

**PAPADIMITRIOU GEORGE**

---

**From:** Fouhy Marian <Marian.Fouhy@consilium.eu.int>  
**Sent:** Τρίτη, 25 Φεβρουαρίου 2003 4:23 μμ  
**Attach:** Note JK-Road Map.doc; Letter Duff-VGE.doc; INDICATIVE CALENDAR.doc; DUFF letter.doc  
**Subject:** Praesidium: 26 February- agenda item 4

Members of the Praesidium will find attached a Note by Sir John Kerr regarding a letter from Mr Duff (attached) containing proposals to expedite the work of the Convention. Also attached is a draft reply to Mr Duff and an indicative calendar for future work.

Kind regards  
Marian Fouhy  
Convention Secretariat

**NOTE TO THE PRAESIDIUM**

**"Road Map"**

Members of the Praesidium may wish to see the attached letter from Mr Duff containing "proposals of a practical nature designed to expedite the work of the Convention". Mr Duff's major point, also made by many other members of the Convention, is the case for the Praesidium giving the Convention an advance programme allowing for the timely presentation of further tranches of draft Articles.

The Praesidium will no doubt wish to do as Mr Duff asks. I accordingly attach a draft "Indicative Calendar". I believe that the Secretariat can make available drafts of the various Articles in sufficient time to allow for Praesidium discussion of them on the dates shown in the third column. If the Praesidium agrees the programme set out in the first and second columns, it might wish to present it (without the third column) to this week's Plenary session.

The Praesidium may also wish to decide how to answer questions about further work on Articles I-XVI. In the light of the previous discussion, the Secretariat have explored with the European Parliament the possibility of providing members of the Convention with an opportunity for continued, inter-sessional, discussion of each others suggested amendments. Such meetings, perhaps chaired by the Vice-Presidents, could be held on 5 and 24 March, perhaps structured to cover Articles I to VII, and VIII to XVI. If the Praesidium agreed, this too could be announced at this week's Plenary session.

The other points in Mr Duff's letter are simpler. The attached draft reply, submitted for Praesidium approval, draws on the main points set out above.

John Kerr

## INDICATIVE CALENDAR

DRAFT

Articles numbered as in October Framework

PLENARY SESSIONS	DRAFT TEXTS TO BE PRESENTED	PRAESIDIUM DISCUSSION
1. 27/28 February	Part I: Title V (Instruments) Protocols on: Subsidiarity, Proportionality National Parliaments	[14 February] [18 February] [26 February]
2. 17/18 March	Part I: Title VII (Finances) Part II: Espace de liberté, de sécurité et de Justice (+ Art. 31, Part I) Part II: Document de base (Outcome of Legal Experts' Group)	6/7 March  6/7 March 6/7 March, 13 March
3. 3/4 April	Part I: Title VI (La vie démocratique) Group (a) Arts. 35, 36 Title IV: Institutions - Group (a) Arts. 20-23 Title IX: Voisinage Méthode ouverte  Part III: General Final Provisions	13/27 March 13/27 March 27 March, 2 April 27 March, 2 April
4. 24/25 April	Part I: Title IV: Institutions - Group (b) Art. 14-19 Title VI (La vie démocratique): Group (b) Arts. 32-34, 37 Part II: External Relations, PESC; Defence (plus Art. 29, and Title VIII, Part I)	2, 10, 11 April 10, 11, 23 April

**p.m. 15/16 May**  
**30/31 May**  
**5/6 June**  
**12/13 June**

# EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT



---

**Andrew Duff**

MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT  
MEMBER OF THE CONVENTION

Mr Valéry Giscard d'Estaing  
President of the Convention  
Rue de la Loi 175  
B-1048 Brussels

12 February 2003

Dear President

Following a meeting of the Convention Liberals in Barcelona last weekend, I am writing with several proposals of a practical nature designed to expedite the work of the Convention.

1. We welcome the posting on the web site of all amendments to articles from members of the Convention. However, in order to help comprehension and conciliation, amendments should be categorised by the secretariat article by article and, if possible, in order of their extremity from the original draft.
2. Could the Praesidium agree and publish a precise schedule for the release of its further three tranches of amendments as well as the dates when the revised versions will appear? In order to organise the meetings of the party political groups and of the component delegations we really do need decent forward planning. In preparing the schedule it would be helpful to have adequate time not only to consider the original Praesidium draft but also the amendments to it before holding plenary debates on the particular titles. This would also allow for the discussion groups to give their first steer to the plenary.
3. With respect to the composition of the informal groups that are to be called into being by the Praesidium to work on particularly problematical issues, my colleagues would hope that such groups will be sufficiently representative in order to ensure that all strands of Convention opinion are voiced.
4. We would recall that the agreed working methods allow for the translation of amendments, and hope that this can be adhered to in all but exceptional circumstances.
5. Lastly, we considered that further plenary meetings are now certainly required before and possibly after the June summit, in order for the Convention to complete its work to a high degree of quality and satisfaction.

Yours sincerely

**DRAFT REPLY TO Mr DUFF**

Cher Conventionnel,

Thank for your letter of 12 February. I appreciate your suggestions aimed at ensuring that the work of the Convention is carried out swiftly and in the most effective and transparent manner.

I hope that the synthetic analyses of reactions received to draft articles 1 to 16, as circulated by the Secretariat (CONV 574/03) with a view to assisting Convention members for the plenary session of 27-28 February, meets your first request. The Secretariat is also providing the translation of this paper in all languages.

I fully understand your concern to allow political groups and components to plan their coordination meetings on the different sections of articles of the draft Treaty. The Praesidium intends to stick to its commitment to put forward to the Convention the whole draft Treaty by the end of April. That implies that, following the presentation of Title V (Instruments) and the two Protocols on Subsidiarity/Proportionality and National Parliaments on 27/28 February, the Praesidium would present to the Convention:

- on 17/18 March, Title VII (Finances) of Part I, the articles in Part I and Part II concerning Justice and Home Affairs, and the document on Part II resulting from the work of the technical group of legal experts;
- on 3/4 April, articles 35 and 36 of Title VI, articles 20 to 23 on Institutions, Title IX on "voisinage", as well as draft provisions designed to insert in the Treaty the open method of coordination. General and Final provisions (Part III) would also be presented;
- on 24/25 April, articles 14 to 19 on Institutions, articles 32 to 34 and 37 of Title VI in Part I, as well as the articles of Part I and Part II on External action and Defence. (Under present circumstances it seems best not to attempt discussion of this last subject in March).

As to the composition of the discussion groups, the Praesidium shares your view that it is of the utmost importance to ensure that they are sufficiently representative. I believe that the composition

of the first discussion group, on the Court of Justice, does achieve this satisfactorily. I am delighted that you yourself are among the members.

Finally, in order to allow for in-depth examination of all the questions raised by members of the Convention concerning the draft articles, the Praesidium will suggest that additional intersessional discussions take place between the formal plenary sessions. The first two dates we have in mind are 5 and 24 March.

Thanking you for your continued commitment in the work of the Convention.

Yours sincerely,