

European and External Affairs Committee

Minutes EUR(2) 08-06

Meeting date: 25 October 2006

Meeting time: 9:00 – 12:15

Meeting venue: Committee Rooms 1&2, Senedd, Cardiff Bay

Assembly Members in Attendance

Assembly Member	Constituency
Sandy Mewies (Chair)	Delyn
Rosemary Butler	Newport West
Nick Bourne	Mid and West Wales
Jeff Cuthbert	Caerphilly
Janet Davies	South Wales West
Mike German	South Wales East
Christine Gwyther	Carmarthen West and South Pembrokeshire
Ieuan Wyn Jones	Ynys Mon
Rhodri Morgan (First Minister)	Cardiff West
Rhodri Glyn Thomas	Carmarthen East and Dinefwr

Officials in Attendance

Name	Job Title
Gary Davies	Head of European and External Affairs
Phillip Bird	Head of EU Policy Secretariat
Damien O'Brien	WEFO, Planning and Strategy Division
Rob Halford	Business Policy division

Others in Attendance

Name	Representing	Agenda item(s)
Rhodri Griffiths	Oxfam Cymru	4
Steve Brooks	Oxfam Cymru	4
His Excellency Jaakko Laajava	Finnish Ambassador	6
Paivi Pohjanheimo	Political Advisor, Finland	6

Committee Service

Chris Reading	Clerk
Abigail Phillips	Deputy Clerk

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

1.1 Apologies were received from Jonathan Morgan AM, Jonathan Evans MEP, Glenys Kinnock MEP, Eluned Morgan MEP, Jill Evans MEP, Andy Klom and Rose D'Sa.

1.2 A verbatim record of the meeting is available.

Item 2: Minutes of previous meeting and matters arising

Paper: EUR(2) 07-06 - Minutes of meeting held on 27 September

Paper: EUR(2) 08-06 - Action Outstanding

Paper: EUR(2) 08-06 (p1) - Possible functions of the successor EEA Committee

2.1 The Minutes of the meeting held on 27 September were agreed as a true record.

2.2 Action Outstanding schedule: there were no comments.

2.3 The Committee discussed the possible functions of the successor European and External Affairs Committee in the 3rd Assembly.

Action Point

The clerk to arrange for a response to be sent to Jenny Randerson AM, Chair of the Standing Orders Committee.

Item 3: First Minister's Report

Paper: EUR(2) 08-06 (p2)

3.1 The First Minister introduced his report.

Actions Point:

The First Minister to provide a report of the Wales Forum on European Affairs.

The First Minister to provide a note on the UK announcement regarding access to the UK labour market by Bulgaria and Romania, following accession to the EU.

When available, the First Minister to provide a report on the comparative economic growth figures for Japan and China, India and the EU.

Item 4: Policy Review: Oxfam Cymru Paper: EUR(2) 08-06 (p3)

4.1 The Committee received evidence from Oxfam Cymru for the review on European and Global Citizenship.

Action Points

Rhodri Griffiths to provide the Committee with information on the areas of Wales which have best implemented Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship, if such information is available.

Item 5: Update from Members of the Committee of the regions

5.1 The Committee received an oral update from Rosemary Butler AM and Janet Davies AM, Members of the Committee of the Regions.

Item 6: EU Presidency: His Excellency Jaakko Laajava, Ambassador of Finland

6.1 The Committee received an update on progress in achieving Finland's objectives for the EU Presidency.

Committee Service