environment), articles 43-46 (Union membership), as well as the articles on the General and Final provisions in Part III of the Constitution. It agreed that these draft articles, together with an accompanying commentary, should be presented to the Convention at its plenary session on 4 April.

- 2. Oral report by Vice-President Dehaene on the additional session of 26 March on draft articles 1 to 7**

This agenda item was postponed to a subsequent meeting.

- 3. Presentation by Mr Vitorino of the report of the discussion group on "Court of Justice"**

This agenda item was postponed to a subsequent meeting. The Praesidium noted however that an additional meeting of the discussion group was scheduled for 4 April to examine the issue of the possible extension of the jurisdiction of the Court of Justice to CFSP. This meeting was open to any interested members of the Convention.

4. Presentation by Mr Christophersen of progress in the budgetary procedure discussion group

Mr Christophersen reported that good progress was being made within the discussion group on the budgetary procedure. It was agreed that he would give a brief progress report to the next plenary session during the discussions on the draft articles on the Union's finances.

5. Own Resources

The Praesidium agreed the mandate for the discussion group to be chaired by Mr Mendez de Vigo on Own Resources (which will be circulated as CONV 654/03).

6. Preparation of plenary session of 3/4 April :

- first indications emerging from comments received on draft articles on Finances and Freedom, security and justice;**

The Praesidium agreed that the main focus of the next plenary session would be the draft articles on Freedom, security and justice, on which a large number of comments and suggestions for amendment had been received. Fewer comments had been received on the articles on the Union's finances, on which in any case the debate would be more limited in scope given that the discussion group on the budgetary procedure was still underway.

- draft agenda**

The Praesidium approved the agenda for the plenary session of 3/4 April (subsequently circulated as CONV 645/03).

7. Any other business

None

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The next meeting will take place on 2 April 2003 in the Justus Lipsius building. It will start at 10h.30 and last the whole day.
