

## Communiqué

The XVII COSAC (Conference of European Affairs Committees), meeting in Luxembourg, for the first time together with representatives of the applicant countries in the capacity of special guests, welcomed the Protocol on the role of national parliaments, in the Treaty of Amsterdam, which took up the main conclusions adopted by COSAC in Dublin.

The agenda focussed on

- «Agenda 2000», presented by M. Ambassador Jean Mischo, General Secretary at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- the Employment summit, introduced by M. Jean-Claude Juncker, Prime Minister
- ratification of the Treaty of Amsterdam, on the basis of documents presented by the national delegations
- a COSAC site on the Internet, on a model drawn up by the French Senate in collaboration with the Chamber of Deputies of Luxembourg; and
- the subject of transparency, introduced by the Dutch delegation

on which a wide-ranging exchange of views took place.

The Conference remitted to the next troika a proposal made by one national delegation on the case for a revision of the rules of COSAC, following the Protocol on national parliaments in the Treaty of Amsterdam.

The Conference furthermore decided that the deliberations of the next COSAC should concentrate as a priority on the 3<sup>rd</sup> pillar of the Treaty of European Union.

For the preparation of substantive debates, the Internet site could provide a useful tool for coordination, pending the eventual creation of specific working groups.