

Quality of petrol and diesel fuels

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Following the delegation meeting held on 17 June, Mr COLLINS, chairman of the Committee on the Environment, and the two rapporteurs attended a further trialogue meeting held the next day (18 June) in Strasbourg. On the basis of the stage reached in the work, and with the agreement of the President of Parliament and the delegation chairman, Mrs FONTAINE, the Conciliation Committee was convened for 29 June, the penultimate day of the British Presidency. The Committee concluded its proceedings after a meeting lasting 4 hours, reaching agreement on all the outstanding points. The key feature of the agreement is that the Council delegation agreed to make the limit values for 2005 compulsory in the two directives; in exchange, Parliament's delegation agreed to the figures which the Council proposed for the limit values in its common position (with the exception of Amendment 27 to the 'fuels' directive, accepted unchanged by the Council). As regards commitology, the Council withdrew its proposal for a type-IIIb committee in favour of a type-IIIa committee, thereby enabling Parliament to maintain its opposition to the principle of type-IIIb regulatory committees.