

Working Group VII

Working document 70

Working group VII – "External Action"

Subject: The comments by Mr Elmar Brok and Mr John Cushnahan to the revised draft final report of Working Group VII on External Action (WG VII – WD 21 REV 3)

Members of Working Group VII will find hereafter comments by by Mr Elmar Brok, member of the European Parliament, member of the Convention, and Mr John Cushnahan, member of the European Parliament, alternate member of the Convention.

**Comments by Mr. Elmar Brok and Mr John Cushnahan, members of the Convention,
on the preliminary draft final report (WD 021 REV 3) of the Working Group VII on
External Action:**

Part A Recommendations

Para 5

1st indent

-be appointed by the Council, meeting in the composition of Heads of State and Government and acting by a qualified majority, on proposal by the President of the Commission and approval by the European Parliament.

2nd indent

- have a direct mandate from, be accountable to the European Council and answerable to the EP for issues relating to CFSP.

Para 7

1st indent

- the establishment of one joint service(European External Action Service) based on DG Relex, supported by Council secretariat officials and staff seconded from national diplomatic services.

Para 8 b

add at the end:

flexibility, such as constructive abstention and enhanced co-operation

Para 8c

Insert a new paragraph with the following precision

The Group recommended an enhanced role of the EP in the field of commercial and trade policy.

Para 10

add at the end the following precision:

be complemented to oblige the person holding the function of European External Representative to be answerable in writing to the EP for the whole range of his responsibilities.

insert the following new paragraph 2

Some members considered that Art. 21 TEU could provide for EP consultation on all CFSP instruments, including not only common positions and joint actions but also common strategies and main guidelines.

insert the following new paragraph 3

Some members recommended that assent by the EP should be required for any international agreement concluded by the EU, at least for those establishing a specific institutional framework or having legislative or budgetary implications. For the remaining agreements at least consultation of the EP should be required.
