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To: undisclosed-recipients;;
Subject: Two year work plan for social democrat summit to see pes

09/10/2002 12:15

News from the Party of European Socialists

A two-year programme of political priorities is to be put to the European social democratic summit in Downing Street later today.

Initiatives set out in the work plan of the Party of European Socialists include:

- CREATION of a task force on economic coordination and employment, led by Danish social democrat leader Poul Nyrup Rasmussen, Belgian social affairs minister Franck Vandenbroucke and Portuguese professor Maria Joao Rodriguez who played a key role in the EU's "Lisbon process" for job creation;
- DEVELOPMENT of policy on security, justice and immigration under the leadership of British Labour Party chairman Charles Clarke, Polish Secretary of State Tadeusz Iwinski and Spanish Euro MP Ana Terron; and
- ESTABLISHMENT of links with progressive Democrats in the United States through a programme of meetings next year.

Other activities planned by the PES in the run-up to the European elections in 2004 include further initiatives to counter the populist, eurosceptic Right. Meetings aimed at building links between Europe, its Muslim communities and the world of Islam are also planned.

The work plan -- presented by PES President Robin Cook and Secretary General Antony Beumer - recalls recent election victories in Germany and Sweden and sets a goal of further victories in the Austrian elections and in the 2004 European Parliament elections.

The full text of the six page document is to be found on the PES web site -- www.pes.org

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