



**COUNCIL OF  
THE EUROPEAN UNION**

**Brussels, 15 February 2005  
(OR. fr)**

**6316/05**

**POLGEN 6**

**NOTE**

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from: Presidency  
to : Permanent Representatives Committee/Council  
*Subject : European Council (22 and 23 March 2005)*  
*- Annotated draft agenda*

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In accordance with Article 2(3) of the Council's Rules of Procedure, the General Affairs and External Relations Council, acting on a Presidency proposal, shall draw up an annotated draft agenda at least four weeks before the meeting of the European Council. The Presidency accordingly submits the following annotated draft agenda.

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The Presidency intends to limit the agenda to the following items:

- I. Stability and Growth Pact
- II. Mid-Term Review of the Lisbon Strategy
- III. Sustainable development
- IV. International situation

The meeting will be preceded by an exposé by the President of the European Parliament, Mr Josep Borrell, followed by an exchange of views.

## **I. STABILITY AND GROWTH PACT**

PM

## **II. MID-TERM REVIEW OF THE LISBON STRATEGY**

The European Council meeting will be largely taken up with the mid-term review of the Lisbon Strategy. Five years after its adoption, the European Council will be asked to: (a) discuss the relaunch of the Lisbon Strategy to establish a partnership for growth and employment, (b) update priorities in key sectors on which growth and employment depend, (c) consider how governance of the Strategy can be improved at Union and Member State level.

### ***A. RELAUNCH THE STRATEGY***

The European Council will be called upon to:

- confirm the relevance of the Lisbon Strategy by clarifying the issues and aim;
- confirm that the objective is to pursue growth and employment by establishing synergies between the economic, social and environmental dimensions of the strategy;

- **position the Strategy** in relation to the sustainable development strategy, the financial perspective for 2007-2013 and the adjustment of the Stability Pact.

## **B. THE PRIORITIES**

*[to be developed in due course in the light of the Commission communication, the conclusions of the sectoral Councils and any contributions from Member States.]*

## **C. NEW GOVERNANCE OF THE LISBON PROCESS**

The European Council will be invited to discuss the practical implementation of the Strategy at Union and Member State level, in particular:

- the introduction of **three-year national action programmes** binding on all those participating in the Strategy;
- **synchronising and rationalising the various processes** and related reports in order to improve overall coherence and effectiveness.

## **III SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**

Sustainable development is an over-arching concept that informs all the Union's policies, action and strategies. The European Council will need to clarify how the refashioning of the sustainable development strategy is to be dealt with in future.

## **IV. INTERNATIONAL SITUATION**

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