



TITHE AN OIREACHTAIS

AN COMHCHOISTE UM GHNÓTHAÍ AN AONTAIS EORPAIGH

TUARASCÁIL BHLIANTÚIL 2012

HOUSES OF THE OIREACHTAS

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

ANNUAL REPORT 2012

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Joint Committee on European Affairs

Chairman's Foreword



On behalf of the Joint Committee on European Union Affairs I am pleased to present the Annual Report on the work of the Joint Committee for the period January to December 2012. The purpose of the report is to set out the work undertaken by the Joint Committee during this period and the work in progress.

The principal task of the Joint Committee is to consider issues arising from Ireland's membership of the European Union and Ireland's adherence to the EU Treaties. The Committee's work programme was informed by the legislative and work programme of the European Commission and also took into account the priorities of the Presidency of the Council. The work of the Committee is also guided by relevant European Council conclusions which set the strategic direction of the EU. In this context, the Committee's main focus is on strategic and cross sectoral issues, as the scrutiny of EU legislative proposals now falls to the sectoral committees of the Oireachtas under the 'mainstreaming' model.

The Joint Committee met 37 times during 2012. This included regular meetings with the Tánaiste or Minister of State with Special Responsibility for European Affairs in advance of meetings of the General Affairs Council. This regular contact enabled the Joint Committee to carry out effective oversight of the Government's policy approach and to have an input into, and an exchange of views on, topics arising on the agendas of those Council meetings.

In order to monitor the likely implications of the policies and programmes pursued by the Institutions of the European Union for people in their daily lives and for the longer-term future for Ireland and Europe, the Committee also met and engaged with representatives of the EU Institutions, the ambassadors of the EU Presidency 'Trio' countries, Irish MEPs, representatives of government departments and other interested individuals and groups in order to hear their views and perspectives.

The Joint Committee also represented the Oireachtas at meetings of COSAC (Conference of Chairmen of European Affairs Committees of Member States

and the European Parliament) as part of the ongoing exchange of ideas and information on best practice with representatives of other EU national parliaments.

Following the Attorney General's recommendation that the Government hold a referendum on the Intergovernmental Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union, the Joint Committee was of the view there was a need to have an informed and balanced debate on the Treaty. To facilitate this debate, it agreed to establish a Sub-Committee of the Joint Committee which would seek to host an extensive discussion on the Treaty and the referendum's implications for both Ireland and the European Union.

The role of the Sub-Committee was to consider the Treaty, the fiscal stabilisation measures that have preceded it and various other issues relating to Europe's response to the Eurozone Crisis. The Sub-Committee also considered and discussed the European Stability Mechanism (ESM), the reinforced Stability and Growth Pact ("Six Pack" measures), the "Two Pack" measures, and the legal characteristics and implications of the Treaty should it be ratified. The Sub-Committee published its report in May 2012.

The work of the Joint Committee would not be possible without the continued co-operation of a number of key contributors. I would like to acknowledge the essential contribution of the officials in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, the Department of the Taoiseach and other government Departments and thank them for their continued assistance. I would like to acknowledge and thank my colleagues on the Joint Committee and the staff of the secretariat for their continuous hard work and dedication in carrying out the important work of the Committee.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Dominic Hannigan', followed by a horizontal line.

Dominic Hannigan T.D.
Chairman

June 2013

1. Content and Format of Report

This report has been prepared pursuant to Standing Order 86 (3), (4), (5) and (6) (Dáil Éireann) and Standing Order 75 (3), (4), (5) and (6) (Seanad Éireann) which provide for the Joint Committee to-

- undertake a review of its procedure and its role generally;
- prepare an annual work programme;
- lay minutes of its proceedings before both Houses;
- make an annual report to both Houses.

At its meeting on 18 June 2013 the Joint Committee agreed that all these items should be included in this report covering the period from 1 January 2012 to 31 December 2012.

2. Functions

2.1. Establishment and Functions of Select Committee.

The Dáil Select Committee was established by Order of Dáil Éireann of 8 June 2011 to consider such matters arising from;

- Ireland's membership of the European Union, and
- Ireland's adherence to the Treaty on European Union and the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union, as it may select and which are not referred to any other Committee, and
- bills the statute law in respect of which is dealt with by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
- proposals contained in any motion, including any motion within the meaning of Standing Order 164, and
- other matters referred to it by the Dáil.

The Dáil Select Committee under the same Order was enjoined with a Select Committee of Seanad Éireann, established by Order of Seanad Éireann of 16 June 2011, to form the Joint Committee on European Union Affairs. Among the principal functions of the Joint Committee are to consider matters arising from;

- the European Commission's strategic planning documents including the Commission Work Programme,
- cross-sectoral policy developments at European Union level,
- matters listed for consideration on the agenda for meetings of the General Affairs Council of Ministers and the outcome of such meetings,
- regulations under the European Communities Acts 1972 to 2009,
- other instruments made under statute and necessitated by the obligations of membership of the European Union as the Committee ,
- notifications referred by the Dáil under Standing Order 106(1)(a),
- notifications of proposals for the amendment of the Treaties received from the European Council pursuant to Article 48.2 of the Treaty on European Union,
- notifications of applications for membership of the European Union received from the European Council pursuant to Article 49 of the Treaty on European Union,
- other matters referred to it by the Dáil from time to time.

The Joint Committee represents both Houses of the Oireachtas at the Conference of European Affairs Committees (COSAC) and reports thereon to both Houses.

The consolidated Orders of Reference of the Joint Committee on European Affairs are set out at Appendix 1.

2.2 Establishment of Joint sub-Committee on the Referendum on the Intergovernmental Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary union

Standing Order 81(3) (Dáil) and Standing Order 65(3) (Seanad) confer on Committees the power to appoint sub-Committees and to refer to such sub-Committees any matter covered by its orders of reference and to delegate any of its powers to such sub-Committees, including power to report directly to the Dáil and Seanad.

Following the Attorney General's recommendation that the Government hold a referendum on the Intergovernmental Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union, the Joint Committee was of the view there was a need to have an informed and balanced debate on the Treaty. To facilitate this debate, it agreed to establish a Sub-Committee of the Joint Committee which would seek to host an extensive discussion on the Treaty and the referendum's implications for both Ireland and the European Union.

The role of the Sub-Committee was to consider the Treaty, the fiscal stabilisation measures that have preceded it and various other issues relating to Europe's response to the Eurozone Crisis. The Sub-Committee also considered and discussed the European Stability Mechanism (ESM), the reinforced Stability and Growth Pact ("Six Pack" measures), the "Two Pack" measures, and the legal characteristics and implications of the Treaty should it be ratified.

3. Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Convenors and Membership

Joint Committee on European Union Affairs

By order of Dáil Éireann, Deputy Joe Costello was replaced by Deputy Dominic Hannigan, who was elected as Chairman of the Joint Committee on 26 January 2012. Deputy Paschal Donohoe was elected as Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee on the 23 June 2011.

The Chairman of the Joint Committee is also Chairman of the Dáil Select Committee and the various Dáil Select Sub-Committees.

Joint sub-Committee on the Referendum on the Intergovernmental Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union

Deputy Dominic Hannigan was appointed as Chairman of the Joint sub-Committee on the Referendum on the Intergovernmental Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union on 22 March 2012.

Membership of the Committees, including all internal changes within the reported period, is listed at *Appendix 2*.

4. Meetings, Attendance and Recording

Meetings of the Joint Committee, Select Committee and and Joint sub-Committees took place in the Committee rooms in Leinster House 2000. Meetings were in public unless otherwise ordered by the Committee.

Televised coverage of public meetings of the Committee was broadcast live within the Leinster House complex and was available for subsequent public broadcasting by RTE and TV3. It was also webcast making it available worldwide on the internet. Since the pilot launch of the Oireachtas TV channel in November 2011, the proceedings of committees in public session, typically recorded but occasionally live, are now broadcast on UPC channel 801.

An Official Report (Parliamentary Debates) of the public meetings of the Committee may be viewed on the Houses of the Oireachtas website at www.oireachtas.ie.

Copies of other reports published by the Joint Committee are also available on the Oireachtas Committee website pages at www.oireachtas.ie. A list of these reports is set out at paragraph 7.

5. Number and Duration of Meetings

5.1 Joint Committee

The Joint Committee met on 37 occasions during the period under report. The number of hours of discussion involved in these meetings was in excess of 53.

The subject matter of each meeting of the Joint Committee, including the groups, organisations or individuals who attended the meetings, is detailed in

Appendix 3. The Minutes of Proceedings of the Joint Committee in public session are attached at *Appendix 4.*

5.2 Select Committee

The Dáil Select Committee met once during the period under report and the number of hours of discussion involved in these meetings was 1 hour.

The subject matter of each meeting, including the groups, organisations or individuals who attended the meetings of the Select Committee, is detailed in *Appendix 5.* The proceedings (Imeachtaí) of the Select Committee are attached at *Appendix 6.*

5.3 Joint sub-Committee on the Referendum on the Intergovernmental Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union

The Joint sub-Committee on the Referendum on the Intergovernmental Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union met 9 times (in 24 separate sessions) and the number of hours discussion involved in these meetings was 17 hours. The subject matter of the meetings of the Joint sub-Committee, including the groups, organisations or individuals who attended the meetings, is detailed in *Appendix 7.* The Minutes of Proceedings are attached at *Appendix 8.*

6. Witnesses attending before the Committee(s)

During the period, the number of speaking witnesses for each of the Committees was as follows:

| Joint Committee on EU Affairs | NUMBER OF WITNESSES |
|--|----------------------------|
| Joint Committee | 48 |
| Select Committee | 0 |
| Joint sub-Committee on the Referendum on the Intergovernmental Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union | 61 |

7. Committee Reports Published

During the period under report, the Joint Committee published the following report:

- Work Programme 2012
- Report on the Operation of the European Union (Scrutiny) Act 2002

During the period under report, the Joint sub-Committee on the Referendum on the Intergovernmental Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union published the following report:

- The report of the Joint sub-Committee on the Referendum on the Intergovernmental Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union

8. Travel.

The Joint Committee undertook the following travel in accordance with its Orders of Reference in connection with its Work Programme.

1. Purpose of travel: COSAC Chairpersons' Meeting
Date and Destination: 29 – 30 January 2012
Copenhagen, Denmark
Members travelling: Deputies Dominic Hannigan (Chairman) and Paschal Donohoe (Vice-Chair)
Accompanying Official: John Hamilton (Clerk) and Martin Groves (Policy Clerk)
2. Purpose of travel: IPC meeting on the European Semester for Economic Policy Coordination
Date and Destination: 27 – 28 February 2012
European Parliament, Brussels, Belgium
Members travelling: Deputies Dominic Hannigan (Chairman) and Paschal Donohoe (Vice-Chair)
Accompanying Official: John Hamilton (Clerk)
3. Purpose of travel: Familiarisation visit to the EU Institutions
Date and Destination: 5 – 6 March

Brussels, Belgium

Members travelling: Deputy Dominic Hannigan (Chairman)

Accompanying Official: John Hamilton (Clerk)

4. Purpose of travel: COSAC XLVII Plenary Meeting
Date and Destination: 22 – 24 April
Copenhagen, Denmark
Members travelling: Deputies Dominic Hannigan (Chairman), Paschal Donohoe (Vice-Chair), Timmy Dooley and Colm Keaveney, Senators Fidelma Healy Eames and Kathryn Reilly
Accompanying Official: John Hamilton (Clerk)
5. Purpose of travel: 7th Croatia Summit
Date and Destination: 6 – 7 July 2012
Dubrovnik, Croatia
Members travelling: Deputy Timmy Dooley
6. Purpose of travel: COSAC Chairpersons' meeting
Date and Destination: 8 – 9 July 2012
Limassol, Cyprus
Members travelling: Deputy Dominic Hannigan (Chairman)
Accompanying Official: John Hamilton (Clerk) and Conor Gouldsbury (Policy Advisor)
7. Purpose of travel: Parliamentary Exchange and Dialogue
Date and Destination: 10 – 12 July 2012
Istanbul and Edirne, Turkey
Members travelling: Deputy Dominic Hannigan (Chairman)
Accompanying Official: Edwina Love (Committee Secretariat)
8. Purpose of travel: Bled Strategic Forum and Divided States Conference
Date and Destination: 31 August – 2 September 2012
Bled, Slovenia
Members travelling: Deputy Dominic Hannigan (Chairman)

Accompanying Official: John Hamilton (Clerk)

9. Purpose of travel: Western Balkans

Date and Destination: 2 – 7 September 2012

Ljubljana, Slovenia; Zagreb, Croatia; and Sarajevo, Bosnia

Members travelling: Deputies Dominic Hannigan (Chairman), Timmy Dooley, Joe O'Reilly and John Halligan

Accompanying Official: John Hamilton (Clerk)

10. Purpose of travel: Annual Friends of Europe Roundtable on the State of Europe

Date and Destination: 11 October 2012

Brussels, Belgium

Members travelling: Deputy Bernard Durkan

Accompanying Official: John Hamilton (Clerk)

11. Purpose of travel: COSAC XLVIII Plenary Meeting

Date and Destination: 14 – 16 October 2012

Nicosia, Cyprus

Members travelling: Deputies Dominic Hannigan (Chairman), Timmy Dooley and Colm Keaveney, and Senator Fidelma Healy Eames

Accompanying Official: John Hamilton (Clerk) and Conor Gouldsbury (Policy Advisor)

12. Purpose of travel: EC-UK Forum

Date and Destination: 22 October 2012

Stormont, Northern Ireland

Members travelling: Deputy Dominic Hannigan (Chairman)

Accompanying Official: Conor Gouldsbury (Policy Advisor)

13. Purpose of travel: Informal meeting of EU Committee Chairs

Date and Destination: 25 – 26 November

Copenhagen, Denmark

Members travelling: Deputy Dominic Hannigan (Chairman)

Accompanying Official: Conor Gouldsbury (Policy Advisor)

14. Purpose of travel: Europe-US Forum
Date and Destination: 6 – 7 December 2012
Washington DC, USA
Members travelling: Deputy Timmy Dooley
Accompanying Official: Sinead Quinn (Clerk)

9. Annual Report on the Operation of the European Union (Scrutiny) Act 2002

Under its Orders of Reference, the Joint Committee is required to report to both Houses of the Oireachtas on the operation of the Act. As there was a general election during 2011, this report focused on EU scrutiny activities during the last months of the 30th Dáil and the work undertaken by the newly established committees of the 31st Dáil.

The European Union (Scrutiny) Act 2002 underpins the Irish system of EU scrutiny and enables the Oireachtas, on behalf of the Irish people, to scrutinise all draft EU legislative measures. Oireachtas committees assess and report on the implications for Ireland where new EU legislation is being proposed. It is an important function that brings democratic accountability to Government decisions being made on behalf of Irish citizens at EU level.

In the 30th Dáil, EU scrutiny activities were undertaken principally by the Joint Committee on European Scrutiny. However, in the 31st Dáil, the Houses decided to delegate responsibility for scrutiny and detailed consideration of EU documents and related matters to the relevant Oireachtas sectoral committees, a process referred to as “mainstreaming”. The Committee welcomes mainstreaming as a positive development in line with good parliamentary practice. It allows members with specialist knowledge of the relevant sector to apply their knowledge and expertise to scrutiny of EU legislative proposals relating to that sector.

While the level of scrutiny in 2011 was lower than in previous years, this can be attributed to the General Election early in 2011, which meant that the Oireachtas Committees responsible for EU scrutiny were not established until

June 2011. The “bedding-in” of the mainstreaming system was also a contributory factor.

10. Report on Functions and Powers

The Joint Committee is currently satisfied with its present procedures and role.

Dominic Hannigan T.D.

Chairman

18 June 2013

APPENDIX 1: Orders of Reference

- (1) That a Select Committee, which shall be called the Select Committee on European Union Affairs, consisting of nine members of Dáil Éireann, be appointed to consider such matters arising from—
 - (a) Ireland's membership of the European Union, and
 - (b) European Union matters within the remit of the relevant Department or Departments,as it may select and which are not referred to any other Committee.
- (2) Without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1), the Select Committee shall consider such—
 - (a) Bills the statute law in respect of which is dealt with by the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade,
 - (b) proposals contained in any motion, including any motion within the meaning of Standing Order 164, and
 - (c) other matters,as shall be referred to it by the Dáil.
- (3) The Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade (or a member of the Government or Minister of State nominated to act in his or her stead for that purpose) shall be an ex officio member of the Select Committee for the purpose of consideration of the matters outlined at paragraph (2)(a) and (b) and shall be entitled to vote in Select Committee proceedings.
- (4) The Select Committee shall have the powers defined in Standing Order 83(1), (2) and (3).
- (5) The Select Committee shall be joined with a Select Committee appointed by Seanad Éireann, to form the Joint Committee on European Union Affairs, which, without prejudice to the generality of paragraph (1), shall consider—
 - (a) the EU Commission's strategic planning documents including the Commission Work Programme,
 - (b) cross-sectoral policy developments at European Union level,
 - (c) matters listed for consideration on the agenda for meetings of the General Affairs Council of Ministers and the outcome of such meetings,

- (d) such regulations under the European Communities Acts 1972 to 2009 and other instruments made under statute and necessitated by the obligations of membership of the European Union as the Committee may select,
 - (e) notifications referred by the Dáil under Standing Order 106(1)(a),
 - (f) notifications of proposals for the amendment of the Treaties received from the European Council pursuant to Article 48.2 of the Treaty on European Union,
 - (g) notifications of applications for membership of the European Union received from the European Council pursuant to Article 49 of the Treaty on European Union, and
 - (h) such other matters as may be referred to it by the Dáil from time to time.
- (6) The Joint Committee shall report to both Houses of the Oireachtas on the operation of the European Union (Scrutiny) Act 2002.
- (7) The Joint Committee shall have the powers defined in Standing Orders 83 (other than paragraph (2A) thereof), 105, 106(1)(a) and 107.
- (8) The Joint Committee shall have the power to make recommendations to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade (or Minister of State) on European Union matters.
- (9) The following may attend meetings of the Joint Committee and take part in proceedings without having a right to vote or to move motions and amendments:
- (a) Members of the European Parliament elected from constituencies in Ireland, including Northern Ireland,
 - (b) Members of the Irish delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, and
 - (c) at the invitation of the Committee, other Members of the European Parliament.
- (10) The Joint Committee shall represent both Houses of the Oireachtas at the Conference of Community and European Affairs Committees of Parliaments of the European Union (COSAC) and shall report to both Houses of the Oireachtas thereon.

*Orders of the Reference of the Joint sub-Committee on the Referendum on
the Intergovernmental Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance
in the Economic and Monetary Union*

At its meeting of 22 March 2012, the Committee resolved -

- (1) That a sub-Committee of the Joint Committee on European Union Affairs, which shall be called the Sub-Committee on the Referendum on the Intergovernmental Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union, be established:
 - to consider the Intergovernmental Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance, the fiscal stabilisation measures that have preceded the Treaty and various other issues relating to Europe's response to the Eurozone Crisis
 - to host an extensive informed and balanced debate on the Treaty and the referendum's implications for both Ireland and the European Union
- (2) In preparing its report, the Sub-Committee shall have regard to discussions on the Treaty held by the Joint Committee.
- (3) The Sub-Committee shall have the powers defined in Standing Order 83(1), (2) and (4) to (9) inclusive.
- (4) Each member of the Joint Committee shall be a member of the Sub-Committee
- (5) The Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade (or a Minister or Minister of State nominated in his or her stead) shall be an ex officio member of the Sub-Committee and shall be entitled to attend and to vote.
- (6) The Chairman of the Sub-Committee shall be the Chairman of the Joint Committee.
- (7) Members of the European Parliament elected from constituencies in Ireland may attend meetings of the Sub-Committee and may take part in proceedings without having a right to vote or to move motions and amendments.
- (8) The Sub-Committee shall lay its report before both Houses of the Oireachtas not later than 31 May 2012, whereupon the sub-Committee shall dissolve.

APPENDIX 2: Membership

List of Members (Joint Committee)

| | |
|------------------|--|
| <u>Chairman:</u> | Dominic Hannigan (Lab) |
| <u>Deputies:</u> | Eric Byrne (Lab) Seán Crowe (SF) Pascal Donohoe (FG) (Vice Chairman) Timmy Dooley (FF) Bernard Durkan (FG) John Halligan (Ind) Seán Kyne (FG) Joe O'Reilly (FG) |
| <u>Senators:</u> | Colm Burke (FG) Fidelma Healy Eames (FG) James Heffernan (Lab) Terry Leyden (FF) Kathryn Reilly (SF) |

Notes:

1. Deputies appointed to the Committee by order of the Dáil on 9 June 2011
2. Senators appointed to the Committee by order of the Seanad on 16 June 2011
3. Deputy Joe Costello elected as Chairman on 23 June 2011
4. Deputy Pascal Donohoe elected as Vice Chairperson on 23 June 2011
5. Deputy Joe Costello resigned from the position of Chairman of the Committee and was discharged from the Committee on 26 January 2012
6. Deputy Dominic Hannigan replaced Deputy Joe Costello by Order of the Dáil on 26 January 2012
7. Deputy Dominic Hannigan elected as Chairman on 26 January 2012
8. Deputy John Halligan replaced Deputy Mick Wallace by Order of the Dáil on 27 June 2012
9. Deputy Seán Crowe replaced Deputy Pádraig MacLochláinn by Order of the Dáil on 25 September 2012
10. Deputy Eric Byrne replaced Deputy Colm Keaveney by Order of the Dáil on 17 January 2013

*List of Members (Joint sub-Committee on the Referendum on the
Intergovernmental Treat on Stability, Coordination and Governance in
the Economic and Monetary Union)*

Chairman: Dominic Hannigan (Lab)

Deputies: Pascal Donohoe (FG) (Vice Chairman)
Timmy Dooley (FF)
Bernard Durkan (FG)
Colm Keaveney (Lab)
Seán Kyne (FG)
Padraig MacLochlainn (SF)
Joe O'Reilly (FG)
Mick Wallace (Ind)

Senators: Colm Burke (FG)
Fidelma Healy Eames (FG)
James Heffernan (Lab)
Terry Leyden (FF)
Kathryn Reilly (SF)

APPENDIX 3: Meetings of the Joint Committee

The following are the details, in date order, of the scheduled meetings of the Joint Committee which took place during the period under report.

| Meeting No. and Date | Topic | Organisations, Groups and Individuals who attended |
|----------------------|--|--|
| J20 12/01/2012 | Priorities of the Danish EU Presidency Programme | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> H.E. Niels Pultz, Ambassador of Denmark to Ireland |
| J21 19/01/2012 | Issues Facing the Western Balkans Region | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Right Honorable Lord Paddy Ashdown |
| J22 20/01/2012 | The draft International Agreement on a Reinforced Economic Union | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Eamonn Gilmore, T.D., Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade |
| J23 26/01/2012 | Election of Chairman and discussion of the forthcoming General Affairs Council meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Lucinda Creighton, T.D., Minister of State with special responsibility for European Affairs |
| J24 02/02/2012 | Discussion on the International Agreement | <p><i>National University of Ireland, Galway</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prof. John McHale, Head of Economics Dr. Alan Ahearne, Lecturer in Economics <p><i>University College Dublin</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prof. Karl Whelan, Economist <p><i>Tasc</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Tom McDonnell, Policy Analyst |
| J25 09/02/2012 | Private Meeting | |
| J26 15/02/2012 | Private Meeting | |

| Meeting No. and Date | Topic | Organisations, Groups and Individuals who attended |
|-----------------------------|--|--|
| J27 16/02/2012 | Briefing on Commission Annual Work Programme 2012 | <p><i>Representative of the Houses of the Oireachtas to the EU</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Derek Dignam <p><i>European Commission</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Maroš Šefčovič, Vice-President of the European Commission Responsible for Interinstitutional Relations and Administration |
| J28 22/02/2012 | Exchange of Views | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Michael Link, Minister of State at the German Federal Foreign Office |
| J29 23/02/2012 | Discussion on the forthcoming General Affairs Council and discussion on the Intergovernmental Treaty | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Lucinda Creighton, T.D., Minister of State with special responsibility for European Affairs <p><i>University College Cork</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seamus Coffey, Economist <p><i>Dublin City University</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Karen Devine, Lecturer IR <p><i>ICTU</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Paul Sweeney, Economist |
| J30 01/03/2012 | Discussion on the International Agreement | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • H.E. Javier Garrigues, Ambassador of Spain to Ireland • H.E. Dr. Eckhard Lübke, Ambassador of Germany to Ireland • H.E. Emmanuelle d'Achon, Ambassador of France to Ireland |
| J31 07/03/2012 | Exchange of Views | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Suzanne Eberstein, Deputy First Speaker of the Swedish Riksdag • Mr. Hans Backman, Swedish M.P. • Ms Emma Henriksson, Swedish M.P. • Mr. Sven-Olof Sallstrom, Swedish M.P. |

| Meeting No. and Date | Topic | Organisations, Groups and Individuals who attended |
|-----------------------------|---|--|
| J32 15/03/2012 | Discussion on the Intergovernmental Treaty | <i>Teagasc</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Gerry Boyle, Director <i>National Youth Council</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. James Doorley, Assistant Director <i>Social Justice Ireland</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Sean Healy, Director <i>SIPTU</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Marie Sherlock, Economist |
| J33 22/03/2012 | Discussion on the forthcoming General Affairs Council | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Lucinda Creighton, T.D., Minister of State with special responsibility for European Affairs |
| J34 28/03/2012 | Issues facing the Western Balkans Region | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Peter Sørensen, European Union Special Representative and Head of the EU Delegation to Bosnia & Herzegovina |
| J35 19/04/2012 | Discussion on the Intergovernmental Treaty and Discussion on the Review of the White Paper on Irish Aid | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Margaret Ritchie, M.P., SDLP • Mr. Joe Costello, T.D., Minister of State with special responsibility for Trade and Development |
| J36 10/05/2012 | Looking to the Future: The EU in 20 years' time | <i>IIEA</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Brendan Halligan, Chairman |
| J37 17/05/2012 | Discussion on the Role of Cultural and Creative Industries in the EU2020 Strategy and an Exchange of views on using the Irish Presidency to influence a Global Model of Development | <i>Temple Bar Cultural Trust</i> <i>Dóchas</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Hans Zomer, Director |

| Meeting No. and Date | Topic | Organisations, Groups and Individuals who attended |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| J38 24/05/2012 | Discussion on the April General Affairs Council Meeting and the forthcoming May General Affairs Council Meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Lucinda Creighton, T.D., Minister of State with special responsibility for European Affairs |
| J39 07/06/2012 | Discussion on the Role of National Parliaments in European Affairs | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dr. Gavin Barrett, Oireachtas Fellow 2010/2011 and Senior Lecturer |
| J40 19/06/2012 | Private Meeting | |
| J41 26/06/2012 | Discussion on the forthcoming June General Affairs Council Meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Lucinda Creighton, T.D., Minister of State with special responsibility for European Affairs |
| J42 27/06/2012 | Discussion on the Multiannual Financial Framework for 2014 to 2020 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Lucinda Creighton, T.D., Minister of State with special responsibility for European Affairs |
| J43 03/07/2012 | Discussion on Roma experiences of racism and develop EU-wide Roma integration strategies | <i>Representatives of Pavee Point</i> |
| J44 12/07/2012 | Discussion on the Irish Presidency of the European Council from January to June 2013 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Lucinda Creighton, T.D., Minister of State with special responsibility for European Affairs |
| J45 17/07/2012 | Discussion on the priorities of the Cyprus Presidency of the Council of the European Union from July to December 2012 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> H.E. Dr. Michalis Stavrinos, Ambassador of the Republic of Cyprus to Ireland |
| J46 19/07/2012 | Discussion on Developments in Bosnia and Herzegovina | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr. Ed Vulliamy, Journalist, the Guardian and the Observer |

| Meeting No. and Date | Topic | Organisations, Groups and Individuals who attended |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| J47 19/09/2012 | Discussion on the forthcoming September General Affairs Council Meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Eamonn Gilmore, T.D., Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade |
| J48 25/09/2012 | Discussion on the Future of Europe | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Viviane Reding, Vice President of the European Commission |
| J49 09/10/2012 | Exchange of Views with Canada Europe Parliamentary Association | <i>Canadian Parliamentarians</i> |
| J50 25/10/2012 | Private Meeting | |
| J51 06/11/2012 | Exchange of Views with Constitutional Affairs Committee of the European Parliament | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Carlo Cassini, Chairman, EPP • Zuzana Brzobohata, S&D • Zita Gurmai, S&D • Ashley Fox, European Conservatives • Gerald Hafner, Greens |
| J52 13/11/2012 | Discussion on the forthcoming General Affairs Council Meeting | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Eamonn Gilmore, T.D., Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade |
| J53 20/11/2012 | Exchange of views with Delegation from the Latvian Parliament | <i>Latvian Parliamentarians</i> |
| J54 27/11/2012 | Presidency Planning | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Lucinda Creighton, T.D., Minister of State with special responsibility for European Affairs |
| J55 04/12/2012 | Discussion on Bosnia-Herzegovina and EU Enlargement - Towards Progress in 2013 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Kurt Bassuener, Democratisation Policy Council, Sarajevo • Ms Mary Anne Hennessey, Council of Europe, Sarajevo • Ms Tija Memisevic, European Research Centre, Sarajevo |

| Meeting No. and Date | Topic | Organisations, Groups and Individuals who attended |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| J56 11/12/2012 | Accountability Report 2011; European Year of the Citizen 2013; Irish Presidency of the EU 2013 and Exchange of views with Delegation from the European Scrutiny Committee of the House of Commons | <i>European Movement Ireland</i> <i>UK Parliamentarians</i> |
| J57 18/12/2012 | Exchange of views with Mr. Egemen Bagis, Turkish Minister for Europe and Principal Negotiator for EU Membership | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Egemen Bagis, Turkish Minister for Europe |

APPENDIX 4: Minutes of Proceedings of the Joint Committee

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 12 JANUARY 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.45 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Joe Costello, Paschal Donohoe (in the chair), Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Colm Keaveney, Seán Kyne and Pádraig MacLochlainn.

Senators Fidelma Healy Eames, James Heffernan and Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies received Deputy Joe O'Reilly and Senator Colm Burke.

Phil Prendergast MEP also attended.

3. PRIORITIES OF THE DANISH EU PRESIDENCY PROGRAMME (H.E. NIELS PULTZ, AMBASSADOR OF DENMARK TO IRELAND)

The Committee met with H.E. Ambassador Niels Pultz to discuss the Programme and Priorities of the Danish Presidency of the EU.

Following the Ambassador's presentation, there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Vice-Chairman thanked the Ambassadors for attending and extended the Committee's best wishes for the Danish Presidency.

4. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 12.30 p.m.

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 1.00 p.m. until 11.30 a.m., Thursday 19th January 2012.

Mr. Paschal Donohoe, T.D.
Vice-Chairman
19 January 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 19 JANUARY 2012

1. The Joint Committee met in joint session with the Joint Committee of Foreign Affairs and Trade at 11.32 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Colm Keaveney, Pdraig Mac Lochlainn, and Sean Kyne.

Senators Colm Burke, Fidelma Healy Eames, James Heffernan, Terry Leyden, and Kathryn Reilly.

The following members of the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs and Trade were present:-

Deputies Pat Breen, Eric Byrne, Sean Ó Fearghaíl, Maureen O'Sullivan, Dan Neville and Dara Murphy.

Senators Deirdre Clune, Lorraine Higgins and Jim Walsh.

Apologies were received from Deputies Joe Costello and Joe O'Reilly, and Senator David Norris.

3. ISSUES FACING THE WESTERN BALKANS REGION [THE RIGHT HONORABLE LORD PADDY ASHDOWN]

The Committee met with Lord Paddy Ashdown to discuss the issues facing the Western Balkans region.

Following Lord Ashdown's presentation there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked Lord Ashdown for attending and for the engaging debate.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 12.52 p.m.

Mr. Paschal Donohoe, T.D.
Vice-Chairman
20 January 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 20 JANUARY 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 10.33 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe (in the chair), Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Padraig MacLochlainn and Mick Wallace.

Senators Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies received from Deputies Joe Costello and Joe O'Reilly, and Senators Colm Burke, Fidelma Healy Eames and James Heffernan.

Nessa Childers MEP, Proinsias De Rossa MEP and Phil Prendergast MEP also attended.

3. THE DRAFT INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON A REINFORCED ECONOMIC UNION [EAMON GILMORE T.D. TÁNAISTE AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE]

The Committee met with the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs to discuss the draft International Agreement on a Reinforce Economic Union.

Following the Tánaiste's presentation, there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Vice-Chairman thanked the Tánaiste for attending and wished him well in the negotiations. The Committee looked forward to engaging again with the Tánaiste on this issue in the near future.

4. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 12.47 p.m. until 12.52 p.m.

5. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 12.52 p.m.

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

8. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

9. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

10.ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 1.00 p.m. until 11.30 a.m., Thursday 26th January 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
26 January 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 26 JANUARY 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.32 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Colm Keaveney, Seán Kyne and Padraig MacLochlainn.

Senators Colm Burke, Fidelma Healy Eames, James Heffernan, and Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies were received from Deputy Joe O'Reilly and Senator Terry Leyden.

Senator Paschal Mooney and Phil Prendergast MEP also attended.

3. ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The Committee noted that following an Order of the Dáil, Deputy Joe Costello has been discharged from the Committee and Deputy Dominic Hannigan has been appointed in substitution for him.

The Vice-Chairman invited nominations for the position of Chairman of the Committee. Deputy Donohoe moved "That Deputy Dominic Hannigan be the Chairman of the Committee". The nomination was seconded by Deputy Kyne and Deputy Durkan.

The question was put and agreed to unanimously. Deputy Hannigan took the Chair accordingly.

4. DISCUSSION ON THE FORTHCOMING GENERAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL MEETING [MS. LUCINDA CREIGHTON TD, MINISTER OF STATE WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS]

The Committee met with Minister of State Lucinda Creighton to discuss the forthcoming meeting of the General Affairs Council.

Following the Minister of State's presentation there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the Minister of State for attending and wished her well in the negotiations.

5. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 12.37 p.m. until 1.01 p.m.

6. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 1.01 p.m.

7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

8. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

9. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

10. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 1.18 p.m. until 11.30 a.m. on Thursday, 2nd February 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
2 February 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 2 FEBRUARY 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.32 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Colm Keaveney, Padraig MacLochlainn, Joe O'Reilly and Mick Wallace.

Senators Colm Burke, Fidelma Healy Eames, Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies were received from Deputy Sean Kyne.

Deputies Billy Kelleher, Peter Matthews and Kieran O'Donnell also attended.

3. DISCUSSION ON THE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT [DR. ALAN AHEARNE, MR. TOM MCDONNELL, PROF. JOHN MCHALE AND PROF. KARL WHELAN]

The Committee met with Dr. Alan Ahearne, former special advisor to former Minister for Finance, Mr. Brian Lenihan TD, Mr. Tom McDonnell, policy advisor to TASC, Prof. John McHale, Chairman of the Fiscal Advisory Council, and Prof. Karl Whelan, UCD, to discuss the recently published Treaty on Stability Coordination and Governance in the European Monetary Union.

Each speaker made a presentation, following which there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the speakers for attending and for the interesting discussion which ensued.

4. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 2.13 p.m.

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 2.19 p.m. until 11.30 a.m. on Thursday, 9th February 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
9 February 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 9 FEBRUARY 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.34 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Colm Keaveney, Sean Kyne, Pádraig MacLochlainn and Joe O'Reilly.

Senators Colm Burke, Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies were received from Deputy Paschal Donohoe and Senator Fidelma Healy Eames.

Phil Prendergast MEP also attended.

3. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 11.34 a.m.

4. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

8. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

9. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

10. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 12.33 p.m. until 11.30 a.m. on Wednesday,

15th February 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
16 February 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 15 FEBRUARY 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.34 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Colm Keaveney, Padraig MacLochlainn and Joe O'Reilly.

Senators Colm Burke, Terry Leyden and Fidelma Healy Eames.

Apologies were received from Deputy Seán Kyne and Senator Kathryn Reilly.

Deputy Seán Crowe also attended.

3. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 11.34 a.m.

4. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

5. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 12.52 p.m. until 11.30 a.m. on Thursday, 16th February 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
1 March 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 16 FEBRUARY 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.08 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Colm Keaveney, Seán Kyne and Joe O'Reilly.

Senators Colm Burke, Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly

Apologies were received from Deputy Padraig MacLochlainn.

Deputies Seán Fleming and Michael McCarthy also attended.

3. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 11.08 a.m.

4. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

5. COMMISSION ANNUAL WORK PROGRAMME 2012 [MR. MAROŠ ŠEFČOVIČ, VICE-PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION RESPONSIBLE FOR INTERINSTITUTIONAL RELATIONS AND ADMINISTRATION]

The Committee met with Maroš Šefčovič, Vice-President of the European Commission Responsible for Interinstitutional Relations and Administration, to discuss the Commission Annual Work Programme for 2012.

Following the Commissioner's presentation, there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the Commissioner for attending.

6. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 1.16 p.m. until 1.34 p.m.

7. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 1.34 p.m.

8. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

9. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

10.ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

11.ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

12.ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
1 March 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 22 FEBRUARY 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 2.39 p.m. in Committee Room 1, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Seán Kyne, Joe O'Reilly and Mick Wallace.

Senators Colm Burke, Fidelma Healy Eames, James Heffernan, Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly.

3. EXCHANGE OF VIEWS [MR. MICHAEL LINK, MINISTER OF STATE AT THE GERMAN FEDERAL FOREIGN OFFICE]

The Committee met with Mr. Michael Link, Minister of State at the German Federal Foreign Office, to exchange views on the economic crisis in Europe.

Following the Minister of State's opening remarks there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the Minister of State for attending and welcomed him to meet with the Committee again in the future.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 3.33 p.m. until 10.30 a.m. on Thursday, 23rd February 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
1 March 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 23 FEBRUARY 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.30 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Colm Keaveney, Seán Kyne and Joe O'Reilly.

Senators Colm Burke, Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly

Apologies were received from Deputy Pádraig MacLochláinn.

Deputies Seán Fleming and Michael McCarthy also attended.

3. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

4. DISCUSSION ON THE FORTHCOMING GENERAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL MEETING [MS. LUCINDA CREIGHTON TD, MINISTER OF STATE WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS]

The Committee met with Minister of State Lucinda Creighton to discuss the forthcoming meeting of the General Affairs Council.

Following the Minister of State's presentation there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the Minister of State for attending and wished her well in the negotiations.

5. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 11.34 a.m. until 11.50 a.m.

6. DISCUSSION ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TREATY [MR. SEAMUS COFFEY, UCC, DR. KAREN DEVINE, DCU, AND MR. PAUL SWEENEY, ICTU]

The Committee met with Dr. Karen Devine, lecturer in International Relations specialising in European Union politics at DCU, Mr. Seamus Coffey, lecturer in Economics at UCC and Mr. Paul Sweeney, Chief Economist at the Irish Congress of Trade Unions, to discuss the

Intergovernmental Treaty on Stability Coordination and Governance in the European Monetary Union.

Each speaker made a presentation, following which there was a question and answer session.

7. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 12.10 p.m. until 12.20 p.m.

8. DISCUSSION ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TREATY [MR. SEAMUS COFFEY, UCC, DR. KAREN DEVINE, DCU, AND MR. PAUL SWEENEY, ICTU]

On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the speakers for attending and for the interesting discussion which ensued.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 1.38 p.m. until 11.30 a.m. on Thursday 1 March 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
7 March 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 1 MARCH 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.30 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Sean Kyne, Joe O'Reilly and Mick Wallace.

Senators Fidelma Healy Eames, Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies were received from Deputies Paschal Donohoe and Padraig MacLochlainn.

Deputy Dara Murphy and Phil Prendergast MEP also attended.

3. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 11.30 a.m. until 11.37 a.m.

4. DISCUSSION ON THE INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT [HE JAVIER GARRIGUES, AMBASSADOR OF SPAIN, HE DR. ECKHARD LÜBKEMEIER, AMBASSADOR OF GERMANY AND HE EMMANUELLE D'ACHON, AMBASSADOR OF FRANCE]

The Committee met with HE Javier Garrigues, Ambassador of Spain, HE Dr. Eckhard Lübke-meier, Ambassador of Germany and HE Emmanuelle d'Achon, Ambassador of France to discuss the Intergovernmental Treaty on Stability Coordination and Governance in the European Monetary Union.

Each Ambassador made a presentation, following which there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the Ambassadors for attending and for the interesting discussion which ensued.

5. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 1.26 p.m.

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION
7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 1.36 p.m. until 2.15 p.m. on Wednesday, 7th March 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
7 March 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 7 MARCH 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 2.15 p.m. in Committee Room 4, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Sean Kyne and Joe O'Reilly.

Senator Terry Leyden.

Deputy Dara Murphy also attended.

3. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 2.15 p.m.

4. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

8. EXCHANGE OF VIEWS [H.E. MS. SUZANNE EBERSTEIN, DEPUTY FIRST SPEAKER OF THE SWEDISH RIKSDAG, MR. HANS BACKMAN, M.P., MS EMMA HENRIKSSON, M.P. AND MR. SVEN-OLOF SALLSTROM, M.P.]

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting a delegation from the Swedish Riksdag; H.E Ms. Suzanne Eberstein, Deputy First Speaker of the Swedish Riksdag, Mr. Hans Backman, M.P., Ms Emma Henriksson, M.P. and Mr. Sven-Olof Sallstrom, M.P.. The delegation were accompanied by H.E. Elisabet Borsiin-Bonnier, Swedish Ambassador to Ireland and Mr. Salim Tarazi, from the Speaker's Office.

The Deputy First Speaker made a presentation, following which there was

a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the delegation for attending and for the interesting discussion which ensued, and wished them well in their visit to Ireland.

9. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 3.09 p.m. until 3.12 p.m.

10.PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 3.12 p.m.

11.ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

12.ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 3.23 p.m. until 11.30 a.m. on Thursday, 15th March 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
15 March 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 15 MARCH 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.34 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Sean Kyne, Pádraig MacLochláinn and Joe O'Reilly.

Senators Colm Burke, Fidelma Healy Eames, Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies were received from Deputy Paschal Donohoe

Phil Prendergast MEP also attended.

3. DISCUSSION ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TREATY [PROF. GERRY BOYLE, TEAGASC, JAMES DOORLEY, NATIONAL YOUTH COUNCIL OF IRELAND, DR. SEAN HEALY, SOCIAL JUSTICE IRELAND, AND MARIE SHERLOCK, SIPTU]

The Committee met with Prof. Gerry Boyle, Teagasc, James Doorley, National Youth Council of Ireland, Dr. Sean Healy, Social Justice Ireland, and Marie Sherlock, SIPTU to discuss the Intergovernmental Treaty on Stability Coordination and Governance in the European Monetary Union.

Each speaker made a presentation, following which there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the speakers for attending and for the interesting discussion which ensued.

4. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 1.46 p.m. until 1.48 p.m.

5. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 1.48 p.m.

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

8. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 1.58 p.m. until 11.30 a.m. on Thursday, 22nd March 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
22 March 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 22 MARCH 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.38 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Colm Keaveney, Seán Kyne and Padraig MacLochlainn.

Senators James Heffernan and Terry Leyden.

Apologies were received from Deputy Joe O'Reilly.

Phil Prendergast MEP also attended.

3. DISCUSSION ON THE FORTHCOMING GENERAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL MEETING [MS. LUCINDA CREIGHTON TD, MINISTER OF STATE WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS]

The Committee met with Minister of State Lucinda Creighton to discuss the forthcoming meeting of the General Affairs Council.

Following the Minister of State's presentation there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the Minister of State for attending and wished her well in the negotiations.

4. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 12.38 p.m.

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 12.49 p.m. until 10 a.m. on Wednesday 28

March 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
28 March 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 28 MARCH 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 10.06 a.m. in Committee Room 1, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Colm Keaveney and Joe O'Reilly.

Senators Colm Burke, Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies were received from Deputy Seán Kyne.

Deputies Patrick Nulty and Maureen O'Sullivan and Senators Michael Mullins and Jim Walsh also attended.

3. ISSUES FACING THE WESTERN BALKANS REGION [MR. PETER SØRENSEN, EUROPEAN UNION SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE AND HEAD OF THE EU DELEGATION TO BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA]

The Committee met with Ambassador Peter Sørensen, European Union Special Representative and Head of the EU Delegation to Bosnia & Herzegovina to discuss issues facing the Western Balkans region.

Following the Ambassador Sørensen's presentation there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the Ambassador for attending and wished him well in his work in the region.

4. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 11.14 a.m.

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 11.23 a.m. until 10 a.m. on Thursday 19 April 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
19 April 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 19 APRIL 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 10.07 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, and Seán Kyne.

Senators Colm Burke, James Heffernan, Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies were received from Deputy Joe O'Reilly.

3. DISCUSSION ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TREATY ON STABILITY, COORDINATION AND GOVERNANCE IN THE ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION [MS. MARGARET RITCHIE MP, SLDP]

The Committee met with Ms. Margaret Ritchie MP, in the context of the Referendum on Fiscal Stability Treaty, to discuss the treaty in terms of the reaction of Irish society.

Following Ms. Ritchie's opening remarks, there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked Ms. Ritchie MP for attending and for the interesting presentation and discussion.

4. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 10.45 a.m. until 11.06 a.m.

5. DISCUSSION ON THE REVIEW OF THE WHITE PAPER ON IRISH AID [MR. JOE COSTELLO TD, MINISTER OF STATE WITH RESPONSIBILITY FOR TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT]

The Committee met with Minister of State Joe Costello to discuss the review of the White Paper on Irish Aid. Ms. Nora Owen, Chairperson of the Irish Aid Expert Advisory Group, also attended.

Following the Minister of State's presentation and Ms. Owen's opening remarks, there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the Minister of State and Ms. Owen for attending and wished them both well in their work.

It was agreed that the views expressed by Members at the meeting would be compiled to form the basis of the Committee's submission on the review of the White Paper.

6. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 12.16 p.m.

7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

8. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 12.33 p.m. until 2.30 p.m. on Thursday 10 May 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
10 May 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 10 MAY 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 2.47 p.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Seán Kyne and Joe O'Reilly.

Senators Colm Burke, Fidelma Healy Eames and Terry Leyden.

3. ELECTION OF TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN

The Chairman moved "That Deputy Bernard Durkan take the Chair [at 2.47 p.m.]"

The question was put and agreed to.

4. LOOKING TO THE FUTURE: THE EU IN TWENTY YEARS TIME [MR. BRENDAN HALLIGAN, CHAIRMAN OF THE IIEA]

The Committee met with Mr. Brendan Halligan, Chairman of the Institute for International and European Affairs (IIEA), in the context of Europe Week, to discuss the future of the European Union.

Following Mr. Halligan's opening remarks, there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked Mr. Halligan for attending and for the very interesting presentation and discussion.

5. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 3.51 p.m.

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

8. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 3.58 p.m. until 11.30 a.m. on Thursday 17 May 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
17 May 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 17 MAY 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.37 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan and Dominic Hannigan.

Senators Colm Burke and James Heffernan.

Apologies were received from Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Seán Kyne and Joe O'Reilly and Senator Fidelma Healy Eames.

Deputies Robert Dowds and Billy Kelleher also attended.

3. DISCUSSION THE ROLE OF CULTURAL AND CREATIVE INDUSTRIES IN THE EU2020 STRATEGY [TEMPLE BAR CULTURAL TRUST]

The Committee met with Ms. Gráinne Millar and Mr. Alastar MacAongus, Temple Bar Cultural Trust, to discuss the role of culture and creative industries in the EU2020 Strategy.

Following Ms. Millar's opening remarks, there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked Ms. Millar and Mr. MacAongus for attending and for the very interesting presentation and discussion.

4. EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON USING THE IRISH PRESIDENCY OF THE EU TO INFLUENCE A GLOBAL MODEL OF "DEVELOPMENT" [MR. HANS ZOMER, DÓCHAS]

The Committee met with Mr. Hans Zomer, Director of Dóchas, Ms. Helen Keogh, CEO of WorldVision Ireland and Ms. Niamh Garvey, Policy & Advocacy Manager, Trócaire to the opportunity the upcoming Irish EU Presidency presents to influence the development agenda.

Each speaker made an opening presentation, following which there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the speakers for attending and for the very interesting presentation and discussion.

5. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 1.02 p.m.

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

8. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 1.05 p.m. until 11.30 a.m. on Thursday 24 May 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
24 May 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 24 MAY 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.31 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Colm Keaveney, Sean Kyne, Pádraig MacLochlainn and Joe O'Reilly.

Senators Fidelma Healy Eames and Terry Leyden.

3. DISCUSSION ON THE APRIL GENERAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL MEETING AND THE FORTHCOMING MAY GENERAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL MEETING [MS. LUCINDA CREIGHTON TD, MINISTER OF STATE WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS]

The Committee met with Minister of State Lucinda Creighton to discuss the previous and forthcoming meetings of the General Affairs Council.

4. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 12.11 p.m. until 12.27 p.m.

5. DISCUSSION ON THE APRIL GENERAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL MEETING AND THE FORTHCOMING MAY GENERAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL MEETING [MS. LUCINDA CREIGHTON TD, MINISTER OF STATE WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS]
RESUMED

Following the Minister of State's presentation there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the Minister of State for attending and wished her well in the negotiations.

6. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 12.50 p.m.

7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

8. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

9. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 12.51 p.m. until 11.30 a.m. on Thursday 7 June 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
7 June 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 7 JUNE 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.34 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Sean Kyne and Joe O'Reilly.

Senator Terry Leyden.

Apologies were received from Deputy Dominic Hannigan and Senator Fidelma Healy Eames.

3. DISCUSSION ON THE ROLE OF NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS IN EUROPEAN AFFAIRS [DR. GAVIN BARRETT, OIREACHTAS FELLOW 2010/2011 AND SENIOR LECUTRER]

The Committee met with Dr. Gavin Barrett to role of national Parliaments in European affairs. Following Dr. Barrett's opening presentation there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked Dr. Barrett for attending and wished him well in his research.

4. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 12.42 p.m.

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 12.52 p.m. until 12 noon on Tuesday 19 June 2012.

Mr. Paschal Donohoe, T.D.
Vice-Chairman
19 June 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 19 JUNE 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 12.02 p.m. in private session Committee Room 1, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Colm Keaveney and Joe O'Reilly.

Senators Kathryn Reilly and Terry Leyden.

3. BRIEFING ON THE MULTIANNUAL FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK 2014 – 2020 [OFFICIALS FROM DEPARTMENTS OF THE TAOISEACH, FINANCE, PUBLIC EXPENDITURE AND REFORM, JOBS, ENTERPRISE AND INNOVATION AND AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND THE MARINE),

The Committee were briefed on the Multi-Annual Financial Framework by the following officials: Kyle O'Sullivan and Pádraig Francis of the Department of the Taoiseach, Niamh Campbell of the Department of Finance, Jim Deane of the Department of Public Expenditure and Reform, Aidan Hodson of the Department of Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation and Brid Cannon of the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine.

Following the opening presentations, there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the officials for attending and wished them well in the on-going negotiations.

4. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 1.05 p.m. until 11.30 a.m. on Thursday 21 June 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
21 June 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 21 JUNE 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.40 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe (in the chair), Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Sean Kyne, Padraig MacLochlainn and Mick Wallace.

Senators Fidelma Healy Eames, Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies were received from Deputy Dominic Hannigan.

3. DISCUSSION ON THE FORTHCOMING JUNE GENERAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL MEETING [MS. LUCINDA CREIGHTON TD, MINISTER OF STATE WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS]

The Committee met with Minister of State Lucinda Creighton to discuss the forthcoming meeting of the General Affairs Council.

Following the Minister of State's presentation there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the Minister of State for attending and wished her well in the negotiations.

4. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 12.41 p.m.

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 12.45 p.m. until 11.00 a.m. on Wednesday 27 June 2012.

Mr. Paschal Donohoe, T.D.
Vice-Chairman
27 June 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 27 JUNE 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.06 a.m. in Committee Room 1, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Colm Keaveney and Sean Kyne.

Senators Colm Burke and James Heffernan.

Apologies were received from Deputy Pádraig MacLochláinn and Senator Kathryn Reilly.

Deputy Pearse Doherty also attended.

3. DISCUSSION ON THE MULTIANNUAL FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK FOR 2014 TO 2020 [MS. LUCINDA CREIGHTON TD, MINISTER OF STATE WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS]

The Committee met with Minister of State Lucinda Creighton to discuss the on-going negotiations on the EU budget or Multiannual Financial Framework for 2014 to 2020.

Following the Minister of State's presentation there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the Minister of State for attending and wished her well in the negotiations.

4. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 12.31 p.m.

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 12.35 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Tuesday 3 July 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
3 July 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 3 JULY 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 2.11 p.m. in Committee Room 1, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe (*in the chair*), Bernard Durkan, John Halligan, Colm Keaveney and Sean Kyne.

Senators Colm Burke, Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies were received from Deputies Dominic Hannigan and Joe O'Reilly and Senator Fidelma Healy Eames.

3. DISCUSSION ON ROMA EXPERIENCES OF RACISM AND DEVELOP EU-WIDE ROMA INTEGRATION STRATEGIES [REPRESENTATIVES OF PAVEE POINT]

The Committee met Ronnie Fay, Director of Pavee Point, and Monika Makulova and Siobhan Curran of the Roma Project with Pavee Point, to discuss issues facing Roma in Ireland and the development of a Roma integration strategy.

Each representative made an opening statement, following which there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the representatives for attending and wished them well in their work.

4. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 2.52 p.m.

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 3.09 p.m. until 10 a.m. on Thursday 12 July 2012.

Mr. Paschal Donohoe, T.D.
Vice-Chairman
12 July 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 12 JULY 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 10.05 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, John Halligan, Padraig MacLochlainn and Joe O'Reilly.

Senators Colm Burke, Fidelma Healy Eames, Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies were received from Deputy Dominic Hannigan.

Phil Prendergast MEP also attended.

3. DISCUSSION ON THE IRISH PRESIDENCY OF THE EUROPEAN COUNCIL FROM JANUARY TO JUNE 2013 [Ms. LUCINDA CREIGHTON TD, MINISTER OF STATE WITH SPECIAL RESPONSIBILITY FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS]

The Committee met with Minister of State Lucinda Creighton to discuss the planning for Ireland's forthcoming Presidency of the Council of the European Union during the first six months of 2013.

Following the Minister of State's presentation there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the Minister of State for attending and wished her well in the preparations.

4. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 11.40 a.m.

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 11.47 a.m. until 2 p.m. on Tuesday 17 July

2012.

Mr. Paschal Donohoe, T.D.
Vice-Chairman
19 July 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 17 JULY 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 2.06 p.m. in Committee Room 1, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Colm Keaveney, Sean Kyne, Pádraig MacLochlainn and Joe O'Reilly.

Senators Colm Burke, Fidelma Healy Eames, Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies were received from Deputies Timmy Dooley and John Halligan.

3. DISCUSSION ON THE PRIORITIES OF THE CYPRUS PRESIDENCY OF THE COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION FROM JULY TO DECEMBER 2012 [H.E. DR. MICHALIS STAVRINOS, AMBASSADOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS]

The Committee met with H.E. Dr. Michalis Stavrinos, Ambassador of the Republic of Cyprus, to discuss the Programme and Priorities of the Cypriot Presidency of the EU.

Following the Ambassador's presentation there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the Ambassador for attending and wished him well with the Presidency.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 2.59 p.m. until 11.30 a.m. on Thursday 19 July 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
19 July 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 19 JULY 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.39 a.m. in Committee Room 1, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Colm Keaveney, Sean Kyne, Padraig MacLochlainn and Joe O'Reilly.

Senators Colm Burke, James Heffernan and Terry Leyden.

3. DISCUSSION ON DEVELOPMENTS IN BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA [MR ED VULLIAMY, JOURNALIST, THE GUARDIAN AND THE OBSERVER]

The Committee met with Mr. Ed Vulliamy to discuss developments in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Following Mr. Vulliamy's presentation there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked Mr. Vulliamy for attending and agreed to forward the transcript of the meeting to the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Eamon Gilmore TD, and Minister of State for European Affairs, Lucinda Creighton TD.

4. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 12.43 p.m.

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 12.47 p.m. sine die.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
19 September 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 19 SEPTEMBER 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 6.03 p.m. in Committee Room 2, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan. (in the Chair), Colm Keaveney, Sean Kyne and Joe O'Reilly.

Senators Fidelma Healy Eames, Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly.

Deputy Sean Crowe was also in attendance.

Apologies were received from Deputy John Halligan.

3. DISCUSSION ON THE FORTHCOMING SEPTEMBER GENERAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL MEETING
[AN TÁNAISTE AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE EAMON GILMORE T.D.]

The Committee met with the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Eamon Gilmore T.D. to discuss the forthcoming meeting of the General Affairs Council.

Following the Tánaiste's presentation there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the Tánaiste for attending and wished him well in the negotiations.

4. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 7.02 p.m.

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 7.08 p.m. until 2.p.m. a.m. on Tuesday 25

September 2012.

Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
25 September 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 25 SEPTEMBER 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 2.35 p.m. in Committee Room 1, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Sean Kyne and Joe O'Reilly.

Senators Colm Burke, Fidelma Healy Eames and Terry Leyden.

Deputy Sean Crowe also attended.

3. DISCUSSION ON THE FUTURE OF EUROPE [MS. VIVIANE REDING, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION]

The Committee met with Ms. Viviane Reding to discuss the relationship between Ireland the European Union, and the future of Europe.

Following Commissioner Reding's presentation there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the Commissioner for attending and for the interesting discussion.

4. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 3.51 p.m.

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 3.52 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Tuesday 9 October 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
9 October 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 9 OCTOBER 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 2.06 p.m. in Committee Room 1, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Sean Crowe, Paschal Donohoe (in the Chair), Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, John Halligan, Colm Keaveney and Joe O'Reilly.

Senators Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly

Apologies were received from the Chairman, Dominic Hannigan TD.

3. EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH CANADA EUROPE PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting a delegation from the Canada Europe Parliamentary Association. The delegation was led by Mr. David Tilson, MP, accompanied by Ms. Joyce Bateman MP, Ms. Annick Papillon, MP and Senator Joan Fraser.

Following opening remarks by the Vice-Chairman and Mr. David Tilson, there followed an exchange of views, which focused on the priorities of Ireland's EU Presidency term, Canadian positions on EU-related issues and developments in the EU. On conclusion of the debate, the Vice-Chairman thanked the delegation for attending and for the interesting discussion which ensued, and wished them well in their visit to Ireland.

4. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session 2.49 p.m.

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 2.54 p.m.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
25 October 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 25 OCTOBER 2012

1. The Joint Committee met in Private Session at 2.10 p.m. in Committee Room 1, LH 2000, a quorum being present.
2. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION
3. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION
4. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION
5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION
6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION
7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION
8. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION
9. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
6 November 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 6 NOVEMBER 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 2.10 p.m. in Committee Room 1, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Sean Crowe, Paschal Donohoe (in the Chair), Bernard Durkan, Colm Keaveney, Sean Kyne and Joe O'Reilly.

Senators Colm Burke, James Heffernan and Terry Leyden .

Apologies were received from the Chairman, Dominic Hannigan TD, Deputies John Halligan and Timmy Dooley: Senatoys Kathryn Reilly and Fidelma Healy Eames

3. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session 2.10 p.m.

4. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. PUBLIC SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into public session 2.28 p.m.

7. EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH CONSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting a delegation from the Constitutional Affairs Committee of the European Parliament. The delegation was led by its Chairman, Carlo Cassini (EPP), accompanied by

- Zuzana Brzobohata and Zita Gurmai (Socialists & Democrats)
- Ashley Fox (European Conservatives and Reformists)
- Gerald Hafner (Greens)

Following opening remarks by the Vice-Chairman and MEP Cassisi, there followed an exchange of views, which focused on the priorities of Ireland's EU Presidency term, European parliament positions on key EU issues and developments in the EU. On conclusion of the debate, the Vice-Chairman thanked the delegation for attending and for the interesting discussion

which ensued, and wished them well in their visit to Ireland.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 3.42 p.m.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
13 November 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 13 NOVEMBER 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 3.38 p.m. in Committee Room 1, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Dominic Hannigan (Chairman) Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard J. Durkan, Colm Keaveney, Seán Kyne, Seán Crowe and Joe O'Reilly.

Senators Fidelma Healy Eames, Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly

3. DISCUSSION ON THE FORTHCOMING GENERAL AFFAIRS COUNCIL MEETING [TÁNAISTE AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE EAMON GILMORE TD]

The Committee met with the Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Eamon Gilmore T.D. to discuss the forthcoming meeting of the General Affairs Council.

Following the Tánaiste's presentation there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the Tánaiste for attending and wished him well in the negotiations.

4. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session 4.43 p.m.

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 4.50 p.m.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
20 November 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 20 NOVEMBER 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 2.08 p.m. in Committee Room 1, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Dominic Hannigan (Chairman) Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard J. Durkan and Joe O'Reilly.

Senators Colm Burke and Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies were received from Deputy Seán Crowe and Senator Fidelma Healy Eames.

Deputies Emmet Stag and Brendan Ryan also attended.

3. EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH DELEGATION FROM THE LATVIAN PARLIAMENT

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting a delegation from the Latvian Parliament. The delegation included Mrs Zanda Kalnina-Lukasevica, Chairperson of the EU Affairs Committee of the Latvian Parliament and Mr Vjaceslavs Dombrovskis, Chairperson of the Economic, Agricultural, Environmental and Regional Policy Committee. The delegation was accompanied by Mr Pēteris Kārlis Elferts, Latvian Ambassador to Ireland.

Following opening remarks by the Chairman, there followed an exchange of views, which focused on the priorities of Ireland's EU Presidency term, the EU budget with particular reference to cohesion funds and the CAP and the future of Europe in the context of Eurozone crisis. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the delegation for attending and for the interesting discussion which ensued, and wished them well in their visit to Ireland.

4. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session 3.12 p.m.

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 3.17 p.m.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
27 November 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 4 DECEMBER 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 2.09 p.m. in Committee Room 1, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Dominic Hannigan (Chairman), Sean Crowe, Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, John Halligan, Colm Keaveney, and Sean Kyne.

Senators Colm Burke and Terry Leyden.

Apologies were received from Senator Fidelma Healy-Eames

3. DISCUSSION ON BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA AND EU ENLARGEMENT - TOWARDS PROGRESS IN 2013 [MR KURT BASSUENER, DEMOCRATISATION POLICY COUNCIL, SARAJEVO; MS MARY ANNE HENNESSEY, COUNCIL OF EUROPE, SARAJEVO; MS TIJA MEMISEVIC, EUROPEAN RESEARCH CENTRE, SARAJEVO]

The Committee met with a delegation from Bosnia-Herzegovina to discuss recent developments in Bosnia-Herzegovina and how Ireland might best support BiH during its EU Presidency. The delegation comprised

- Mr Kurt Bassuener, Democratisation Policy Council, Sarajevo;
- Ms Mary Anne Hennessey, Head of Council of Europe Office, Sarajevo;
- Ms Tija Memisevic, Director of the European Research Centre, Sarajevo

Following the opening presentations by the delegation there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the delegation for attending and wished them well in their work.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 3.12 p.m.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
11 December 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 11 DECEMBER 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 2.09 p.m. in Committee Room 1, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Dominic Hannigan (Chairman), Sean Crowe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard J. Durkan, Sean Kyne and Joe O'Reilly.

Senators Fidelma Healy Eames James Heffernan and Terry Leyden.

Apologies were received from Deputy Paschal Donohoe and Senator Colm Burke.

3. ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT 2011; EUROPEAN YEAR OF THE CITIZEN 2013; IRISH PRESIDENCY OF THE EU 2013 [EUROPEAN MOVEMENT IRELAND]

The Chairman welcomed to the meeting Ms. Noelle O'Connell and Mr. Neale Richmond from European Movement Ireland. Ms. O'Connell addressed the Committee on the findings of the EMI Accountability Report for 2011, the European year of the citizen 2013 and the Irish EU presidency.

Following the presentation there was a question and answer session. On conclusion of the debate, the Chairman thanked the delegation for attending and wished them well in their work.

4. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session 3.14 p.m.

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 16.04 p.m.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
18 December 2012

JOINT COMMITTEE ON EUROPEAN UNION AFFAIRS

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 18 DECEMBER 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 2.15 p.m. in Committee Room 1, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Sean Crowe, Paschal Donohoe (in the Chair), Bernard J. Durkan and Sean Kyne.

Senator Terry Leyden

Apologies were received from Deputies Dominic Hannigan and Joe O'Reilly

Deputies Peter Mathews and Robert Dowds also attended.

3. EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH MR EGEMEN BAGIS, TURKISH MINISTER FOR EUROPE AND PRINCIPAL NEGOTIATOR FOR EU MEMBERSHIP

The Vice-Chairman welcomed to the meeting Mr Egemen Bagis, Turkish Minister for Europe. The Minister was accompanied by Alaattin Büyükkaya, Deputy Minister for EU Affairs, Haluk Ilıcak, Undersecretary of the Ministry for EU Affairs, Burak Erdenir, Deputy Under-Secretary and Altay Cengizer, Ambassador of Turkey to Ireland.

Following opening remarks by the Vice-Chairman, there followed an exchange of views, which focused on Turkey's candidacy for membership of the EU. On conclusion of the debate, the Vice-Chairman thanked the delegation for attending and for the interesting discussion which ensued, and wished them well in their visit to Ireland.

4. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session 3.22 p.m.

5. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

6. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

7. ITEM DISCUSSED IN PRIVATE SESSION

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 3.22 p.m.

Mr. Paschal Donohoe T.D.
Vice-Chairman
17 January 2013

APPENDIX 5: Meetings of the Dáil Select Committee

The following are the details, in date order, of the scheduled meetings of the Select Committee which took place during the period under report.

| Meeting No. and Date | Topic | Organisations, Groups and Individuals who attended |
|-----------------------------|---|---|
| S1 14/6/2012 | Consideration of the European Communities (Amendment) Bill 2012 - Committee Stage | Ms. Lucinda Creighton, T.D., Minister of State with special responsibility for European Affairs |

APPENDIX 6: Meetings of the Joint sub-Committee

The following are the details, in date order, of the scheduled meetings of the Joint sub-Committee on the Referendum on the Intergovernmental Treaty on Stability, Coordination and Governance in the Economic and Monetary Union which took place during the period under report.

| Meeting No. and Date | Topic | Organisations, Groups and Individuals who attended |
|-----------------------------|--|---|
| 1 03/04/2012 | Election of temporary Chairman; Views on the Treaty across the EU - Session 1; Views on the Treaty across the EU - Session 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• H.E. Dr. Tomas Kafka, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to Ireland• H.E. Niels Pultz, Ambassador of Denmark to Ireland• H.E. Diana Zagorianou-Prifti, Ambassador of Greece to Ireland• H.E. Marcin Nawrot, Ambassador of Poland to Ireland• Mr. William Cash, M.P., Chairman of the European Scrutiny Committee of the House of Commons• Ms. Nessa Childers, MEP for Ireland East• Ms. Marian Harkin, MEP for Ireland North-West• Mr. Paul Murphy, MEP for Dublin• Ms. Phil Prendergast, MEP for Ireland South |

| Meeting No. and Date | Topic | Organisations, Groups and Individuals who attended |
|----------------------|---|--|
| 2 04/04/2012 | Views on the Treaty across the EU - Session 3; The realities of what the Treaty means for Ireland: understanding the facts - Session 1; The realities of what the Treaty means for Ireland: understanding the facts - Session 2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Sharon Bowles, MEP for South-East England and Chair of the European Parliament's Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee • Lord Lyndon Harrison, Chair of the House of Lords sub-Committee on Economic and Financial Affairs and International Trade <p><i>Irish Times</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Dan O'Brien, Economics Editor <p><i>Trinity College Dublin</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Philip Lane, Economics <p><i>Friends First</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Jim Power, Chief Economist <p><i>University College Dublin</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Gavin Barrett, Law <p><i>National University of Ireland, Maynooth</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. John O'Brennan, Sociology <p><i>University College Cork</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Declan Walsh, Law |

| Meeting No. and Date | Topic | Organisations, Groups and Individuals who attended |
|----------------------|--|--|
| 3 05/04/2012 | The Reaction of Irish Society to the Treaty - Session 1; The Reaction of Irish Society to the Treaty - Session 2; The Reaction of Irish Society to the Treaty - Session 3 | <p><i>ISME</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Mark Fielding, CEO <p><i>FSI</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Brendan Bruen, Director <p><i>IFA</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. John Bryan, President <p><i>IBEC</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Brendan Butler, Director <p><i>SFA</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Patricia Callan, Director <p><i>IIEA</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Brendan Halligan, Chairman <p><i>INOUE</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Bríd O'Brien, Head of Policy <p><i>EMI</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Noelle O'Connell, Executive Director • Mr. Declan Ganley, Libertas • Cllr. Andrew Muir, Alliance Party • Mr. Roderic O'Gorman, Green Party |
| 4 17/04/2012 | The Reaction of Irish Society to the Treaty - Session 4; The Reaction of Irish Society to the Treaty - Session 5; The Reaction of Irish Society to the Treaty - Session 6; The Reaction of Irish Society to the Treaty - Session 7 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Joe Higgins, T.D. • Mr. Micheál Martin, T.D. • Mr. Eamonn Gilmore, T.D., Tánaiste and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade • Ms. Catherine Murphy, T.D. |

| Meeting No. and Date | Topic | Organisations, Groups and Individuals who attended |
|----------------------|--|---|
| 5 18/04/2012 | The realities of what the Treaty means for Ireland: understanding the facts - Session 3; The realities of what the Treaty means for Ireland: understanding the facts - Session 4 | <p><i>Roubini Global Economics</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Megan Greene, Economist <p><i>Unite</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Jimmy Kelly • Mr. Michael Taft, Research Officer <p><i>Trinity College Dublin</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Brian Lucey, School of Business • Prof. Gerry Whyte, Law <p><i>Chambers Ireland</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Seán Murphy, Deputy Chief Executive <p><i>National University of Ireland, Galway</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prof. Terence McDonagh, Economist <p><i>University College Dublin</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Andrew Storey, Politics |
| 6 25/04/2012 | The Reaction of Irish Society to the Treaty - Session 8 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Gerry Adams, T.D. |
| 7 26/04/2012 | The Reaction of Irish Society to the Treaty - Session 9; Views on the Treaty across the EU – Session 4 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Enda Kenny, T.D., Taoiseach • Mr. Jonas Sjöstedt, Swedish M.P., Swedish Left Party |
| 8 27/04/2012 | The Reaction of Irish Society to the Treaty - Session 10 | <p><i>SIPTU</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Jack O'Connor, General President |
| 9 09/05/2012 | Consideration of Draft Report | |

APPENDIX 7: Minutes of Proceedings of the Joint sub- Committee

SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE REFERENDUM ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TREATY ON
STABILITY, COORDINATION AND GOVERNANCE IN THE ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 3 APRIL 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.04 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Sean Kyne and Mick Wallace.

Senators Fidelma Healy Eames and Terry Leyden.

Apologies were received from Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Colm Keaveney and Padraig MacLochlainn.

Deputies Eric Byrne, Robert Dowds, Mary Lou McDonald and Eamon Moloney, Senators John Gilroy and Cait Keane, and Paul Murphy MEP also attended.

3. PRIVATE SESSION

The Committee agreed to go into private session at 11.04 a.m.

The Committee went out of private session.

4. MODULE I: VIEWS ON THE TREATY FROM ACROSS THE EU

Session 1. Ambassador of the Czech Republic, H.E. Dr. Tomas Kafka, Ambassador of Denmark, H.E. Mr. Niels Pultz, Ambassador of Greece, H.E. Mrs. Diana Zagorianou-Prifti and Ambassador of Poland, H.E. Mr. Marcin Nawrot.

The Chairman invited each witness to make a presentation to the Sub-Committee following which there was a question and answer session with the members.

On conclusion of the debate the Chairman thanked the witnesses for the presentation and for meeting with the Sub-Committee.

5. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 12.37 p.m. until 2.03 p.m.

6. ELECTION OF TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN

The Chairman moved "That Deputy Bernard Durkan take the Chair [at 2.05 p.m.]"

The question was put and agreed to.

7. MODULE I: VIEWS ON THE TREATY FROM ACROSS THE EU

Session 2. Mr. William Cash MP, Chairman of the European Scrutiny Committee of the House of Commons, Ms. Nessa Childers, MEP for Ireland East, Ms. Marian Harkin, MEP for Ireland North-West, Mr. Paul Murphy, MEP for Dublin and Ms. Phil Prendergast, MEP for Ireland South.

The Chairman invited each witness to make a presentation to the Sub-Committee following which there was a question and answer session with the Members.

On conclusion of the debate the Chairman thanked the witnesses for the presentation and for meeting with the Sub-Committee.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 4.01 p.m. until 11 a.m. on Wednesday, 4th April 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
9 May 2012

SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE REFERENDUM ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TREATY ON
STABILITY, COORDINATION AND GOVERNANCE IN THE ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 4 APRIL 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.04 a.m. in Committee Room 2, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Sean Kyne, Pádraig MacLochlainn, Joe O'Reilly and Mick Wallace.

Senators Colm Burke and Terry Leyden.

Apologies were received from Deputies Paschal Donohoe and Colm Keaveney, and Senators Fidelma Healy Eames and James Heffernan.

Deputies Michael Conaghan, Dara Murphy, Anthony Lawlor, Robert Dowds and Derek Nolan, Senators John Gilroy, Denis Landy and Mary White, and Marian Harkin MEP, Sean Kelly MEP, Paul Murphy MEP and Phil Prendergast MEP also attended.

3. MODULE I: VIEWS ON THE TREATY FROM ACROSS THE EU

Session 3. Ms. Sharon Bowles, MEP for South East England and Chair of the European Parliament's Economic and Monetary Affairs Committee and Lord Lyndon Harrison, Chair of the House of Lords Sub-Committee on Economic and Financial Affairs and International Trade.

The Chairman invited each witness to make a presentation to the Sub-Committee following which there was a question and answer session with the members.

On conclusion of the debate the Chairman thanked the witnesses for the presentation and for meeting with the Sub-Committee.

4. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 12.39 p.m. until 2.04 p.m.

5. MODULE III: THE REALITIES OF WHAT THE TREATY MEANS FOR IRELAND:
UNDERSTANDING THE FACTS

Session 1. Mr. Dan O'Brien, Economics Editor of The Irish Times, Prof. Philip Lane, Professor of International Macroeconomics at Trinity College Dublin and Mr. Jim Power, Chief Economist with Friends First.

The Chairman invited each witness to make a presentation to the Sub-Committee following which there was a question and answer session with the Members.

On conclusion of the debate the Chairman thanked the witnesses for the presentation and for meeting with the Sub-Committee.

6. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 3.42 p.m. until 4.05 p.m.

7. MODULE III: THE REALITIES OF WHAT THE TREATY MEANS FOR IRELAND: UNDERSTANDING THE FACTS

Session 2. Dr. Gavin Barrett LLB, UCD School of Law, Dr. John O'Brennan, NUIM Department of Sociology and Mr. Declan Walsh, UCC.

The Chairman invited each witness to make a presentation to the Sub-Committee following which there was a question and answer session with the Members.

On conclusion of the debate the Chairman thanked the witnesses for the presentation and for meeting with the Sub-Committee.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 5.56 p.m. until 11.30 a.m. on Thursday, 5th April 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
9 May 2012

SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE REFERENDUM ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TREATY ON
STABILITY, COORDINATION AND GOVERNANCE IN THE ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 5 APRIL 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.36 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Sean Kyne and Mick Wallace.

Senator Terry Leyden.

Apologies were received from Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Colm Keaveney and Pádraig MacLochláinn.

Deputies Kevin Humphries, Mary Mitchell O'Connor and Aengus Ó Snodaigh, Senators Jillian van Turnhout and Mary White, and Marian Harkin MEP and Paul Murphy MEP also attended.

3. MODULE 2: THE REACTION OF IRISH SOCIETY TO THE TREATY

Session 1. Mr. Mark Fielding, Irish Small and Medium Enterprises Association (ISME), Mr. Brendan Bruen, Financial Services Ireland (FSI), Mr. John Bryan, Irish Farmers Association (IFA), Mr. Brendan Butler, Irish Business and Employers Confederation (IBEC), and Ms. Patricia Callan, Small Firms Association (SFA).

The Chairman invited each witness to make a presentation to the Sub-Committee following which there was a question and answer session with the members.

On conclusion of the debate the Chairman thanked the witnesses for the presentation and for meeting with the Sub-Committee.

4. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 1 p.m. until 2.03 p.m.

5. MODULE 2: THE REACTION OF IRISH SOCIETY TO THE TREATY

Session 2. Mr. Brendan Halligan, Institute of International and European Affairs (IIEA), Ms. Bríd O'Brien, Irish National Organisation of the Unemployed (INOUE), and Ms. Noelle O'Connell, European Movement Ireland.

The Chairman invited each witness to make a presentation to the Sub-Committee following which there was a question and answer session with the members.

On conclusion of the debate the Chairman thanked the witnesses for the presentation and for meeting with the Sub-Committee.

6. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 3.30 p.m. until 4.05 p.m.

7. MODULE 2: THE REACTION OF IRISH SOCIETY TO THE TREATY

Session 3. Mr. Declan Ganley, Libertas Institute, Cllr. Andrew Muir, Alliance Party, and Mr. Roderic O’Gorman, Green Party.

The Chairman invited each witness to make a presentation to the Sub-Committee following which there was a question and answer session with the members.

On conclusion of the debate the Chairman thanked the witnesses for the presentation and for meeting with the Sub-Committee.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 5.59 p.m. until 11.15 a.m. on Tuesday, 17th April 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
9 May 2012

SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE REFERENDUM ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TREATY ON
STABILITY, COORDINATION AND GOVERNANCE IN THE ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 17 APRIL 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 11.15 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Colm Keaveney and Pádraig MacLochlainn.

Senators Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies were received from Deputies Joe O'Reilly and Mick Wallace.

Deputy Richard Boyd Barrett, Senator Mary White and Paul Murphy MEP also attended.

3. MODULE II: THE REACTION OF IRISH SOCIETY TO THE TREATY

Session 4. Mr. Joe Higgins TD, United Left Alliance

The Chairman welcomed Deputy Higgins to the meeting of the Sub-Committee and invited him to make a presentation to the Sub-Committee. Following Deputy Higgins's opening remarks there was a question and answer session with the members.

On conclusion of the debate the Chairman thanked Deputy Higgins for the presentation and for meeting with the Sub-Committee.

4. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 12.15 p.m. until 12.30 p.m.

5. MODULE II: THE REACTION OF IRISH SOCIETY TO THE TREATY

Session 5. Mr. Micheál Martin TD, Leader of Fianna Fáil

The Chairman welcomed Deputy Martin to the meeting of the Sub-Committee and invited him to make a presentation to the Sub-Committee. Following Deputy Martin's opening remarks there was a question and answer session with the members.

On conclusion of the debate the Chairman thanked Deputy Martin for the presentation and for meeting with the Sub-Committee.

6. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 1.19 p.m. until 2.33 p.m.

7. MODULE II: THE REACTION OF IRISH SOCIETY TO THE TREATY

Session 6. Mr. Eamon Gilmore TD, Tánaiste, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade, and Leader of the Labour Party

The Chairman welcomed the Tánaiste to the meeting of the Sub-Committee and invited him to make a presentation to the Sub-Committee. Following the Tánaiste's opening remarks there was a question and answer session with the members.

On conclusion of the debate the Chairman thanked the Tánaiste for the presentation and for meeting with the Sub-Committee.

8. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 3.36 p.m. until 3.55 p.m.

9. MODULE II: THE REACTION OF IRISH SOCIETY TO THE TREATY

Session 7. Ms. Catherine Murphy TD, Technical Group Whip

The Chairman welcomed Deputy Murphy to the meeting of the Sub-Committee and invited her to make a presentation to the Sub-Committee. Following Deputy Murphy's opening remarks there was a question and answer session with the members.

On conclusion of the debate the Chairman thanked Deputy Murphy for the presentation and for meeting with the Sub-Committee.

10. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 4.48 p.m. until 9.45 a.m. on Wednesday, 18th April 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
9 May 2012

SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE REFERENDUM ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TREATY ON
STABILITY, COORDINATION AND GOVERNANCE IN THE ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 18 APRIL 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 9.55 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Colm Keaveney and Sean Kyne.

Senators Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies were received from Deputy Padraig MacLochlainn.

Deputy Michael MacNamara also attended.

3. MODULE III: THE REALITIES OF WHAT THE TREATY MEANS FOR IRELAND:
UNDERSTANDING THE FACTS

Session 3. Ms. Megan Greene, Roubini Global Economics, Mr. Jimmy Kelly, Unite, Prof. Brian Lucey, TCD, and Mr. Michael Taft, Unite.

The Chairman invited each witness to make a presentation to the Sub-Committee following which there was a question and answer session with the members.

On conclusion of the debate the Chairman thanked the witnesses for the presentation and for meeting with the Sub-Committee.

4. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 11.09 p.m. until 11.38 p.m.

5. MODULE III: THE REALITIES OF WHAT THE TREATY MEANS FOR IRELAND:
UNDERSTANDING THE FACTS

Session 4. Mr. Seán Murphy, Chambers Ireland, Prof. Terrence McDonough, NUI Galway, Dr. Andrew Storey, UCD and Prof. Gerry Whyte, Trinity College Dublin.

The Chairman invited each witness to make a presentation to the Sub-Committee following which there was a question and answer session with the Members.

On conclusion of the debate the Chairman thanked the witnesses for the presentation and for meeting with the Sub-Committee.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 12.55 p.m. until 2 p.m. on Wednesday, 25th April 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
9 May 2012

SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE REFERENDUM ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TREATY ON
STABILITY, COORDINATION AND GOVERNANCE IN THE ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 25 APRIL 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 2.06 p.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan Colm Keaveney and Pádraig MacLochlainn.

Senators Colm Burke, James Heffernan and Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies were received from Senator Terry Leyden.

Senators John Gilroy, Jimmy Harte and Mary White also attended.

3. MODULE II: THE REACTION OF IRISH SOCIETY TO THE TREATY

Session 8. Mr. Gerry Adams TD, Leader of Sinn Féin

The Chairman welcomed Deputy Adams to the meeting of the Sub-Committee and invited him to make a presentation to the Sub-Committee. Following Deputy Adam's opening remarks there was a question and answer session with the members.

On conclusion of the debate the Chairman thanked Deputy Adam for the presentation and for meeting with the Sub-Committee.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 3.12 p.m. until 9.30 a.m. on Thursday, 26th April 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
9 May 2012

SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE REFERENDUM ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TREATY ON
STABILITY, COORDINATION AND GOVERNANCE IN THE ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 26 APRIL 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 9.38 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Sean Kyne and Padraig MacLochlainn.

Senator Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies were received from Deputy Joe O'Reilly and Senator Terry Leyden.

Deputies Regina Doherty, Simon Harris and Dara Murphy, Senator Mary White, and Paul Murphy MEP also attended.

3. MODULE II: THE REACTION OF IRISH SOCIETY TO THE TREATY

Session 9. Mr. Enda Kenny TD, An Taoiseach and Leader of Fine Gael

The Chairman welcomed the Taoiseach to the meeting of the Sub-Committee and invited him to make a presentation to the Sub-Committee. Following the Taoiseach's opening remarks there was a question and answer session with the members.

On conclusion of the debate the Chairman thanked the Taoiseach for the presentation and for meeting with the Sub-Committee.

4. MEETING SUSPENDED

The meeting was suspended at 11.02 a.m. until 11.43 a.m.

5. MODULE I: VIEWS ON THE TREATY FROM ACROSS THE EU

Session 4. Mr. Jonas Sjöstedt MP, Swedish Left Party

The Chairman invited Mr. Sjöstedt MP to make a presentation to the Sub-Committee following which there was a question and answer session with the Members.

On conclusion of the debate the Chairman thanked Mr. Sjöstedt MP for the presentation and for meeting with the Sub-Committee.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 12.33 p.m. until 10 a.m. on Friday, 27th April 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
9 May 2012

SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE REFERENDUM ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TREATY ON
STABILITY, COORDINATION AND GOVERNANCE IN THE ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 27 APRIL 2012

1. The Joint Committee met at 10.11 a.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan and Dominic Hannigan

Senators Fidelma Healy Eames, Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies were received from Deputies Sean Kyne and Joe O'Reilly.

Deputy Charlie Flanagan and Marian Harkin MEP also attended.

3. MODULE II: THE REACTION OF IRISH SOCIETY TO THE TREATY

Session 10. Mr. Jack O'Connor, General President of SIPTU.

The Chairman invited Mr. O'Connor to make a presentation to the Sub-Committee following which there was a question and answer session with the members.

On conclusion of the debate the Chairman thanked Mr. O'Connor for the presentation and for meeting with the Sub-Committee.

4. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 11.45 a.m. until 4.15 p.m. on Wednesday, 9th May 2012.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman
9 May 2012

SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE REFERENDUM ON THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL TREATY ON
STABILITY, COORDINATION AND GOVERNANCE IN THE ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION

MINUTES OF MEETING OF 9 MAY 2012

1. The Joint Committee met in private session at 4.20 p.m. in Committee Room 3, LH 2000, a quorum being present.

2. MEMBERS PRESENT

Deputies Paschal Donohoe, Timmy Dooley, Bernard Durkan, Dominic Hannigan, Colm Keaveney, Sean Kyne and Joe O'Reilly

Senators Terry Leyden and Kathryn Reilly.

Apologies were received from Deputy Padraig MacLochlainn

3. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT REPORT

The Committee had before it a draft report and a numbered list of amendments.

| No. | Member | Amendment | |
|-----|--------|---|----------------------------|
| 1 | PD | Change of language used by replacing the terms "proponent" and "opponent" with more general terms, for example "contributors". | Withdrawn |
| 2 | PD | First paragraph under "The Purpose". Recommend insertion of a sentence about differing views in relation to the role of the Treaty. | Agreed |
| 3 | PD | Under "Alternatives to the ESM", first sentence – "realistic source of funding" - suggest "credible source of funding" | Agreed |
| 4 | KR | To use the title "Fiscal Compact" throughout | Agreed to use "the Treaty" |
| 5 | KR | To add in a summary of Mr. Sjostedt's presentation | Agreed |
| 6 | KR | Gerry Adams summary: To correct the €66 billion figure to €6 billion and to include additional paragraph for proper | Agreed |

| | | | |
|---|----|---|--------|
| | | context | |
| 7 | KR | Paul Sweeney summary: To add the following quote to the summary: "As the Treaty is going ahead, Ireland should avoid cementing it into our Constitution with a referendum as this would make much more difficult to eliminate when it is reformed". | Agreed |

The draft report, as amended, was agreed. It was further agreed to lay the report before the Houses and to print and publish the report.

The Committee agreed that the report would be formally launched at a press conference on Wednesday 16 May.

4. MINUTES

The minutes of the meetings of 3, 4, 5, 17, 18, 25, 26 and 27 April 2012 were agreed.

5. ADJOURNMENT

The Committee adjourned at 4.48 p.m. sine die.

Mr. Dominic Hannigan, T.D.
Chairman