

# European and External Affairs Committee

## Minutes EUR(2) 02-06

**Meeting date: 9 March 2006**

**Meeting time: 9.00-11.13**

**Meeting venue: National Assembly for Wales, Cardiff Bay**

### Assembly Members in Attendance

Assembly Member	Constituency
Christine Gwyther (Chair)	Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire
Nick Bourne	Mid and West Wales
Rosemary Butler	Newport West
Jeff Cuthbert	Caerphilly
Ieuan Wyn Jones	Ynys Môn
Rhodri Morgan	Cardiff West
Rhodri Glyn Thomas	Carmarthen East and Dinefwr

### Standing Invitees

Janet Davies AM	Committee of the Regions
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### Officials in Attendance

Name	Job Title
Gary Davies	Head of European and External Affairs Division
Des Clifford	European and External Affairs Division
Cathy Presland	Wales European Funding Office

Anna Daniel	Assembly Parliamentary Service
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## Others in Attendance

Name	Representing	Agenda item(s)
Andy Klom	Head of the European Commission Office in Wales	
Alun Cairns AM	Commonwealth Parliamentary Association	4

## Committee Service

Chris Reading	Clerk
Sarah Bartlett	Deputy Clerk

## Item 1: Introduction, Apologies, Substitutions and Declarations of Interest

1.1 Apologies were received from the Chair Sandy Mewies, Jonathan Morgan AM, Mike German AM, Jonathan Evans MEP, Glenys Kinnock MEP, Eluned Morgan MEP and Rose D'Sa.

1.2 Under Standing Order 8.20, the Committee appointed Christine Gwyther as temporary Chair for the meeting.

1.3 There were no declarations of interest.

1.4 A verbatim record of the meeting is available.

## Item 2: Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

**Paper: EUR(2) 09-05 - Minutes of meeting held on 24 November**

**Paper: EUR(2) 01-06 - Action Outstanding**

2.1 The Minutes of the meeting held on 24 November were agreed as a true record.

2.2 Des Clifford gave an oral update to the Committee on two actions points which related to the Working Time Directive and the European Institute of Technology.

### **Item 3: First Minister's Report**

**Paper: EUR(2) 02-06 (p.1)**

3.1 The First Minister introduced his report.

#### **Actions Point:**

- Once the World Trade Organisation has made a final ruling the First Minister agreed to provide a note to the Committee on GM food imports to the EU.

### **Item 4: Update on Commonwealth Parliamentary Association**

**Paper: EUR(2) 02-06 (p.2)**

4.1 The Committee welcomed the update from Alun Cairns AM, Chair of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Wales Branch.

### **Item 5: EU Budget Implication**

**Paper: EUR(2) 02-06 (p.3)**

5.1 The Committee welcomed the progress report and requested that they be involved in the consultation on the Operational Programmes.

### **Item 6: Presidency of the REGLEG (Regions with Legislative Powers)**

**Paper: EUR(2) 02-06 (p.4)**

6.1 The Committee welcomed the update from officials and the First Minister and requested that the Committee be kept informed of progress.

#### **Action Point**

- The Clerk agreed that this item would come back to the Committee later in the year.

### **Item 7: Update from Members of the Committee of the Regions**

7.1 The Committee noted the oral update from Rosemary Butler and Janet Davies.

**Paper to note: EUR(2) 02-06 (p5) – EC Work programme 2006 – priorities**

**Committee Service**