

## Minutes of proceedings of the first sitting of the WEU Assembly (Strasbourg, 5 and 8 July 1955)

**Caption:** On 5 and 8 July 1955, in Strasbourg, the first sitting of the Assembly of Western European Union (WEU) is held in the Hemicycle of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, attended by the delegations of Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany, France, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom.

**Source:** Proceedings. First session, I. Orders of the day — Minutes of proceedings. Strasbourg: Assembly of Western European Union, July 1955. 42 p. p. 12.

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[http://www.cvce.eu/obj/minutes\\_of\\_proceedings\\_of\\_the\\_first\\_sitting\\_of\\_the\\_weu\\_assembly\\_strasbourg\\_5\\_and\\_8\\_july\\_1955-en-81bae4c7-1292-461a-a3f3-7877a233d046.html](http://www.cvce.eu/obj/minutes_of_proceedings_of_the_first_sitting_of_the_weu_assembly_strasbourg_5_and_8_july_1955-en-81bae4c7-1292-461a-a3f3-7877a233d046.html)

**Publication date:** 14/05/2013

## FIRST SITTING

Tuesday, 5th July, 1955

### ORDERS OF THE DAY

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Election of the President and Vice-Presidents.</li> <li>2. Message from the Council.</li> </ol> | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>3. Preparation of the Rules of Procedure.</li> </ol> |
|---|---|

### MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

*The Sitting was opened at 5 p.m. with M. Boggiano Pico, Provisional President, in the Chair.*

#### 1. Opening of the Session

In accordance with Article IX of the Treaty of Brussels, modified and completed by the Protocol of 23rd October, 1954, and of the decision of the Council of the Western European Union taken at its Meeting at Paris on 7th May, 1955, the Provisional President declared open the first session of the Assembly of the Western European Union.

#### 2. Inaugural Address by the Provisional President

The Provisional President delivered an inaugural address.

#### 3. Credentials of Representatives at the Assembly of the Western European Union

The Assembly took note of the ratification of the credentials of its members by the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe.

#### 4. Attendance Register

The Assembly decided to apply provisionally the Rule of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe as regards Substitutes. Accordingly the list of Representatives who signed the register is given in the Appendix.

#### 5. Election of the President

The Assembly decided to apply provisionally the Rule of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe as regards the election of a President.

*The Sitting was suspended at 5.20 and resumed at 5.35 p.m.*

The Provisional President informed the Assembly that he had received the name of Mr. Maclay as a candidate for the Presidency.

On the proposal of M. Guy Mollet, the Assembly unanimously decided not to proceed to a secret ballot, and elected Mr. Maclay by acclamation.

On the invitation of the Provisional President Mr. Maclay, President of the Assembly, took the Chair.

#### 6. Election of Vice-Presidents

On the proposal of the President the Assembly provisionally decided to elect six Vice-Presidents and to apply to their election the Rules of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe as regards the election of Vice-Presidents.

*The Sitting was suspended at 5.45 p.m. and resumed at 6.40 p.m.*

The names of the candidates for Vice-Presidents were read as follows:

MM. Bichet, Boggiano Pico, Bohy, Fens, Lüt-kens, Schaus.

The Assembly decided unanimously not to have a secret ballot; to elect the Vice-Presidents by acclamation and that the Vice-Presidents should rank according to age.

Accordingly the six Vice-Presidents were declared elected as follows: MM. Boggiano Pico, Lütkens, Bohy, Fens, Schaus and Bichet.

#### **7. Message from the Council**

The Message from the Council was presented by M. Spaak, Chairman of the Council of the Western European Union.

The President proposed that the Assembly should postpone debate on the Message until its Rules of Procedure had been drawn up.

M. van der Goes van Naters proposed that the Assembly should reaffirm its right of nominating its Clerk and should then delegate this task to the Bureau.

*Speaker:* M. Spaak.

M. de Menthon proposed that the Assembly should sit again before the end of the current Session of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe and that at that Sitting the Bureau should submit the name of a candidate for the Clerkship and proposals for the organisation of the Assembly's work.

On the proposal of the President the Assembly decided to postpone debate on these motions so

that the Bureau might discuss them with a view to submitting proposals.

#### **8. Preparation of Rules of Procedure**

The President proposed the appointment of a Special Committee on Organisation to be made up of 17 members allotted as follows:—

Belgium:	2	Members
France:	3	»
German Federal Republic:	3	»
Italy:	3	»
Luxembourg:	1	»
Netherlands:	2	»
United Kingdom:	3	»

This proposal was agreed to.

National delegations were asked to submit the names of their candidates to the Secretary-General by noon on Wednesday, 6th July.

#### **9. Date, Time and Orders of the Day of the next Sitting**

*Speaker:* Sir Robert Boothby.

The Assembly decided to leave to the Bureau the task of fixing the date and time of the next Sitting.

*The Sitting was closed at 7.5 p.m.*

## APPENDIX

## FIRST SITTING

## APPENDIX

Names of Representatives or Substitutes who signed the register of attendance <sup>1</sup>.

MM. Azara  
Mlle *Klompé* (Beaufort)  
MM. Becker  
Benvenuti  
Bettiol  
Boggiano Pico  
Bohy  
Sir Robert Boothby  
M. Bruins Slot  
Miss Burton  
Sir David Campbell  
M. van Cauwelaert  
Lord Chesham  
MM. *Ebner* (Codacci Pisanelli)  
Dehousse  
*de Félice* (Delbos)  
Edwards  
Erler  
Fens  
*Maydon* (Fletcher-Cooke)  
*von Bismarck* (Gerstenmaier)  
van der Goes van Naters

MM. Haasler  
Heyman  
*Sharples* (Hutchison)  
Jaquet  
Kalbitzer  
Kapteijn  
van Kauwenbergh  
Kiesinger  
*Krieger* (Koenig)  
Kopf  
Korthals  
Lord Layton  
MM. Lemaire  
*Höfler* (Lenz)  
Leverkuehn  
Lucifero  
Lütkens  
Maclay  
Margue  
Mellish  
de Menthon  
von Merkatz  
Mollet

## ANNEXE

Liste des Représentants ou Suppléants ayant signé le registre de présence <sup>1</sup>.

MM. Mommer  
Montini  
Morrison  
*Janssens* (Motz)  
Mutter  
Nacucchi  
*Charpentier* (Pezet)  
Miss Pitt  
MM. *Hellwig* (Pünder)  
Radius  
Mme Rehling  
MM. Santero  
Schaus  
Schmal  
Schmid  
Mme Schroeder  
MM. Schütz  
Smithers  
Spallicci  
von Spreti  
Struye  
*Bichet* (Teitgen)  
*Matteotti* (Treves)

The following Representatives were excused attendance:

MM. Badini Confalonieri  
Canevari  
Chaban-Delmas  
Cingolani  
Daladier  
De Vita  
Galletto

MM. Gonella  
Lord Henderson  
MM. Moutet  
Noel-Baker  
Oakshott  
Paget  
Pernot

Les Représentants dont les noms suivent se sont excusés.

MM. Perrier  
Plaisant  
Reynaud  
Rolin  
Senghor  
Thomson

1. The names of Substitutes replacing Representatives absent are printed in italics, the names of the latter being given in brackets.

1. Sont indiqués en italique les noms des Suppléants ayant remplacé les Représentants absents, dont les noms figurent entre parenthèses.

## SECOND SITTING

Friday, 8th July, 1955

### ORDERS OF THE DAY

1. Constitution of the Committee on Organisation.

2. Report of the Bureau of the Assembly on the appointment of a Clerk of the Assembly.

### MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

*The Sitting was opened at 11.55 a.m., with Mr. Maclay, President of the Assembly, in the Chair.*

#### 1. Adoption of the Minutes

The Minutes of Proceedings of the previous Sitting were agreed to.

#### 2. Attendance Register

The Assembly had decided to apply provisionally the Rule of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe as regards Substitutes. The list of representatives who signed the register is given accordingly in the Appendix.

#### 3. Constitution of the Committee on Organisation

*Speakers:* MM. Janssens, Bohy, Janssens.  
M. Janssens moved a motion as follows:

"1. *The Bureau.* The Bureau of the Assembly shall be composed of a President and six Vice-Presidents. It shall be elected after examination of the credentials of Representatives and Substitutes. The Chairmen of the political groups of the Assembly may attend meetings of the Bureau at the invitation of the President.

2. *The Standing Committee.* The Standing Committee shall consist of the President of the Assembly, the six Vice-Presidents and the Chairmen of the general committees *ex officio*, and of a number of additional members to be determined by the Assembly. The allocation of seats and appointment of members shall be governed by the provisions of Rule 40 below.

The Chairmen of the political groups of the Assembly may attend its meetings at the invitation of the President.

3. Candidatures for membership of the Committees shall be addressed to the Bureau, which shall submit to the Assembly proposals concerning the composition of the Committees. These proposals shall make allowance for a fair representation of Member States and political opinions.

Should disagreement arise concerning one or more seats on a Committee, the Assembly shall decide by secret ballot.

4. *Groups.* Representatives may form groups in accordance with their political affinities. Such groups shall be considered established when the President of the Assembly has received a declaration to this effect including the title of the group, the signatures of its members and particulars of its Bureau.

This declaration shall be notified to the Assembly during the Sitting following its receipt.

No member may appear on the list of more than one group. The minimum number of members required to establish a group shall be ten."

The Assembly referred this motion to the Committee on Organisation.

The Assembly nominated the Committee as follows:

Belgium: MM. Bohy, Struye;  
France: MM. Charpentier, Jaquet, Mutter;  
German Federal Republic: MM. Becker, Kopf, Schmid;  
Italy: MM. Azara, Montini, Treves;  
Luxembourg: M. van Kauenbergh;  
Netherlands: MM. van der Goes van Naters, Schmal;  
United Kingdom: Sir Robert Boothby, MM. Hutchison, Thomson.

**4. Report of the Bureau of the Assembly  
on the appointment of a Clerk of the Assembly**

The President informed the Assembly that a Motion (Doc. 1) had been tabled by Mr. Morrison concerning the appointment of a Clerk of the Assembly; that in his opinion this motion was a dilatory motion of the kind referred to in Rule 32 of the Rules of Procedure of the Consultative Assembly of the Council of Europe, and that he therefore proposed that the Assembly should apply the relevant provisions of that Rule to the debate on this motion.

This proposal was agreed to.

*Speakers:* MM. Morrison, Mollet, Margue, Rolin, Mollet, Margue, Montini.

The Assembly proceeded to a vote upon the motion by sitting and standing. The motion was agreed to as follows:

“The Assembly

Considering that the Clerk to the Assembly of Western European Union must be appointed by the Assembly, and be responsible to the Assembly;

Considering the importance of this appointment for the effective working of Western European Union Assembly,

Moves that a decision on the appointment of a Clerk be postponed until the next Session of the Assembly in order that the question can be reported on by the Bureau in association with the Committee on Organisation; and

Decides that, in the meantime, and only until the next Session, the President, in consultation with the Chairman of the Committee on Organisation, makes temporary arrangements about secretarial services for the Assembly.”

*Speakers:* MM. Margue, Kopf, de Menthon, Mollet.

**5. Date of the next Meeting**

The Assembly decided that the date, time and Orders of the day of the next Sitting should be left to the Bureau to decide.

*The Sitting was closed at 12.45 p.m.*

## APPENDIX

Names of Representatives or Substitutes who signed the register of attendance <sup>1</sup>.

MM. Azara  
*Basile* (Badini Confalonieri)  
*Janssen* (Beaufort)  
 Becker  
 Bettiol  
 Boggiano Pico  
 Bohy  
 Sir Robert Boothby  
 M. Bruins Slot  
 Miss Burton  
 Sir David Campbell  
 M. *de la Vallée Poussin*  
 (van Cauwelaert)  
 Visc. *Stonehaven* (Lord Ches-  
 ham)  
 MM. *de Kinder* (Dehousse)  
*de Félice* (Delbos)  
 Edwards  
 Erler  
 Fens  
 Fletcher-Cooke  
 van der Goes van Naters

MM. Haasler  
*Jenkins* (Lord Henderson)  
 Heyman  
 Hutchison  
 Jaquet  
 van Kauwenbergh  
 Kiesinger  
*Krieger* (Koenig)  
 Kopf  
 Korthals  
 Lord Layton  
 MM. Lemaire  
*Höfler* (Lenz)  
 Leverkuehn  
 Lucifero  
 Lütkens  
 Margue  
 Mellish  
 de Menthon  
 Mollet  
 Montini  
 Morrison

## ANNEXE

Liste des Représentants ou Suppléants ayant signé le registre de présence <sup>1</sup>.

MM. *Janssens* (Motz)  
*Silvandre* (Moutet)  
 Nacucchi  
 Paget  
 Perrier  
*Charpentier* (Pezet)  
 Miss Pitt  
 MM. *Hellwig* (Pünder)  
 Radius  
 Mme Rehling  
 MM. Rolin  
 Santero  
 Schmal  
 Schmid  
 Mme Schroeder  
 MM. Schütz  
 Smithers  
 Spallicci  
 von Spreti  
*le Hodey* (Struye)  
 Thomson  
*Matteotti* (Treves)

The following Representatives were excused attendance:

MM. Benvenuti  
 Canevari  
 Chaban-Delmas  
 Cingolani  
 Codacci Pisanelli  
 Daladier  
 De Vita  
 Galletto

MM. Gerstenmaier  
 Gonella  
 Kalbitzer  
 Kapteijn  
 von Merkatz  
 Mommer  
 Mutter  
 Noel-Baker

Les Représentants dont les noms suivent se sont excusés.

MM. Oakshott  
 Pernot  
 Plaisant  
 Reynaud  
 Schaus  
 Senghor  
 Teitgen

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