



EUROPEAN COMMISSION

SECRETARIAT-GENERAL

PV(2018) 2244 final

- English language version of the French text which is authentic -

Brussels, 7 March 2018

TEXTE EN

MINUTES

of the 2244th meeting of the Commission

held in Brussels

(Berlaymont)

on Wednesday 21 February 2018

(morning)

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Single sitting: Wednesday 21 February 2018 (morning)

The sitting opened at 9.35 with Mr JUNCKER, President, in the chair.

Present:

Mr JUNCKER	President
Mr TIMMERMANS	First Vice-President
Ms MOGHERINI	High Representative / Vice-President
Mr ANSIP	Vice-President
Mr ŠEFČOVIČ	Vice-President
Mr DOMBROVSKIS	Vice-President
Mr KATAINEN	Vice-President
Mr OETTINGER	Member
Mr HAHN	Member
Ms MALMSTRÖM	Member
Mr MIMICA	Member
Mr ARIAS CAÑETE	Member
Mr VELLA	Member
Mr ANDRIUKAITIS	Member
Mr AVRAMOPOULOS	Member
Ms THYSSEN	Member
Mr MOSCOVICI	Member
Mr STYLIANIDES	Member
Mr HOGAN	Member
Ms BULC	Member
Ms BIENKOWSKA	Member
Ms JOUROVÁ	Member
Mr NAVRACSICS	Member
Ms CREȚU	Member
Ms VESTAGER	Member
Mr MOEDAS	Member
Sir Julian KING	Member
Ms GABRIEL	Member

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The following sat in:

Ms MARTÍNEZ ALBEROLA	Deputy Chef de cabinet to the PRESIDENT	
Mr ROMERO REQUENA	Director-General, Legal Service	
Mr PESONEN	Director-General, DG Communication	
Mr SCHINAS	Head of the Spokesperson's Service and Chief Spokesperson of the Commission	
Ms METTLER	Head of the European Political Strategy Centre	
Mr SZOSTAK	Adviser in the PRESIDENT's Office	
Ms ARKI	PRESIDENT's Office	
Mr HAGER	Chef de cabinet to Mr OETTINGER	Item 10
Ms SOUKA	Director-General, DG Human Resources and Security	Items 1 to 10
Mr POST	Director in DG Human Resources and Security	Items 1 to 10
Ms ANDREEVA	Commission Spokesperson's Service	

Mr ITALIANER, Secretary-General, assisted by Mr AYET PUIGARNAU, Director in the Secretariat-General.

1. AGENDAS

(OJ(2018) 2244/FINAL; SEC(2018) 2244/FINAL)

The Commission took note of that day's agenda and of the tentative agendas for forthcoming meetings.

It also noted:

- the addition to the agenda of that day's meeting of item 10 on administrative decisions;
- the fact that the preparation of (i) the informal meeting of European leaders on institutional issues and the multi-annual financial framework after 2020 and (ii) the international high-level conference on the Sahel would be dealt with at the working lunch starting at 13.00.

2. WEEKLY MEETING OF CHEFS DE CABINET

(RCC(2018) 2244)

The Commission considered the Secretary-General's report on the weekly meeting of Chefs de cabinet held on Monday 19 February.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE 2238TH, 2239TH, 2240TH, 2241ST, 2242ND AND 2243RD MEETINGS OF THE COMMISSION (10, 16, 24 AND 31 JANUARY, AND 6 AND 14 FEBRUARY 2018)
(PV(2018) 2238; PV(2018) 2238, 2ND PART)

The Commission approved the minutes of its 2238th meeting and decided to hold over approval of the minutes of its 2239th, 2240th, 2241st, 2242nd and 2243rd meetings until a later meeting.

4. INTERINSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS

(RCC(2018) 22)

The Commission took note of the record of the meeting of the Interinstitutional Relations Group (IRG) held on Friday 16 February (RCC(2018) 22).

It paid particular attention to the following points.

4.1. LEGISLATIVE MATTERS

i) Trilogues

(point 3.1 of the IRG record)

- Circular Economy package – Amendment of Directive 2000/53/EC on end-of-life vehicles, Directive 2006/66/EC on batteries and accumulators and waste batteries and accumulators, and Directive 2006/19/EU on waste electrical and electronic equipment (Directive) – 2015/0272 (COD) / Amendment of Directive 1999/31/EC on the landfill of waste (Directive) – 2015/0274 (COD) / Amendment of Directive 2008/98/EC on waste (Directive) – 2015/0275 (COD) / Amendment of Directive 94/62/EC on packaging and packaging waste (Directive) – 2015/0276 (COD) – BONAFÈ reports

The Commission approved the line set out in SI(2018) 59.

- Countering money laundering by criminal law (Directive) – CORRAO report – 2016/0414 (COD)

The Commission approved the line set out in SI(2018) 60 and /2.

- Veterinary medicinal products (Regulation) – GROSSETÊTE report – 2014/0257 (COD)

The Commission approved the line set out in SI(2018) 63/2.

- Monitoring and reporting of CO2 emissions from and fuel consumption of new heavy-duty vehicles (Regulation) – ZOFFOLI report – 2017/0111 (COD)

The Commission approved the line set out in SI(2018) 64.

ii) Council dossiers

(point 3.3 of the IRG record)

- Multi-annual plan for demersal stocks in the North Sea and the fisheries exploiting those stocks and repealing Council Regulation (EC) 676/2007 and Council Regulation (EC) 1342/2008 (Regulation) – RODUST report – 2016/0238 (COD)

The Commission approved the line set out in SI(2018) 48/2.

- Amendment of Regulation (EU, Euratom) 1141/2014 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 22 October 2014 on the statute and funding of European political parties and European political foundations (Regulation) – WIELAND / BRESSO report – 2017/0219 (COD)

The Commission approved the line set out in SI(2018) 69.

4.2. RELATIONS WITH THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL AND THE COUNCIL

iii) Programming of Council business

(SI(2018) 73)

The Commission took note of the information in SI(2018) 73 on the Council meetings between 22 February and 7 March.

iv) Non-legislative dossiers

(point 4.1 of the IRG record)

- High-level International Conference on the Sahel (Brussels, 23 February 2018)

The Commission approved the line set out in SI(2018) 58/2.

- Global compacts on Migration and Refugees – Draft Council Conclusions

The Commission took note of the information in SI(2018) 70/2 and /3.

4.3. RELATIONS WITH PARLIAMENT

v) Non-legislative dossier

(point 5.1 of the IRG record)

- Amendment of Commission Implementing Regulation (EU) 2015/2403 of 15 December 2015 establishing common guidelines on deactivation standards and techniques for ensuring that deactivated firearms are rendered irreversibly inoperable (Deactivation Regulation) – Preparation of a scrutiny session meeting with the Committee on the Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO) (Brussels, 21 February 2018)

The Commission approved the line set out in SP(2018) 96.

vi) Action taken on the non-legislative resolutions adopted by Parliament at its December part-session

(point 5.6.2 of the IRG record)

The Commission approved, for transmission to Parliament, documents SP(2018) 101 and /2 on the action taken on the non-legislative resolutions adopted by Parliament at its December 2017 part-session.

vii) Participation by Members of Parliament in international conferences

(point 5.7 of the IRG record)

- 22nd session of the Indian Ocean Tuna Commission (IOTC) (Bangkok, 21-25 May 2018)

The Commission agreed to the request to the PRESIDENT from Mr Antonio TAJANI, the President of the European Parliament, concerning the attendance of three Members of Parliament at the above-mentioned meeting, from 23 to 25 May, as observers in the EU delegation, with a reminder about the procedure to be followed as set out in SP(2018) 99.

4.4. RELATIONS WITH NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS, THE OTHER INSTITUTIONS AND BODIES, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMITTEE AND THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS

viii) Follow-up to opinions of the European Economic and Social Committee – Plenary session of May 2017

(point 6.3.1 of the IRG record)

The Commission approved document SC(2018) 6/2 on the follow-up by the Commission to the opinions adopted by the European Economic and Social Committee during the May 2017 session, for transmission to that Committee.

ix) Follow-up to opinions of the European Economic and Social Committee – Plenary session of July 2017

(point 6.3.2 of the IRG record)

The Commission approved document SC(2018) 7/2 on the follow-up by the Commission to the opinions adopted by the European Economic and Social Committee during the July 2017 session, for transmission to that Committee.

4.5. OTHER BUSINESS

x) Withdrawal of written procedures under preparation on two Commission implementing decisions updating the references in Council Directive 2003/96/EC to the codes of the Combined Nomenclature for certain products and amending Annex II to Regulation (EC) 684/2009 implementing Council Directive

2008/118/EC as regards the computerised procedures for the movement of excise goods under suspension of excise duty

The Commission approved the line set out in SI(2018) 65.

- xi) Regulation (EU) 2017/1601 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 26 September 2017 establishing the European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD), the EFSD Guarantee and the EFSD Guarantee Fund – State of play in the implementation of the External Investment Plan (EIP) – Results stemming from the first invitation to submit Proposed Investment Programmes under the European Fund for Sustainable Development (EFSD) Guarantee and next steps**

The Commission took note of the information in SI(2018) 68.

5. MONITORING THE APPLICATION OF EUROPEAN UNION LAW

***INFRINGEMENTS – URGENT INDIVIDUAL CASES
(SEC(2018) 117)***

The Commission adopted the decisions in SEC(2018) 117.

6. WRITTEN PROCEDURES, EMPOWERMENT AND DELEGATION OF POWERS

***6.1. WRITTEN PROCEDURES APPROVED
(SEC(2018) 104 ET SEQ.)***

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted between 12 and 16 February.

6.2. EMPOWERMENT

(SEC(2018) 105 ET SEQ)

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted between 12 and 16 February.

6.3. DELEGATION / SUBDELEGATION OF POWERS

(SEC(2018) 106 ET SEQ.)

The Commission took note of the Secretariat-General's memoranda recording decisions adopted under the delegation and subdelegation procedure between 12 and 16 February, as archived in *Décide*.

6.4. SENSITIVE WRITTEN PROCEDURES

(SEC(2018) 107)

The Commission took note of the sensitive written procedures for which the time limit expired between 19 and 23 February.

**7. COMMISSION DECISION ON A PROCEEDING UNDER ARTICLE 101 OF THE TREATY ON THE FUNCTIONING OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ARTICLE 53 OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA (CASE AT.39920 – BRAKING SYSTEMS)
(C(2018) 925 TO /6; RCC(2018) 23)**

The Commission:

- took note of the opinion of the Advisory Committee on Restrictive Practices and Dominant Positions of 19 February 2018 in C(2018) 925/5;
- took note of the final report of the Hearing Officer of 20 February 2018 in C(2018) 925/4;

- adopted in the authentic language (English) the decision in C(2018) 925/6 finding that the companies to which the decision was addressed had infringed Article 101 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and Article 53 of the Agreement on the European Economic Area, requiring the parties to put an end to the infringements immediately and imposing on some of these companies fines totalling €75 426 000;
- decided that the decision in C(2018) 925/6 would be notified to the companies concerned, together with the final report of the Hearing Officer;
- decided that the key parts of the decision, together with the Advisory Committee’s opinion and the Hearing Officer’s final report, would be published in the official languages of the Union in the Official Journal of the European Union (with business secrets and other confidential information removed);
- decided to make the decision (with business secrets and other confidential information removed) available on the internet.

8. COMMISSION DECISION ON A PROCEEDING UNDER ARTICLE 101 OF THE TREATY ON THE FUNCTIONING OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ARTICLE 53 OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA (CASE AT.40113 – SPARK PLUGS)
(C(2018) 929 TO /6; RCC(2018) 23)

The Commission:

- took note of the opinion of the Advisory Committee on Restrictive Practices and Dominant Positions of 19 February 2018 in C(2018) 929/5;
- took note of the final report of the Hearing Officer of 19 February 2018 in C(2018) 929/4;

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- adopted in the authentic language (English) the decision in C(2018) 929/6 finding that the companies to which the decision was addressed had infringed Article 101 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and Article 53 of the Agreement on the European Economic Area, requiring the parties to put an end to the infringements immediately and imposing on some of these companies fines totalling €76 099 000;
- decided that the decision in C(2018) 929/6 would be notified to the companies concerned, together with the final report of the Hearing Officer;
- decided that the key parts of the decision, together with the Advisory Committee’s opinion and the Hearing Officer’s final report, would be published in the official languages of the Union in the Official Journal of the European Union (with business secrets and other confidential information removed);
- decided to make the decision (with business secrets and other confidential information removed) available on the internet.

9. COMMISSION DECISION ON A PROCEEDING UNDER ARTICLE 101 OF THE TREATY ON THE FUNCTIONING OF THE EUROPEAN UNION AND ARTICLE 53 OF THE AGREEMENT ON THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC AREA (CASE AT.40009 – MARITIME CAR CARRIERS)
(C(2018) 983 TO /11; RCC(2018) 23)

The Commission:

- took note of the opinion of the Advisory Committee on Restrictive Practices and Dominant Positions of 19 February 2018 in C(2018) 983/5;
- took note of the final report of the Hearing Officer of 19 February 2018 in C(2018) 983/4;

- adopted in the authentic language (English) the decision in C(2018) 983/6 finding that the companies to which the decision was addressed had infringed Article 101 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union and Article 53 of the Agreement on the European Economic Area, requiring the parties to put an end to the infringements immediately and imposing on some of these companies fines totalling €395 288 000;
- adopted the annexes to the decision set out in C(2018) 983/7 to /11 in the authentic language (English);
- decide to notify to each of the companies to which the decision was addressed, on the one hand the decision set out in C(2018) 983/6, and on the other, only the annex referring to the company in question from the annexes in C(2018) 983/7 to /11;
- decided also to notify the Hearing Officer’s final report to each of the companies to which the decision was addressed;
- decided that the key parts of the decision, together with the Advisory Committee’s opinion and the Hearing Officer’s final report, would be published in the official languages of the Union in the Official Journal of the European Union (with business secrets and other confidential information removed);
- decided to make the decision (with business secrets and other confidential information removed) available on the internet.

10. ADMINISTRATIVE AND BUDGETARY MATTERS

ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS

(PERS(2018) 15 AND /2)

MOBILITY OF SENIOR MANAGEMENT OFFICIALS

The PRESIDENT invited Mr OETTINGER to present to the College several important proposals for decisions on senior management posts with a view to ensuring both continuity and change, and also with the objective of achieving by the end of the current Commission's term at least 40% of female representation in management posts.

Mr OETTINGER reminded the College that in Spring 2015 the Commission had already adopted a similar set of decisions on appointments to senior management posts. By appointing the best candidates to the right posts, the Commission had given itself the means to obtain tangible results, which was what was also being proposed to the College that day for the period 2018/2019 and beyond.

He explained that the decisions submitted to the College for approval concerned key strategic areas for the current Commission – ranging from climate action to research, and including education, youth, sport and culture, employment, social affairs and inclusion. He added that these decisions would also significantly increase female representation in Director-General and Deputy Director-General posts, rising from 11% in November 2014 to 36% today. He specified that this outcome was the result of the commitment made by the PRESIDENT to achieve the objective of having at least 40% representation by 31 October 2019.

Mr OETTINGER mentioned the main decisions he was proposing to the College, in agreement with the PRESIDENT.

i) Appointment of Advisers Hors Classe and amendments of organisation chart

***10.1. EUROPEAN POLITICAL STRATEGY CENTRE – AMENDMENT OF ORGANISATION CHART AND APPOINTMENT OF THREE AD15/16 TEMPORARY ADVISERS HORS CLASSE
(C(2018) 1164)***

(21 February 2018)

The Commission took note of the PRESIDENT's decision in C(2018) 1164 to amend the organisation chart of the European Political Strategy Centre by creating three new temporary Adviser Hors Classe posts; these posts would be abolished upon the departure of the job-holders.

On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, the Commission decided to transfer in the interest of the service, under Article 7 of the Staff Regulations, three senior management officials:

- Mr Jos DELBEKE, currently Director-General of DG Climate Action, was transferred to the temporary post of Senior Adviser in charge of relations with the Florence European University Institute at the European Political Strategy Centre; this decision would take effect on 16 March 2018;
- Mr Michel SERVOZ, currently Director-General of DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion, was transferred to the temporary post of Senior Adviser in charge of robotics, artificial intelligence and the future of European labour law at the European Political Strategy Centre; this decision would take effect on 16 March 2018;
- Mr Robert-Jan SMITS, currently Director-General of DG Research and Innovation, was transferred to a temporary post of Senior Adviser, with a remit to be determined at a later date, at the European Political Strategy Centre; this decision would take effect on 1 March 2018.

The Commission also decided that, by derogation from the Commission Decision of 26 May 2004 (C(2004) 1891/2), Mr Jos DELBEKE, Mr Michel SERVOZ and Mr Robert-Jan SMITS would retain their right to the management step for a period of 12 months.

10.2. DG ENERGY – AMENDMENT OF ORGANISATION CHART AND APPOINTMENT OF AD15/16 ADVISER HORS CLASSE

On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, the Commission decided:

- to create a temporary post of Adviser Hors Classe in DG Energy; this post would be abolished upon the departure of the job-holder;
- to transfer to that post in the interest of the service, under Article 7 of the Staff Regulations, Mr Christopher JONES, currently Deputy Director-General of that Directorate-General;
- by derogation from the Commission Decision of 26 May 2004 (C(2004) 1891/2), Mr Christopher JONES would retain his right to the management step for a period of 12 months.

These decisions would take effect on 1 April 2018.

ii) Appointment of Director-General Posts

10.3. DG EDUCATION, YOUTH, SPORT AND CULTURE – APPOINTMENT OF AD15/16 DIRECTOR-GENERAL (PERS(2018) 2 TO /4)

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Director-General of DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (PERS(2018) 2 and /2).

It took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 30 January and 7 February 2018 (PERS(2018) 2/3 and /4).

The Commission proceeded to compare the applicants' qualifications for the post. On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, and after consulting Mr NAVRACSICS, and also

Mr ANSIP, Mr DOMBROVSKIS and Mr KATAINEN, the Commission decided to appoint Ms Themis CHRISTOPHIDOU to the post.

This decision would take effect on 1 March 2018.

**10.4. DG EUROSTAT – APPOINTMENT OF AD15/16 DIRECTOR-GENERAL
(PERS(2016) 109 TO /4)**

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii), 29(1)(b) and 29(2) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Director-General of Eurostat (PERS(2016) 109 and /2).

The Commission took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 23 May and 18 October 2017 (PERS(2016) 109/3 and /4).

The Commission proceeded to compare the applicants' qualifications for the post. On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, and after consulting Ms THYSSEN and also Mr DOMBROVSKIS and Mr KATAINEN, the Commission decided to appoint Ms Mariana KOTZEVA to the post.

This decision would take effect on 1 March 2018.

10.5. DG CLIMATE ACTION – APPOINTMENT OF AD15/16 DIRECTOR-GENERAL

On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, and after consulting Mr ARIAS CAÑETE and also Mr ŠEFČOVIČ and Mr KATAINEN, the Commission decided to transfer in the interest of the service, under Article 7 of the Staff Regulations, Mr Mauro PETRICCIONE, currently Deputy Director-General of DG Trade, to the post of Director-General of DG Climate Action.

This decision would take effect on 16 March 2018.

10.6. DG EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND INCLUSION – APPOINTMENT OF AD15/16 DIRECTOR-GENERAL

On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, and after consulting Ms THYSSEN and also Mr DOMBROVSKIS and Mr KATAINEN, the Commission decided to transfer in the interest of the service, under Article 7 of the Staff Regulations, Mr Joost KORTE, currently Deputy Director-General of DG Trade, to the post of Director-General of DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion.

This decision would take effect on 16 March 2018.

10.7. DG RESEARCH AND INNOVATION – APPOINTMENT OF AD15/16 DIRECTOR-GENERAL

On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, and after consulting Mr MOEDAS and also Mr ANSIP, Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, Mr DOMBROVSKIS and Mr KATAINEN, the Commission decided to transfer in the interest of the service, under Article 7 of the Staff Regulations, Mr Jean-Eric PAQUET, currently Deputy Secretary-General in the Secretariat-General, to the post of Director-General of DG Research and Innovation.

This decision would take effect on 1 April 2018.

iii) Appointment of Deputy Directors-General and amendments of organisation chart

10.8. DG INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT – APPOINTMENT OF AD15/16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL (PERS(2017) 116 TO /3)

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Deputy Director-General in charge of Directorates D, E, F and G in DG International Cooperation and Development (PERS(2017) 116).

It took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 17 November 2017 and 19 January 2018 (PERS(2017) 116/2 and /3).

The Commission proceeded to an assessment based on the qualifications required for the post. On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, and after consulting Mr MIMICA and also Ms MOGHERINI, the Commission decided to appoint Mr Koen DOENS to the post.

This decision would take effect on 1 March 2018.

***10.9. DG EMPLOYMENT, SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND INCLUSION –
APPOINTMENT OF AD15/16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL
(PERS(2018) 12 TO /3)***

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Deputy Director-General of DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion (PERS(2018) 12).

It took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 30 January and 8 February 2018 (PERS(2018) 12/2 and /3).

The Commission proceeded to compare the applicants' qualifications for the post. On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, and after consulting Ms THYSSEN and also Mr DOMBROVSKIS and Mr KATAINEN, the Commission decided to appoint Ms Andriana SUKOVA to the post.

This decision would take effect on 1 March 2018.

**10.10. DG RESEARCH AND INNOVATION – APPOINTMENT OF AD15/16
DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL
(PERS(2018) 11 TO /3)**

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Deputy Director-General in charge of Directorates D, E, F, G, H and I in DG Research and Innovation (PERS(2018) 11).

It took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 30 January and 8 February 2018 (PERS(2018) 11/2 and /3).

The Commission proceeded to compare the applicants' qualifications for the post. On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, and after consulting Mr MOEDAS and also Mr ANSIP, Mr ŠEFČOVIČ, Mr DOMBROVSKIS and Mr KATAINEN, the Commission decided to appoint Ms Signe RATSO to the post.

This decision would take effect on 1 March 2018.

**10.11. SECRETARIAT-GENERAL – APPOINTMENT OF AD15/16 DEPUTY
SECRETARY-GENERAL
(PERS(2018) 16 TO /3)**

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Deputy Secretary-General in charge of Directorates B and E in the Secretariat-General (PERS(2018) 16).

The Commission took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 14 and 16 February 2018 (PERS(2018) 16/2 and /3).

The Commission proceeded to an assessment based on the qualifications required for the post. On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, the Commission decided to appoint Mr Martin SELMAYR to the post.

This decision would take effect on 1 March 2018.

**10.12. DG HEALTH AND FOOD SAFETY – APPOINTMENT OF AD15/16
DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL
(PERS(2018) 9 TO /3)**

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Deputy Director-General in charge of Directorates D, E, F and G in DG Health and Food Safety (PERS(2018) 9).

It took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 30 January and 8 February 2018 (PERS(2018) 9/2 and /3).

The Commission proceeded to compare the applicants' qualifications for the post. On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, and after consulting Mr ANDRIUKAITIS and also Mr KATAINEN, the Commission decided to appoint Ms Céline GAUER to the post.

This decision would take effect on 16 March 2018.

**10.13. DG EDUCATION, YOUTH, SPORT AND CULTURE –
APPOINTMENT OF AD15/16 DEPUTY DIRECTOR-GENERAL
(PERS(2018) 10 TO /3)**

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Deputy Director-General in charge of Directorates C and D in DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture (PERS(2018) 10).

It took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 30 January and 7 February 2018 (PERS(2018) 10/2 and /3).

The Commission proceeded to compare the applicants' qualifications for

the post. On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, and after consulting Mr NAVRACSICS and also Mr ANSIP, Mr DOMBROVSKIS and Mr KATAINEN, the Commission decided to appoint Ms Viviane HOFFMANN to the post.

This decision would take effect on 1 May 2018.

10.14. DG CLIMATE ACTION – AMENDMENT OF ORGANISATION CHART

On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, and after consulting Mr ARIAS CAÑETE and also Mr ŠEFČOVIČ and Mr KATAINEN, the Commission decided to create a post of Deputy Director-General in DG Climate Action.

This decision would take effect immediately.

iv) Appointments of directors

10.15. DG INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT – APPOINTMENT OF AD14 DIRECTOR (PERS(2017) 127 TO /3)

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii), (1)(b) and (2) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Director of the ‘International Cooperation and Development Policy’ Directorate in DG International Cooperation and Development (PERS(2017) 127).

It took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 10 January and 15 February 2018 (PERS(2017) 127/2 and /3).

The Commission proceeded to compare the applicants’ qualifications for the post. On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the

PRESIDENT, and after consulting Mr MIMICA and also Ms MOGHERINI, the Commission decided to appoint Mr Félix FERNANDEZ-SHAW to the post.

This decision would take effect on 1 April 2018.

**10.16. DG INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT –
APPOINTMENT OF AD14/15 DIRECTOR
(PERS(2017) 115 TO /3)**

The Commission had before it applications under Article 29(1)(a)(i) and (iii) of the Staff Regulations for the post of Director of the ‘People and Peace’ Directorate in DG International Cooperation and Development (PERS(2017) 115).

The Commission took note of the opinions of the Consultative Committee on Appointments of 22 November and 14 December 2017 (PERS(2017) 115/2 and /3).

The Commission proceeded to compare the applicants’ qualifications for the post. It also considered their ability, efficiency and conduct in the service. On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, and after consulting Mr MIMICA and also Ms MOGHERINI, the Commission decided to appoint Ms Henriette GEIGER to the post.

This decision would take effect on 1 April 2018.

v) Appointment of Principal Advisers and amendments of organisation chart

**10.17. SECRETARIAT-GENERAL – APPOINTMENT OF AD14/15
PRINCIPAL ADVISER**

(21 February 2018)

On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, the Commission decided to transfer in the interest of the service, under Article 7 of the Staff Regulations, Ms Pia AHRENKILDE-HANSEN, currently Director of the 'Representations' Directorate in DG Communication, to the post of Principal Adviser in the Secretariat-General.

This decision would take effect on 1 March 2018.

10.18. DG CLIMATE ACTION – AMENDMENT OF ORGANISATION CHART

On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, and after consulting Mr ARIAS CAÑETE and also Mr ŠEFČOVIČ and Mr KATAINEN, the Commission decided to create a post of Principal Adviser in DG Climate Action.

This decision would take effect immediately.

10.19. DG EDUCATION, YOUTH, SPORT AND CULTURE – AMENDMENT OF ORGANISATION CHART

On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, and after consulting Mr NAVRACSICS and also Mr ANSIP, Mr DOMBROVSKIS and Mr KATAINEN, the Commission decided to create a post of Principal Adviser in DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture.

This decision would take effect immediately.

vi) Publication of Deputy Director-General, Director and Principal Advisor posts

The Commission authorised Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, after consulting the Vice-Presidents and Members of the Commission directly concerned, to adopt the vacancy notices for the following posts:

- internal publication of a new post of Deputy Director-General of DG Climate Action;
- internal publication of a post of Deputy Director-General of DG Energy;
- internal, interinstitutional and external publication of the post of Deputy Director-General of Eurostat;
- internal publication of a post of Deputy Secretary-General of the Secretariat-General;
- internal publication of two posts of Deputy Director-General of DG Trade;
- internal publication of the post of Director of the Directorate ‘Single Market for Public Administrations’ in DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs;
- internal publication of a new post of Principal Advisor in DG Climate Action;
- external publication, reserved for Croatian nationals, of a new post of Principal Advisor in DG Education, Youth, Sport and Culture.

The Commission also authorised Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, to decide the date and period of publication of the vacancy notices for these posts. Other vacancy notices for Deputy Director-General posts would also be published on the same terms and conditions.

The Commission also decided to cancel the vacancy notice relating to the external publication, reserved for Croatian nationals, of the post of Director of the ‘Health’

Directorate in DG Research and Innovation.

These decisions would take effect immediately.

The PRESIDENT thanked Mr OETTINGER for his presentation and gave the floor to the Secretary-General of the Commission, Mr Alexander ITALIANER.

Mr ITALIANER announced to the Members of the Commission that, as agreed with the PRESIDENT, he would take retirement on 1 April 2018, after two and a half years as head of the Secretariat-General, and explained that he was prepared to leave the post on 1 March in order to ensure an orderly transition. He was leaving the Commission having completed some thirty-three years' service, during which he had served five Presidents and contributed to the achievement of the Institution's missions and objectives both in major political projects and day-to-day management. He thanked the PRESIDENT for having entrusted him with the role of Secretary-General, in which he had striven to act as an intermediary between the College and the Commission's departments, and the Members of the Commission for their trust and friendship. He was proud to have helped to translate the ten political priorities of the current Commission into concrete achievements and to prepare both the next multiannual financial framework and the initiatives concerning the future of the Union.

The PRESIDENT expressed his sadness at the retirement of Mr ITALIANER, whom he had known for nearly 25 years. He congratulated Mr ITALIANER for his flawless European career and praised his deep commitment to the European project in general and the Commission in particular. He was a credit to Europe and to his home country, the Netherlands. He expressed his gratitude and great respect for Mr ITALIANER, and looked forward to counting him among his special advisors from 1 April.

The PRESIDENT then presented to the College his proposal to appoint his current Head of Cabinet, Mr Martin SELMAYR, a German national who had recently been

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appointed Deputy Secretary-General, to the post of Secretary-General with effect from 1 March 2018, replacing Mr Alexander ITALIANER. He emphasised Mr SELMAYR's personal and professional qualities, the remarkable contribution he had made to him as a candidate and President of the Commission, and the services he had rendered to the Institution.

Finally, the PRESIDENT announced his decision to appoint Ms Clara MARTÍNEZ ALBEROLA, a Spanish national and the current Deputy Head of Cabinet, as Head of Cabinet. He welcomed the fact that she would be the first woman in this role at the Commission. He also announced that she would be assisted by her current diplomatic advisor, Mr Richard SZOSTAK, a dual British-Polish national, who would be appointed Deputy Head of Cabinet.

vii) Secretariat-General – Appointment of Adviser Hors Classe and amendment of organisation chart

10.20. SECRETARIAT-GENERAL – AMENDMENT OF ORGANISATION CHART AND APPOINTMENT OF AD16 ADVISER HORS CLASSE

On a proposal from Mr OETTINGER, in agreement with the PRESIDENT, the Commission decided:

- to create a temporary post of Adviser Hors Classe in the Secretariat-General; this post would be abolished upon the departure of the job-holder;
- to transfer to this post in the interest of the service, under Article 7 of the Staff Regulations, Mr Alexander ITALIANER, currently Secretary-General of the Commission;
- by derogation from the Commission Decision of 26 May 2004 (C(2004) 1891/2), Mr Alexander ITALIANER would retain his right to the management step until his retirement.

This decision would take effect on 1 March 2018.

10.21. SECRETARIAT-GENERAL – REQUEST FOR RETIREMENT OF AN AD16 OFFICIAL

The Commission noted the request for retirement on 1 April 2018 submitted by Mr Alexander ITALIANER, an AD16 official and currently Secretary-General of the Commission, in accordance with Article 52 of the Staff Regulations.

viii) Appointment of Secretary-General

10.22. SECRETARIAT-GENERAL – APPOINTMENT OF AD15/16 SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE COMMISSION

On a proposal from the PRESIDENT, in agreement with Mr OETTINGER, the Commission decided to transfer in the interest of the service, under Article 7 of the Staff Regulations, Mr Martin SELMAYR, deputy Secretary-General responsible for Directorates B and E, to the post of Secretary-General of the Commission.

This decision would take effect on 1 March 2018.

ix) Derogation from the statutory retirement age for officials

The Commission took note of the decisions taken under Article 52 of the Staff Regulations to authorise the following senior management officials to carry on working beyond the statutory retirement age:

- Mr Jean-Luc DEMARTY, Director-General of the Directorate-General for Trade, until 1 April 2019;

- Mr Dominique RISTORI, Director-General of the Directorate-General for Energy, until 1 April 2019;
- Ms Irène SOUKA, Director-General of the Directorate-General for Human Resources and Security, until 1 February 2020.

x) Other business

The Commission's organisation chart currently comprised 99 posts corresponding to directors-general and equivalent positions (40 director-general posts, 56 deputy director-general posts and 3 Adviser Hors Classe posts).

Following the decisions taken that day, the Commission's organisation chart would comprise 104 posts corresponding to directors-general and equivalent positions (40 director-general posts, 57 deputy director-general posts and 7 Adviser Hors Classe posts).

The current Commission was committed to achieving a percentage of at least 40% of women in management posts by the end of its term of office. Following the above-mentioned decisions, the number of women occupying director-general posts rose from 5 at the start of the Commission's term of office to 12, and the number of women in deputy director-general posts from 3 to 19. In senior management, women now accounted for 36% of director-general and deputy director-general posts.

11. OTHER BUSINESS

SITUATION IN LATVIA

At the PRESIDENT's request, Mr DOMBROVSKIS reviewed the situation in Latvia following the suspension of the Governor of the Latvian Central Bank, who was under investigation for corruption.

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The Commission's other discussions on certain agenda items are recorded in the special minutes.

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The meeting closed at 10.19.