

CONV 122/02

WG V 03

NOTE

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| from : | Secretariat |
| to : | Working Group V on Complementary Competencies |
| Subject : | Note summarising the meeting on 17 June 2002 |

1. Timetable and working methods

- The timetable for the Working Group's meetings will be:

9 July

17 July

6 September

7 October

30 October

All meetings will start at 11.00 and will run until 18.00 with a break of an hour and a half.

- As the availability of the Institutions' interpreting services is limited, only interpreting into French and English can be ensured. The possibility of providing interpreting into other languages could be considered if it becomes clear that there is a real need.

The Chairman has noted the request of one member of the Working Group that interpreting be available into German as a matter of course.

- Only the Working Group's agendas, summary notes and final report will be translated into all the languages and published on the website. Other documents will be circulated in English and French. Contributions by Working Group members will be circulated in their original languages. Members may provide translations of their contributions.
- Hearings of experts may be envisaged. They may not involve additional expense for the Convention. The programme for hearings could be adopted later, probably at the last meeting in July. The Chairman invited members of the Working Group to submit proposals regarding hearings.

2. Work programme and introductory discussion: How to define complementary competencies?

Many members of the Convention have pointed to the over-restrictive nature of the Working Group's mandate.

Following discussion in the Working Group, it was decided to incorporate the work programme proposed in CONV 75/02, as set out in the Annex.

The Secretariat will circulate a list of documents on the subject of competencies to members.

The Secretariat will prepare a descriptive document for the next meeting on the definition of complementary competencies in the Treaty. The analysis will also focus on the perspective of the intensity of the Union's action in the areas covered by complementary competencies, on the instruments used to put them into effect and on the limitations which characterise the exercise of such competencies.

WORK PROGRAMME (CONV 75/02)

A work programme in five steps could be envisaged:

- 1. Definition of the concept of "complementary competence", in a wider context (categorisation of competencies), with the aim of establishing a list of principles enabling the areas covered by these competencies to be identified, on the basis of a document to be presented to the working group at its next meeting.*
- 2. Analysis of what the European Union "actually does" in the field of complementary competencies (and use of article 308 in relation to complementary competencies): a review of the type of legislative activity in these areas and of the character and extent of other actions/measures of the EU could be prepared by the Secretariat.*
- 3. Analysis of instruments used to put complementary competencies into effect and of the limitations circumscribing their exercise.*
- 4. Analysis of points of potential conflict ("interference") between the competencies of the EU and those of the Member States; one or two hearings with national and Commission experts could be envisaged.*
- 5. Conclusions and avenues to be explored, in particular with reference to the questions resulting from the mandate of the Working Party.*

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