

**MVPEI
RADNI PRIJEVOD
PROVISIONAL TRANSLATION**

THE CROATIAN PARLIAMENT

Pursuant to Article 43 of the Standing Orders of the Croatian Parliament, at its session on 19 January 2005 the Croatian Parliament adopted the

D E C I S I O N ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL COMMITTEE

I.

A National Committee shall be established as a working body of the Croatian Parliament for monitoring the accession negotiations of the Republic of Croatia to the European Union.

II.

The National Committee shall:

- supervise and evaluate the course of negotiations,
- give opinions and guidelines on behalf of the Croatian Parliament on the prepared negotiating positions,
- consider information on the process of negotiations,
- consider and give its views on forthcoming questions on the agenda,
- analyse and assess the performance of individual members of the negotiating team,
- via the Chairperson of the Committee hold regular consultations and exchange information with the President of the Republic of Croatia, the President of the Government of the Republic of Croatia and the President of the Croatian Parliament,
- hold regular consultations with the Head of the Delegation and the Chief Negotiator on the progress of negotiations, open issues arisen during negotiations and possible ways of closing individual chapters,
- give opinions, as required, on the harmonisation of Croatian legislation with EU regulations,
- report on the work of the Committee to the Croatian Parliament at least twice a year.

III.

The National Committee shall draw its Chairperson, Deputy Chairperson and 13 members from among the Members of Parliament, of whom 6 members shall be from the parties in office, and 6 members from the opposition parties, but the Chairpersons of the Foreign Policy Committee, the Interparliamentary Co-operation Committee and the European Integration Committee shall be members of the National Committee irrespective of their party affiliation.

Four members shall be co-opted into the Committee: one representative of the Office of the President of the Republic, one representative of the academic community, one representative of employers' associations, and one representative of trade unions. The co-opted members shall have all the rights pertaining to members of a working body except the decision-making right.

IV.

The Chairperson of the National Committee shall be elected from the opposition parties, and the Deputy Chairperson from the ruling party or ruling coalition in the Croatian Parliament.

V.

The President of the Government, the President and members of the Presidency of the Croatian Parliament, the Head of the Delegation, the Chief Negotiator and the Head of the Negotiating Team for an individual field under discussion may take part in the work of the National Committee.

Representatives of other working bodies, chairpersons of the Deputies' Clubs in the Croatian Parliament, representatives of branch associations, scientists and experts from individual areas relevant to the process of negotiations may be invited to the sessions of the National Committee.

The Chief Negotiator, when attending a session of the National Committee, shall present information important for the decision-making process.

VI.

The sessions of the National Committee shall, as a rule, be held out of the public eye. When sessions are so held, the Chairperson of the National Committee shall inform the public about the subject-matter discussed and the decisions made.

VII.

The National Committee shall be supported by a Staff Service consisting of the Secretary of the Committee, an administrative secretary and three to five advisers. The Staff Service shall be headed by the Secretary of the Committee. The Secretary of the Committee shall exchange information with the Secretaries of the Foreign Policy Committee, the Interparliamentary Co-operation Committee and the European Integration Committee on any matters related to the integration processes of the European Union.

Qualifications and other requirements for employment in the Staff Service of the National Committee shall be governed by the Ordinance on the internal order of the Staff Service of the Croatian Parliament.

VIII.

The details concerning the work of the National Committee shall be regulated by its rules of procedure.

IX.

This Decision shall enter into force on the day of its adoption.

Class: 021-13/05-15/01
Zagreb, 19 January 2005

THE CROATIAN PARLIAMENT
The President of
the Croatian Parliament
Vladimir Šeks, m.p.

