



**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

Brussels, 10 May 2012

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**PE 203
COSDP 396
PESC 591**

NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
to: Delegations
Subject: Summary record of the meeting of the **European Parliament Subcommittee on Security and Defence (SEDE)**, Brussels, 8 May 2012

The meeting was chaired by Ms Nicolai (ALDE, RO).

I. European Parliament Resolution on the negotiations on the UN Arms Trade Treaty (ATT) (AFET/7/09388)

- Rapporteur: Anneli Jäätteenmäki (ALDE)
- Consideration of draft motion for a resolution

In her introductory statement, the rapporteur recalled the EU's particular interest in the subject as regards its industrial aspects (growing job-creating sector). She said that a better regulated and transparent ATT was in the EU's interest, though she recognised that reaching an agreement on the ATT would not be an easy task. She expressed the view that the most difficult tasks would be the implementation of the ATT and access to information. She also advocated the establishment of national authorities to monitor the correct implementation of the ATT and an international arms transfer register.

The EEAS representative welcomed the Parliament's interest and its draft resolution and said that the EU's priority was a robust and stronger ATT. He expected considerably different positions on the negotiation process, for which the EU would only have observer status. He drew attention to the various EU initiatives related to the negotiations (special working group, regional seminars) and further added that the EU's aim was to guarantee consistency between the ATT and the EU rules. He outlined some particular issues to be dealt with by the future ATT, such as the activities to be monitored, parameters/criteria, scope, etc.

An invitee from the organisation Safer World said that its organisation was campaigning for a bullet-proof ATT and raised some concerns regarding the EU/High Representative negotiating positions, which seemed to be flexible depending on the different issues.

Only two Members took the floor to express their views: Mr Gahler (EPP, DE) had reservations on the draft resolution and said that a realistic approach should be taken, meaning that the Parliament should accept that the negotiations were Member States' business but that the Parliament had to be kept permanently informed on the negotiations. On the transparency issue, he was of the view that the rules had to be properly applied and their application monitored, though full transparency was neither appropriate nor desired. Ms Cronberg (Greens/EFA, FI) pointed out that many UN members did not have a regulated framework. She stressed that the EU should have a consistent voice and should be guided by strategic aim. She added that the criteria would be an essential issue and had to be precise and comprehensive. She also considered that the issue of corruption should be addressed.

Provisional timetable:

Deadline for tabling amendments: 14 May

Vote in AFET committee: 31 May

II. Date and venue of the next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for 29 May 2012 (a.m. and p.m.) in Brussels.