



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



10995/04 (Presse 214)

PRESS RELEASE

2595th Council meeting

HEADS OF STATE OR GOVERNMENT

Brussels, 29 June 2004

President **Mr Bertie AHERN, T.D.**
Prime Minister of Ireland

P R E S S

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10995/04 (Presse 214)

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Main Results of the Council

The Council, meeting at the level of Heads of State or Government, nominated **José Manuel Durão Barroso** as President designate of the Commission and appointed **Javier Solana** as Secretary-General of the Council and High Representative for CFSP and **Pierre de Boissieu** as Deputy Secretary-General. All three appointments are for five years.

Mr Barroso's nomination will be forwarded to the European Parliament for approval, with a view to formal appointment of the new Commission as from 1 November.

Heads of State or Government also decided that Mr Solana would be appointed as EU Minister for Foreign Affairs on the day of entry into force of the Constitution.

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OTHER ITEMS APPROVED

none

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- Where declarations, conclusions or resolutions have been formally adopted by the Council, this is indicated in the heading for the item concerned and the text is placed between quotation marks.
- The documents whose references are given in the text are available on the Council's Internet site <http://ue.eu.int>.
- Acts adopted with statements for the Council minutes which may be released to the public are indicated by an asterisk; these statements are available on the abovementioned Council Internet site or may be obtained from the Press Office.

PARTICIPANTS

The Governments of the Member States and the European Commission were represented as follows:

<u>Belgium:</u> Mr Guy VERHOFSTADT	Prime Minister
<u>Czech Republic:</u> Mr Vladimír ŠPIDLA	Prime Minister
<u>Denmark:</u> Mr Anders Fogh RASMUSSEN	Prime Minister
<u>Germany:</u> Mr Gerhard SCHRÖDER	Federal Chancellor
<u>Estonia:</u> Mr Juhan PARTS	Prime Minister
<u>Greece:</u> Mr Konstatinos KARAMANLIS	Prime Minister
<u>Spain:</u> Mr José Luis RODRÍGUEZ ZAPATERO	Prime Minister
<u>France:</u> Mr Jacques CHIRAC	President of the Republic
<u>Ireland:</u> Mr Bertie AHERN, T.D.	The Taoiseach
<u>Italy:</u> Mr Silvio BERLUSCONI	Prime Minister
<u>Cyprus:</u> Mr Tassos PAPADOPOULOS	President of the Republic
<u>Latvia:</u> Mr Indulis EMSIS	Prime Minister
<u>Lithuania:</u> Mr Algirdas Mykolas BRAZAUSKAS	Prime Minister
<u>Luxembourg:</u> Mr Jean-Claude JUNCKER	Prime Minister, Ministre d'Etat, Minister for Finance
<u>Hungary:</u> Mr Péter MEDGYESSY	Prime Minister
<u>Malta:</u> Hon. Lawrence GONZI, M.P.	Prime Minister
<u>Netherlands:</u> Mr Jan Peter BALKENENDE	Prime Minister
<u>Austria:</u> Mr Wolfgang SCHÜSSEL	Federal Chancellor
<u>Poland:</u> Mr Marek BELKA	Prime Minister
<u>Portugal:</u> Mr José Manuel DURÃO BARROSO	Prime Minister
<u>Slovenia:</u> Mr Anton ROP	Prime Minister

Slovakia:

Mr Mikuláš DZURINDA

Prime Minister

Finland:

Mr Matti VANHANEN

Prime Minister

Sweden:

Ms Laila FREIVALDS

Minister for Foreign Affairs

United Kingdom:

The Rt Hon Tony BLAIR

Prime Minister

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Commission:

Mr Romano PRODI

President

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ITEMS DEBATED**APPOINTMENTS*****– President designate of the Commission***

The Council adopted a Decision nominating Mr José Manuel Durão Barroso as the person it intends to appoint as President of the Commission for the period from 1 November 2004 to 31 October 2009 (10808/04). The Decision will be forwarded to the European Parliament for approval.

In accordance with the provisions of the Treaty, the Council will nominate, by common accord with Mr Barroso, the 24 other persons they intend to appoint as Members of the Commission for the same period. The President and the other Members of the Commission thus nominated shall be subject as a body to a vote of approval by the European Parliament. After approval by the European Parliament, the President and the other Members of the Commission shall be appointed by the Council, acting by a qualified majority.

– Secretary-General of the Council, High Representative for CFSP

The Council adopted a Decision appointing Mr Javier Solana Madariaga as Secretary-General of the Council, High Representative for Common Foreign and Security Policy, for a further period of five years with effect from 18 October (10946/04).

– Deputy Secretary-General of the Council

The Council adopted a Decision appointing Mr Pierre de Boissieu as Deputy Secretary-General of the Council for a further period of five years with effect from 18 October (10947/04).

– *Appointment of future EU Foreign Minister - Declaration*

In the margins of the meeting, the Heads of State or Government adopted the following Declaration:

"Declaration by the Heads of State or Government on the transition towards the appointment of the future Minister for Foreign Affairs of the European Union"

1. The Council, meeting at the level of Heads of State or Government, has appointed today Mr Javier Solana Madariaga as Secretary-General of the Council, High Representative for the common foreign and security policy as from 18 October 2004¹. The Heads of State or Government have also decided, in agreement with the President designate of the Commission, that Mr Javier Solana Madariaga will be appointed Union Minister for Foreign Affairs on the day of entry into force of the Constitution.
2. The Heads of State or Government underline the commitment of Member States to work in support of the Secretary-General of the Council, High Representative for the common foreign and security policy during the transition to the establishment of the function of Union Minister for Foreign Affairs. The Heads of State or Government invite the President of the Commission and the Secretary-General of the Council, High Representative for the common foreign and security policy to organise the working relations between them in a way that will ensure a smooth and efficient transition and to take necessary measures to that end."

¹ The Council, at the level of Heads of State or Government, has also appointed, as from the same date, Mr. Pierre de Boissieu as Deputy Secretary-General of the Council, who will be appointed Secretary-General of the Council on the day of entry into force of the Constitution, for the remainder of his previous term of office.

OTHER ITEMS APPROVED

None
