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## NEWSLETTER

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### Moldova and CoE Development Bank join the Pact

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The Regional Table admitted Moldova to the Pact. President Vladimir Voronin addressed the Table as new participant on June 28. The Council of Europe Development Bank was also admitted to the Pact as a facilitator. This bank focuses on the financing of social initiatives.

### Free Trade in SEE by end of 2002

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By Signing on June 27 a Memorandum of Understanding on Liberalisation and Facilitation of Trade the Governments of Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Romania, FYR Macedonia and Yugoslavia made an important step forward towards the establishment of free trade in Southeastern Europe. The aim is the creation of a network of bilateral free trade agreements by the end of 2002, thereby allowing for at least 90% of goods to be exchanged free of tariffs. Chances are that the countries of the region can now engage in a process of market extension, which by experience triggers economic growth. Liberalised markets of Southeast Europe comprise of 55 million consumers. This process is fully in line with WTO standards and recognises the relevant obligations of signatory countries vis-à-vis the EU. The agreement also includes a standstill and possible reduction of non-tariff barriers. Moldova has expressed strong interest to join this process and has signed a statement of intent to that end.



At the Ministerial Meeting, Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the FYR of Macedonia, Romania and the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia signed the Memorandum on Trade, while Moldova signed a statement of intent to join the process.

## Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Yugoslavia agree on Refugee Return

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Almost to the day ten years after hostilities started in former Yugoslavia, the region's sad legacy of refugees and displaced persons is being tackled with a comprehensive approach involving Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Yugoslavia. By adopting the "Agenda for Regional Action" for refugees and displaced persons, the three Governments, together with donors, have taken stock of the outstanding issues. A series of bilateral initiatives combined with a National Action Plan by each of the three countries will assure that the case of the remaining 490'000 refugees and 760'000 internally displaced will be addressed. The package also provides for assistance for those, who have decided to stay and integrate at their present place of residence. Key initiatives for refugees include reconstruction programs, social housing, individual housing loan schemes, property legislation, pensions and social security.

### Refugee Return - The Way Ahead

Since the Agenda for Regional Action has been agreed to on June 27, considerable progress has already been made. The implementation focuses on the following areas:

- Removal of legal and other obstacles in Croatia, Bosnia and FRY mostly through adjustments to legislation and administrative procedures;
- Bilateral co-operation and dialogue need to be strengthened on bilateral and trilateral basis;
- Reconstruction and Construction needs, not only through international reconstruction assistance and "humanitarian" funds, but also by means of budgetary support for refugee matters through International Financing Institutions;
- Linkages to economic and social recovery are main element in the regional strategy and close co-operation with the Pact's "Social Cohesion Initiative" is key;
- Special and Regional Initiatives are needed, such as information exchange and legal advice as well as a common approach to the Collective Centre issue.

## New impetus for the Pact from the Regional Table - Strategic Framework adopted

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On June 28, the Regional Table of the Stability Pact concluded that there is substantial progress in Southeastern Europe on reforms and regional co-operation, despite the grave concerns regarding the crisis in FYR Macedonia. It set a clear course toward the second Regional Conference, to be held in Bucharest on 25-26 October 2001. The conference is seen as an opportunity for continuing the successful approach of reforms in the countries of Southeast Europe in combination with assistance.

Two important accords on Trade Liberalisation and Refugee Return, reached the day before, were particularly welcomed in this context. Special Co-ordinator Hombach referred to two accords reached on 27 June as typical examples on how the Pact facilitates practical progress in the region.

Based upon the recommendations of the three working tables (see below), the Regional Table also adopted a Strategic Framework with key priorities. The promotion of a Euro-Atlantic integration for all countries of the region, an enhanced conflict prevention and regional co-operation were adopted as the guiding principles of the Stability Pact's three Working Tables. Priorities of Working Table I (WT I - Democratisation and Human Rights) will include refugee issues, media, interethnic relations and cross-border co-operation as well as education and youth. For WT II (Economic Reconstruction) priorities are trade liberalisation, fostering private investment and regional infrastructure and environment. WT III (Security, Defence, Justice) will strongly focus on arms control and security sector reforms, on mine action and small arms reduction, disaster preparedness and prevention, fight against corruption and organised crime, migration and asylum as well as law enforcement and institution building. The Regional Table mandated the Special Co-ordinator, together with the World Bank and the European Commission, to prepare the Regional Conference in Bucharest reflecting these priorities.

For details on Regional Table and full text of Trade MoU, details on Refugee Return, conclusions, etc., see:  
<http://www.stabilitypact.org/regional.html>

## WTI Meeting in Portoroz (Slovenia)

In preparation of the Regional Table, the Working Table on Democratisation and Human Rights held its 4th meeting in Portoroz, Slovenia, on 14 and 15 May 2001.

The main aim of the meeting was to reach consensus among participants on the future orientation of the Working Table.

Participants agreed on the following priority areas: refugee returns, media, interethnic dialogue and cross-border co-operation, and education and youth.

Setting these priorities does not imply the cessation of the existing Task Forces, as participants recognised the paramount need to strengthen good governance (including the enhanced Szeged process), institution building and gender issues in the region on a cross-table basis, while continued attention should be given to Roma issues.

Finally, special reference was made to the critical role of effective relations between parliaments and parliamentarians in promoting accountability and transparency in SEE.

The role of NGOs and civic society as strategic partners of the Stability Pact was appraised and the importance of including them in the Pact's activities as regularly as possible was unanimously recognised.

The results of this meeting were taken into consideration for the formulation of the new strategic framework and the key priorities that were presented to and adopted by the Regional Table, 28th of June, in Brussels.

## WT II Meeting in Tirana (Albania)

The Working Table on Economic Reconstruction, Development and Co-operation held its fourth meeting on 22 and 23 May 2001, in Tirana. The host of the meeting, Minister E. Meksi, stressed that there was a need to move from the project-oriented strategy, which prevailed in the first phase of the Pact to a program-oriented one. Chairman Saccomanni underlined the efforts made to streamline and improve efficiency of WT II's main activities, particularly trade, Investment

Compact, Business Advisory Council and infrastructure:

**Trade:** WT participants commended the excellent work concluded by the Trade Working Group, which will lead to a network of free trade agreements.

**Infrastructure:** Out of the 34 projects and studies in the quick start program, bidding for contracts is underway or completed on over half of the projects and studies, representing 75% of the total cost, while work has actually started on 12.

**Investment Compact:** The pace of policy reform in SEE is uneven, with some countries making rapid progress and others lagging behind. A detailed catalogue of envisaged and applied measures is being compiled.

**Business Advisory Council:** The WT welcomed proposed reform steps by the BAC, which include a country by country approach, to promote the establishment of foreign investors clubs in each country of the region and to set up an Executive Secretariat to prepare the work of the BAC.

The WT welcomed and expressed support for two new initiatives: Social Cohesion and e-SEE.

## WT III Meeting in Zagreb (Croatia)



**The Working Table on Security Issues held its fourth meeting in Zagreb on June 12-13, 2001.**

Participants discussed future priorities and activities of the Working Table and reiterated their sup-

port. It was emphasised that the main challenge at the present juncture was to strengthen implementation and ensure the achievement of tangible results on the basis of these priorities. The idea of formulating for each priority area a program of action was widely supported.

The continued role of the Working Table in facilitating and contributing to the integration of the countries of the region into European and Euro-Atlantic structures was pointed out. There was broad agreement on the need to ensure complementarity between the activities of the Working Table and the Stabilisation and Association Process, which is the key EU policy instrument in the region, as well as of other EU related processes and programs, such as the European Commission CARDS strategy. At the same time, Delegations noted the importance of regional ownership and leadership. The importance of SEEGROUP as an instrument for regional co-ordination on security issues was stressed by participants.

There was a broadly held view that the Working Table could provide value added through its broad and comprehensive approach to security issues, in the form of Security Sector Reform, combining the internal and external aspects of security. In this regard reference was made to the landmark achievement represented by the Southeast Europe Common Assessment Paper on Regional Security Challenges. SEECAP was hailed as a regionally driven process supported by the Stability Pact and NATO.

Discussions in the Sub-table on Security and Defence centred on principal Stability Pact activities such as humanitarian de-mining, small arms and light weapons, base closure and conversion, training of redundant military officers, disaster prevention and preparedness. In the Sub-table on Justice and Home Affairs, discussion focused on fighting organised crime and corruption, institution building in the law enforcement field and efforts to fight the trafficking of human beings in the context of the Migration and Asylum Initiative.

## New Chairs for WT I and Sub-table Justice and Home Affairs

The Regional Table appointed Mr. Alexander Rondos (Greece) as new Chairman of Working Table I (Democratisation and Human Rights) and thanked outgoing chairman Mr. Panagiotis Roumeliotis for his efforts on behalf of the Stability Pact. Upon the recommendation of the EU, Mr. Per Sjoegren was approved as Chairman of the WT III (Sub-table on Justice and Home Affairs).

## New Co-chairs for the Working Tables

For the second half of 2001, the Working Tables will have new co-chairs.

In the case of **WT I**, it will be **FYR of Macedonia**.

For **WT II**, **Bosnia-Herzegovina**.

And for **WT III**, **Hungary**.

## New Heads at Media Task Force

At a meeting on June 20, the US State Department pledged financial support for national working groups of the Media Task Force of the Stability Pact. At the same meeting, a new executive secretary was appointed to resume the work of the Task Force, which had been stalled due to personnel changes.

The new executive secretary, Mr. Yasha Lange, an expert on Balkan media, will work closely with the chairmen of the Media Task Force, Mr. Michael Zenner of the German Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The position of the executive secretary is supported by four international (donor) organisations.

The Media Task Force will set up national working groups in the countries of SEE. The working groups will prepare action plans, aimed at implementing a media charter, which all countries have signed. Removing legal obstacles to the (electronic) media, professionalisation of journalists and access to public information are among the top-priorities. The working groups can subsequently propose (regional) media projects for funding.

## One-year assessment on Quick Start Package presented to the wider public

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At a media conference in Brussels on May 14, SC Hombach explained that one year after the donor community secured funding at the March 2000 Regional Funding Conference, the vast majority, namely 201 out of 244 projects in the Stability Pact's Quick Start Package, have started. Hombach underlined that *"... one would always wish things to go even faster, but this is a real success. The Quick Start Package has given a kick-start to progress in Southeastern Europe. In a joint effort together with our partners we have managed to establish an accelerated procedure for assisting the region"*. Hombach said that the region is still volatile and he warned against diminishing efforts now: this would be the wrong signal.

At the Regional Funding Conference held in Brussels on 29-30 March 2000, donors pledged €2.4 billion. The breakdown of this amount per working table was as follows: for Working Table I (Democracy and Human Rights) €0,46 bio, for Working Table II (Economic Reconstruction) €1,8 bio and for Working Table III (Security and Justice & Home Affairs) €0,08 bio (an additional €0,06 bio is not allocated to any specific Table).

Already, about half the total aid committed for Working Table I (Democracy and Human Rights) has been expended, including refugee return programs with a disbursement rate of about 70%. At Working Table III (Security & Justice and Home Affairs), 55% of the money pledged has by now reached its recipients.

Infrastructure projects make up over half the financial commitments within the QSP (€1,3 bio). They are the most time consuming to implement. Nonetheless, in the infrastructure sector of Working Table II (Economic Reconstruction) 15 out of 25 projects are underway, representing 75% of the total financial commitments for this sector.

The overall disbursement rate for all Working Tables is satisfactory and against the background of the unevenly developed absorption capacity of the countries in the region is generally progressing better than expected. However, there are some disbursement delays, for which both recipients and donors share responsibility. For instance, delays have been caused by lengthy and at times

cumbersome procedures on the donors side, or the lack of legal conditions in the target countries, e.g., in the field of land expropriation.

## Pact wants to associate NGOs more closely

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It is well recognised that NGOs play an essential role in the promotion of Human Rights and Democratisation, as well as in conflict prevention and in building a tolerant multi-ethnic society. Therefore, the office of the SCSP encourages greater participation of NGOs in all its work.

Several conferences have taken place with the aim of fostering cross-border networking amongst NGOs. Some of these were under the framework of the Stability Pact, while others were organised by NGOs own initiatives. The Sinaia Conference in Romania of May 2000 came up with specific recommendations and concrete actions for the office of the Stability Pact. It called on the Stability Pact's support in strengthening NGO capacities for linking with the Governments and for creating effective communication mechanisms. These recommendations became the basis for the Stability Pact Declaration on NGO-Government Partnership in South Eastern Europe, which was accepted and adopted by all participants in the Working Table I Meeting in Bucharest of October 2000. It called on developing mechanisms for State-Government Partnerships, and for improving communication between public administrations and NGOs. The Brdo Conference in Slovenia of May 2001 went one step further and became the basis for the Stability Pact's decision to provide guidance in building NGO capacity to participate in all activities of the three Working Tables of the Stability Pact.

The objective is to develop a consultative mechanism within the Stability Pact through which NGO issues are taken into consideration on national and regional levels. The SP Office envisages the establishment of an NGO consultative body with clear "Terms of Reference". An information paper will be circulated during the summer to initiate the process as part of the run-up to the Regional Conference 25-26 October in Bucharest.

## Vive la difference – CoE launches « Link Diversity »

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“Link Diversity” aims at bringing people of different origins and identities to work together through programmes in education, youth, culture, social welfare and media. The goal is to practically experience mutual understanding, recognition and respect, thereby showing the benefits to be gained from co-operation. The one-year awareness-raising campaign, led by the Council of Europe within the Stability Pact, is ready to start.

The European Organising Committee (EOC) was set up at a meeting of participating countries in Strasbourg on 25-26 June 2001. Activities are jointly steered by chairman Ibrahim Spahic, Director of the Sarajevo Winter Festival and Head of the “Link Diversity” Regional Co-ordinating Office in Sarajevo, and members of national committees of the campaign, coming from civil society and governmental or parliamentary institutions. Participants emphasised that the question of the very existence and the nature of a civil link is not only a crucial issue in South Eastern Europe, but an intellectual and practical challenge arising with increasing urgency throughout Europe.

The Council of Europe and its partners will ensure that minorities and national or ethnic communities will be involved, forging new civil links to build a peaceful society which respects human rights and efficient democratic institutions. “Link Diversity” is backed up by Council of Europe action to counter discrimination against minorities, to improve existing protection measures and to promote bilateral State agreements on minorities. Roma issues are also being tackled through specific programmes, and human rights centres and institutes on minority questions in South Eastern Europe are being developed.

## Electronic-SEEurope to foster economic development in the region

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The E-SEEurope Initiative (formerly e-Balkans) continued to develop and fine-tune Internet related activities and projects in the fields of e-government, e-business and e-education. Seven

months after its launch at the Working Table II meeting in Istanbul in October 2000, the countries of South Eastern Europe and several important donor governments welcomed an Action Plan of the Initiative, presented by the Swedish chair in Tirana, 23 May.

At an e-SEEurope Business Network Meeting in Brussels 5 July, representatives from governments, financial institutions and the corporate business community discussed concrete steps and recognised that private sector involvement is crucial in the process. This meeting was seen as an example of how the public and private sector can join forces. The next meeting of e-SEEurope is scheduled for 18 September in Bucharest.

## FR Yugoslavia co-chairs Social Cohesion Initiative

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The French Chairman of the Initiative for Social Cohesion presented the Initiative’s Action Plan to the meeting of Working Table II in Tirana 22 - 23 May. He invited FRY to appoint a co-chair of the Initiative. The Action Plan, which covers the areas of health, social protection, social dialogue, employment policy and vocational training as well as housing is supported by all Stability Pact beneficiary countries and by several donor countries. The partners of the Initiative will now fine-tune the Action Plan, with a first meeting held on June 14 in Geneva. Concrete proposals will be discussed in Belgrade in late September.

## Priorities of DPPI

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Disaster Prevention and Preparedness Initiative held a workshop at the level of the heads of civil emergency institutions in Geneva on 26-27 June 2001. The discussions were based on the "Regional Report" prepared by the DPPI Operational Team covering 12 countries. A "Strategic Outline" prioritised six areas where future work will concentrate: a) Information sharing and networking, b) standardisation and harmonisation, c) preparedness planning and exercises, d) co-operative development, conduction and evaluation of disaster management training, e) public awareness and media relations, f) strengthening local (municipal) structures, and, g) border crossing.

Following a suggestion of BiH and to mark regional ownership, the participating countries distributed the six subjects between themselves and each took the lead on one of them.

The next meeting of DPPI in BiH in early October 2001 will co-ordinate the work in the above mentioned areas, while the Stability Pact Office will try to find a co-ordination officer, financed by donors, for a comprehensive approach to DPPI.

## Pact gets Parliamentary "Wing"

On 5 June 2001, the European Parliament and the Parliamentary Assemblies of the Council of Europe and of the OSCE initiated a Troika to sponsor the Parliamentary Co-operation Task Force of the Pact. Each body has designated an MEP/MP to participate in the debates and discussions of the Stability Pact through its Working and Regional Tables. Elmar Brok, Chairman of the EP Foreign Affairs Committee, addressed the Regional Table on 28 June and underlined the need to mobilise donors and to create the basis for a comprehensive approach regarding the political and financial strategy in favour of Southeastern Europe. Referring to the Western Balkans, he stressed that reconciliation and co-operation too need financial support.

The European Parliament will sponsor a Conference on 17-18 September 2001 inviting MPs from the region and other interested parties. The Conference will focus on the role of parliaments in the stabilisation process, new priorities for economic reconstruction and development and fight against organised crime, particularly against trafficking of human beings.

## Update on the Danube Conference

The preparations of the comprehensive Danube Conference (see Newsletter 8) will be led jointly by Austria and Romania. The Conference will be under the aegis of the Stability Pact, with the full support of the European Commission. The countries of the Danube basin will be invited to attend a preparatory meeting in Vienna on 20-21 September 2001.

The Conference is expected to take place in early 2002. Its aim is to combine the efforts of Danubian EU-Member States, candidate States and other interested States of the hydrological Danube basin, in order to enhance stability and prosperity in the Danube region. Its main objectives will be:

- to broaden and deepen the Danube co-operation and add to it a meaningful political and economic dimensions, without creating new institutions, but taking stock of the existing structures and initiatives and, where necessary, harmonise their objectives and efforts;

- to identify concerns, interests and objectives shared by countries in the Danube basin;

- to highlight issues related to the European integration which are of relevance to the Danubian countries, irrespective of their status with regard to the EU;

- to strive to harmonise and develop the various initiatives launched in the different fields of the Danube co-operation such as economic, trade, tourism, environment, legal regime of navigation.

The contribution of the European Commission to the development of the region is essential in this regard. So is the support and participation of the Stability Pact for South - Eastern Europe, which had originally launched this process and whose experience is a valuable asset for its success. Other interested States, International Organisations, NGOs or business organisations engaging in relevant areas, could be associated in one form or another.

## Chronology: 2 years of Stability Pact

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<b>10 June 1999</b>	Foreign Ministers Meeting adopts Stability Pact, Cologne	<b>20 Oct. 2000</b>	Regional Arms Control and Verification Implementation Assistance Centre opened, Zagreb
<b>30 July 1999</b>	Sarajevo Summit, SC Hombach appointed	<b>26 October 2000</b>	FR Yugoslavia joins the Stability Pact
<b>27 Sept. 1999</b>	1st Regional Table: Stability Pact Work Plan	<b>October 2000</b>	Charter on NGO-Government partnership
<b>October 1999</b>	Szeged Process initiated	<b>14 Dec. 2000</b>	Police Forum of SEE countries established
<b>7 February 2000</b>	Mediation on Danube Bridge, Vidin-Calafat	<b>February 2001</b>	Regional Economic Action Plan adopted (SEECF)
<b>16 Feb. 2000</b>	Anti-Corruption Initiative adopted	<b>24 March 2001</b>	Szeged Process enhanced
<b>February 2000</b>	Charter on Good Neighbourly Relations adopted (SEECF)	<b>30 March 2001</b>	Quick Start Package: 201 of 244 projects initiated
<b>February 2000</b>	Investment Compact launched	<b>3 April 2001</b>	Migration and Asylum Initiative adopted
<b>29-30 March 2000</b>	Regional Funding Conference, Brussels	<b>22 May 2001</b>	Border Management Task Force established
<b>March 2000</b>	Launching of Regional Environment Reconstruction Program	<b>5 June 2001</b>	Parliamentary Troika (EP, Parl. Assemblies of OSCE, CoE) established
<b>30 March 2000</b>	Quick Start Package (€2.4bn) funded	<b>27 June 2001</b>	Memorandum on Trade Liberalisation in SEE signed
<b>June 2000</b>	Media Charter adopted	<b>27 June 2001</b>	Agenda for Regional Action on Refugee Return launched
<b>18 Sept. 2000</b>	Task Force Against Trafficking in Human Beings established	<b>28 June 2001</b>	Moldova joins the Stability Pact
<b>5 October 2000</b>	Fight Against Organised Crime Initiative adopted	<b>25-26 Oct. 2001</b>	Second Regional Conference on Reforms and Assistance, Bucharest

## The Special Co-ordinator's visits included:

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- Attended in **Bucharest** the Summit on Environment and Sustainable Development in the Danube – Carpathian Region and the opening of the office of the Stability Pact Regional Envoy, Mr. Mihai-Razvan Ungureanu on 30 April and 1 May. He met with Mr. Ion Iliescu, President of Romania, PM Adrian Nastase, FM Mircea Geoana, Mr. Stipe Mesic, President of Croatia and Mr. Vladimir Voronin, President of Moldova;
- Attended in **Tirana** the Southeast Europe Co-operation Process (SEECF) Informal Foreign Ministers' meeting on 16 and 17 May. He also met Albanian President Rexhep Meidani, PM Ilir Meta, Mr. Pascal Milo, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Mrs. Ermelinda Meksi, Minister for Economic Co-operation and Trade.
- Paid visit to **Zagreb**, on 12 June, for meetings with Croatian President Stipe Mesic, Deputy Prime Minister Linic and Deputy Foreign Minister Vesna Cvjetkovic-Kurelec. He also attended the Working Table III meeting and the meeting of South East Europe Regional Development Banks on Export Financing and on Insuring the Political and Commercial Risks of Investments in the Region;
- Paid visit to **Belgrade**, on 14 and 15 June, for meetings with Serbian PM Djindjic, Mr. Mroljub Labus, FRY Deputy Prime Minister, Mr. Zoran Zivkovic, FRY Minister of the Interior, Mr. Goran Svilanovic, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Mr. Dragoljub Micunovic, President of the Federal Parliament;

- Paid visit to **Kosovo**, on 19 and 20 June, for meetings with Kosovar political leaders Ibrahim Rugova, Hashim Thaqi, Ramush Haradinaj, with representatives of the Serb community Mrs. Rada Trajkovic and Bishop Artemije and with representatives of the Kosovar business community. He also met Mr. Hans Haekkerup, SRSB, Amb. Daan Everts, DSRSG Pillar III, Mr. Tom Koenigs, DSRSG Pillar II and Lt. Gen. Skiaker, COMKFOR.

**The Special Coordinator has also:**

- Attended in **Bucharest** the NATO Economic Colloquium on 4 May;
- Met in **Berlin** Otto Schily, Minister of Interior, on 7 May;
- Met in Brussels The Rt. Hon. Christopher Patten, Member of the European Commission, on 7 May;
- Met in Brussels Mr. Klaus Töpfer, Director General of UNEP, on 10 May;
- Attended in Brussels the General Affairs Council and presented the Stability Pact Quick Start Package Report on 14 May.
- Attended in **Tirana** the Working Table II meeting on 22 May;
- Met in Noordwijk, the **Netherlands**, Mr. Benschop, Sts in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, on 25 May;
- Met in Brussels Mr. Johannes Linn, Vice President of the World Bank, on 1 June;

- Met in Brussels Mr. Elmar Brok, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee in the European Parliament, Mr. Andras Barsony, representing the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Mr. Adrian Severin, President of the OSCE PA, on 5 June, to inaugurate their Troika sponsorship role for the parliamentary dimension of the Stability Pact;
- Attended in **Thessaloniki** the South East Europe Defence Ministerial Meeting (SEDM) on 6 June;
- Met in Brussels MEPs Jan Marinus Wiersma and Hannes Swoboda, SPE and Mrs. Annemie Neyts-Uyttebroeck, Sts in the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on 7 June;
- Attended in Luxembourg the General Affairs Council on 11 June;
- Attended in Luxembourg the General Affairs Council on 25 June;
- On the margins of the Regional Table, he met i.a. Mr. Vladimir Voronin, President of Moldova, Mr. Bill Taylor, Special Coordinator for Eastern European Assistance in the US-State Department of State, and Mr. Takashi Kurai, Director of Central and South Eastern Europe Division in the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs.
- Attended the World Economic Forum-European Economic Summit in **Salzburg** on 3 July. He met Mr. von Heydebek, Member of the Board of Deutsche Bank.
- Met Mr. de Maizière, Member of the Board of Commerzbank, on 6 July in Frankfurt.

