



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM & E-GOVERNANCE



1st Target Group

Preparatory Seminar

“Chairing Council Working Parties”

Hellenic Presidency of the Council of the EU 2014

**Athens (GR) Part I: (29-30/05/2013 & 30-31/05/2013), Presentations of
General Secretariat of the Council of the EU (GSC)**

Part II: (31/05/2013 & 01/06/2013), Simulation Exercise by EKDDA

General Information

Target group

The seminar is intended for future working party Chairs and Deputy Chairs

Description

The Presidency plays a central role in managing the formulation of Council decisions. A successful Presidency depends in particular on the abilities of the working party Chairs and their teams to ensure momentum and achieve results in a complex multinational arena. This seminar looks into the strategic, logistical, procedural and practical actions recurred to successfully manage a Council working party during a Presidency in the post-Lisbon architecture.

Method

The seminar is deliberately interactive and consists of a mixture of presentations, case studies and a simulation exercise. It discusses the relationship between the Presidency and the institutions, whilst providing a forum for debate in the context and preparation of the Presidency. It is organised around the practical aspects of preparing and chairing the meetings and designing the agencies. Finally, it offers an opportunity for participants to discuss their future work with each other, with representatives from the EU institutions and with officials who have had recent experience in chairing working parties.

Objectives

After this information seminar which includes a series of presentations, a simulation exercise and previous chairs sharing their experience, the participants will know how to:

- work with the procedures for conducting meetings (as specified in the Council's Rules of Procedure) and for decision making in the EU;
- find their way around the prerogatives and missions set out for the different Presidency functions by the Lisbon Treaty;
- develop scenarios for negotiations;
- use tools for reaching compromises;
- improve/refresh skills when it comes to leading meetings;
- assess their responsibility for ensuring efficient and goal-oriented meetings;
- Network with main players.

Dates & Seminar Venue

The two (2) first seminars will take place on 29-31/05/2013 & 30/05-01/06/2013, at the National Center of Public Administration & Local Authorities (EKDDA), **211 Pireos Street, 177 78 Athens**

Tel: +30 213 1306 284 (Olga Banteka)

Working Language

The seminar will be conducted in English

Programme Management Team

Coordinator of the Training Programmes for the preparation of the Hellenic Presidency 2014

Mr. Pavlos D. Pezaros, President of the G.B. of EKDDA, Member of the Council of the Agricultural University of Athens

Tel: +30 213 1306 200

E-mail: chairman@ekdd.gr

Head of the Implementation of the Programmes

Mrs. Fani Komseli (PhD), Director of Training Institute (INEP), EKDDA

Tel: +30 213 1306 255

E-mail: fkomseli@ekdd.gr

Programme Manager

Ms. Anastasia Zografou, Training & Research Officer of INEP, EKDDA

Tel: +30 213 1306 363

E-mail: Zografou@ekdd.gr

Supporting Staff for Administration and Training

Ms. S. Vartelatou

Tel: +30 213 1306 435

E-mail: svartelatou@ekdd.gr

Ms. Olga Banteka

Tel: +30 213 1306 284

E-mail: ompanteka@ekdd.gr

Draft programme

DAY ONE (1st Seminar): Wednesday, 29 May 2013

Topic	Time-Schedule
Brief introduction Delivered by: P.D. Pezaros	08.30 – 09.00
EU Institutions: policy formation and implementation Delivered by: P.D. Pezaros	09.00 – 10.00
The role of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers Delivered by: Paul Culley, Director, DQRG (Gen. Secretariat of the Council)	10.00 – 11.30
Coffee break	11.30 – 11.50
The role of the Council Secretariat Delivered by: Mr. Paul Culley	11.50 – 13.30
Rules of procedure of the Council Delivered by: Ms. Eugenia Dimitriu, Legal Counsellor, GSC	13.30 – 14.30
Relations with the European Parliament (except Co-decision) Delivered by: Ms. Catherine Tyliakos, Administrator, GSC	14.30 – 15.30

DAY TWO (1st Seminar): Thursday, 30 May

Topic	Time-Schedule
Co-decision (including practical aspects in relation to trilogues with EP) Delivered by: Mr. Jerome Guichard, Administrator, GSC	09.00 – 10.30
Translation and production of documents Delivered by: Mr. Juan Pallares, Head of Unit, GSC	10.30 – 11.40
Coffee break	11.40 – 12.00
DQL (Lawyer – linguistics) Delivered by: Mr. Christoph Saile, Head of Unit, GSC	12.00 – 13.00
Views from a former chair of a Council Working Party Delivered by: Mr. Nikos Lyrakides, Cypriot Expert of the Permanent Representation of Cyprus in the EU	13.00 – 14.00
Introduction to the simulation exercise Delivered by: P.D. Pezaros / S. Koutsomitros / Ch. Moulkiotis	14.00 – 15.30

DAY THREE (1st seminar): Friday, 31 May

Topic	Time-Schedule
Simulation exercise in a meeting of the Council Working Party on “Horizontal Agricultural Questions” and the role of the Presidency Discussion on a Commission’s Proposal for a Council’s Regulation “establishing common rules for direct support schemes” on the basis of the “Health Check” reform of the CAP Delivered by: P.D. Pezaros/ S. Koutsomitros	09.00 – 15.00
Debriefing and evaluation of the seminar Delivered by: P.D. Pezaros/ S. Koutsomitros	15.00 -15.30
End of seminar	15.30

Seminar Team

- Mr. Pavlos D. Pezaros (GR), President of the G.B. of EKDDA, Member of the Council of the Agricultural University of Athens
- Mr. Paul CULLEY, Director, General Political Questions, Cabinet of the Secretary General, EU Council of Ministers
- Ms. Eugenia Dimitriou, Legal Counsellor, GSC
- Ms. Catherine Tyliakos, Administrator, GSC
- Mr. Jerome Guichard, Administrator, GSC
- Mr. Juan Pallares, Head of Unit, GSC
- Mr. Christoph Saile, Head of Unit, GSC
- Mr. Nikos Lyrakidis (CY), Counselor in the Cyprus Permanent Representation at EU, Brussels
- Mr. Sotiris Koutsomitros (GR), Agronomist-Engineer, Expert of the Ministry of Rural Development & Food, National Delegate in the Direct Payments Committee EC.
- Mr. Charalambos Moulkiotis (GR), Agronomist-Oenologist, Expert of the Ministry of Rural Development & Food, National Delegate in EU relevant WPs.