



HELLENIC REPUBLIC
MINISTRY OF ADMINISTRATIVE REFORM
& E-GOVERNANCE



1st Target Group

Preparatory 3rd Seminar

“Chairing Council Working Parties”

Hellenic Presidency of the Council of the EU 2014

**Athens (GR) Part I: (11-12/06/2013), Presentations of
General Secretariat of the Council of the EU (GSC)**

Part II: (13/06/2013), 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 second seminar will take place on 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

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Draft programme

DAY ONE (3rd Seminar): Tuesday, 11 June 2013

Topic	Time-Schedule
Brief introduction Delivered by: Mr. P.D. Pezaros / Mrs. F. Komseli	08.30 – 09.00
EU Institutions: policy formation and implementation Delivered by: P.D. Pezaros	09.00 – 10.00
Short Break	10.00 – 10.10
The role of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers Delivered by: Mr. Andreas Lernhart, Head of Unit (Gen. Secretariat of the Council)	10.10 – 11.30
Coffee break	11.30 – 11.50
The role of the Council Secretariat Delivered by: Mr. Andreas Lernhart, GSC	11.50 – 13.20
Short Break	13.20 – 13.30
Rules of procedure of the Council Delivered by: Mr. Matthieu Chavier, Legal Counselor, GSC	13.30 – 14.40
Relations with the European Parliament (except Co-decision) Delivered by: Mr. Klaus Schwab, GSC	14.40 – 15.40

DAY TWO (3rd Seminar): Wednesday, 12 June

Topic	Time-Schedule
Co-decision (including practical aspects in relation to trilogies with EP) Delivered by: Ms. Simone O'Sullivan, Administrator, GSC	09.00 – 10.30
Short Break	10.30 – 10.40
Translation and production of documents Delivered by: Mr. Dan Marasescu, Administrator, GSC	10.40 – 11.40
Coffee break	11.40 – 12.00
DQL (Lawyer – linguistics) Delivered by: Ms. Anna Kalbe, Head of Unit, GSC	12.00 – 13.00
Short Break	13.00 – 13.10
Views from a former chair of a Council Working Party Delivered by: Ms. Leoni Theodoridou, ex- chairman of the Cypriot Presidency, Counselor in the Permanent Representation of Cyprus in the EU	13.10 – 14.30
Introduction to the simulation exercise Delivered by: P.D. Pezaros / S. Koutsomitros / Ch. Moulkiotis	14.30 – 15.30

DAY THREE (3rd seminar): Thursday, 13 June

Topic	Time-Schedule
Simulation exercise in a meeting of the Council Working Party on “Horizontal Agricultural Questions” and the role of the Presidency	09.00 – 10.00
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: S. Koutsomitros / Ch. Moulkiotis	10.00 – 15.00 (Coffee Break in between 11.30 – 11.50)
Debriefing and evaluation of the seminar Delivered by: S. Koutsomitros / Ch. Moulkiotis	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. Andreas LERNHART, Head of Unit, General Secretariat of the Council of EU
- Mr. Matthieu CHAVRIER, Legal Counselor, GSC
- Mr. Klaus SCHWAB, Head of Unit, GSC
- Ms. Simone O’SALLIVAN, Administrator, GSC
- Mr. Dan MARASESCU, Administrator, GSC
- Ms. Anna KALBE, HEAD OF Unit, GSC
- Ms. Leoni THEODORIDOU (CY), ex-chairman of WP, 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.