Basic information

2009/2694(RSP) RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects	Procedure completed
Programme of activities of the Belgian Presidency See also 2010/2694(RSP) **Subject** 8.40.02 Council of the Union **Geographical area** Belgium	

Key players

Council of the European Union

Council configuration	Meetings	Date
General Affairs	3028	2010-07-26
Economic and Financial Affairs ECOFIN	3027	2010-07-13
Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs	3019	2010-06-07
Competitiveness (Internal Market, Industry, Research and Space)	3016	2010-05-25
Transport, Telecommunications and Energy	3024	2010-06-24
Transport, Telecommunications and Energy	3017	2010-05-31
Agriculture and Fisheries	3026	2010-07-12
Environment	3021	2010-06-11
Education, Youth, Culture and Sport	3013	2010-05-10

European Commission

Commission DG	Commissioner
Secretariat-General	BARROSO José Manuel

Key events

Date	Event	Reference	Summary
10/05/2010	Debate in Council		
25/05/2010	Debate in Council		
31/05/2010	Debate in Council		
07/06/2010	Debate in Council		
11/06/2010	Debate in Council		
24/06/2010	Debate in Council		Summary
07/07/2010	Debate in Parliament		Summary

07/07/2010	End of procedure in Parliament		
12/07/2010	Debate in Council		Summary
13/07/2010	Debate in Council		Summary
26/07/2010	Debate in Council		Summary

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2009/2694(RSP)
Procedure type	RSP - Resolutions on topical subjects
Procedure subtype	Resolution on statement
Amendments and repeals	See also 2010/2694(RSP)
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 136-p2
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed

Programme of activities of the Belgian Presidency

2009/2694(RSP) - 12/07/2010

Ms Sabine LARUELLE and Mr Kris PEETERS gave a brief presentation on the **Belgian Presidency work programme in the agriculture and fisheries sectors** (doc. *11893/10*).

The agricultural policy priorities of the Belgian Presidency will focus mainly on the future of the common agricultural policy (CAP) after 2013 and on the dairy sector.

The **future of the CAP** will be the main point on the agenda for the informal meeting of the agriculture ministers to be held in la Hulpe on 21 September 2010 and will be discussed further at the December Council meeting. This will follow the conference on the results of the public consultation on this matter organised by the Commission on 19 and 20 July.

1) As regards the **dairy sector**, the presidency reminded the ministers that the work of the high level group (HLG) on milk will constitute the basis for an initial discussion at this Council meeting. The discussion on this issue will be taken further during the next Council meeting on 27 September with the aim of reaching a consensus on specific policy points; at the December Council meeting, the Commission will present a package of legislative proposals on this issue.

The Belgian presidency also intends to open a debate on a review of Europe's agricultural product quality policy using a legislative initiative from the Commission on this issue at the end of 2010.

In the **veterinary, plant health and food safety sectors** the emphasis will be on the roadmap on transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSE), financing animal health strategy and the framework for genetically modified organisms (GMO). The presidency stressed the importance of the agricultural aspect of the GMO dossier.

2) The priorities for **fisheries policy** will focus on the reform of the **common fisheries policy (CFP)** for which legislative proposals will be tabled for the first half of 2011. On this issue, a conference will be organised by the Commission on 16 November 2010 and the Belgian presidency intends to highlight improved cooperation between science and fisheries by setting up an international symposium on "*Improved Science and Fisheries Partnership Agreements as Policy Drivers*" on 9 and 10 November 2010. The symposium's findings will be put to ministers at the November Fisheries Council lunch.

Concerning **2011 fishing opportunities**, the total allowable catches (TACs) and quotas for 2011 will take up an important part of the autumn meetings. In addition, the technical measures, which formed part of the annual TAC and quota regulation prior to the Treaty of Lisbon, have been moved to a transitional Regulation valid until 30 June 2011. As it has been decided to revise the technical measures as part of the CFP reform, the intention is to make as few substantive changes as possible and to cooperate with the European Parliament in the framework of the co-decision procedure so that this dossier is well advanced by the time it is handed over to the next Presidency.

The Belgian presidency will also continue the ongoing work on **multiannual management plans**.

Lastly, with regard to **external policy**, several regional fisheries organisations, including the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT), will hold their annual meetings during the Belgian presidency. A new negotiating mandate is needed for the part of the ICCAT meeting dealing with bluefin tuna. This will be discussed at the October Council meeting.

Programme of activities of the Belgian Presidency

2009/2694(RSP) - 26/07/2010

The Council took note of the presentation by the Belgian presidency of its programme of work for the duration of its term of office (July to December 2010). It held an exchange of views.

The Belgian presidency intends to concentrate on the following priorities:

- overcoming the economic and financial crisis and ensuring a return to growth;
- the promotion of social progress and combating poverty and social exclusion;
- international negotiations on climate and the environment;
- justice and home affairs: the EU area of freedom, security and justice;
- the global influence of the EU and the efficiency of its external policies.

Programme of activities of the Belgian Presidency

2009/2694(RSP) - 24/06/2010

The Belgian delegation presented the incoming presidency's work programme in the **transport** sector, with sustainable transport, safety and security in transport, and innovation as overall priorities.

Key topics include:

- the "Eurovignette" proposal (that is, charging for infrastructure costs),
- a data exchange system for road offences,
- the second Single European Sky package,
- safety and security in air traffic,
- the full integration of waterborne transport into the logistics chain.

Programme of activities of the Belgian Presidency

2009/2694(RSP) - 13/07/2010

The Council took note of the presentation by the Belgian Presidency of a work programme on economic and financial affairs for the duration of its term of office, which runs from July to December 2010. Important steps have been taken over the past few months in order to attenuate the impact of the economic and financial crisis, to restore the confidence of investors and consumers, and to enable a return to economic growth. Under the Belgian Presidency, the Council will follow implementation of flagship initiatives launched under the new Europe 2020 strategy for jobs and growth, and examine further measures to revitalise the EU's internal market.

The current context is, however, characterised by difficulties in the financial sector, by low economic growth in Europe and by a deterioration of public finances in many Member States. **Additional measures are therefore needed to ensure financial stability and to consolidate public** finances, and the Belgian Presidency will oversee these.

Regarding **financial sector reforms**, the Council under the Belgian Presidency will strive to ensure the establishment of new supervisory mechanisms by the end of the year. It will further examine legislative initiatives, such as those relating to the regulation of hedge funds and private equity firms, as well as derivatives, the short selling of credit default swaps and deposit guarantee systems.

As concerns the consolidation of public finances, the Council will ensure that, where necessary, plans for fiscal consolidation and structural reforms are speeded up. And it will make sure that the appropriate follow-up is given to the final report, expected in October, of the Task force on economic governance chaired by the President of the European Council, Herman Van Rompuy.

In order to fulfil its programme, the Belgian Presidency will build on the work undertaken in the first half of the year by the Spanish Presidency, in line with the joint programme of the three-Presidency team (Spain, Belgium, and Hungary).