


Procedure file

Basic information	
COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)	2000/2152(COS)
EU/Indonesia relations: strategy	Procedure completed
Subject 6.40.08 Relations with Asian countries	
Geographical area Indonesia	

Key players			
European Parliament	Committee responsible	Rapporteur	Appointed
	AFET Foreign Affairs, Human Rights, Common Security, Defense		06/06/2000
		PPE-DE MAIJ-WEGGEN Hanja	
	Committee for opinion	Rapporteur for opinion	Appointed
	BUDG Budgets	The committee decided not to give an opinion.	
	ITRE Industry, External Trade, Research, Energy		22/06/2000
		ELDR PLOOIJ-VAN GORSEL Ely	
	DEVE Development and Cooperation		13/07/2000
		GUE/NGL MIRANDA Joaquim	
Council of the European Union	Council configuration	Meeting	Date
	General Affairs	2243	14/02/2000

Key events			
02/02/2000	Non-legislative basic document published	COM(2000)0050	Summary
14/02/2000	Debate in Council	2243	
16/06/2000	Committee referral announced in Parliament		
07/11/2000	Vote in committee		Summary
07/11/2000	Committee report tabled for plenary	A5-0323/2000	
12/12/2000	Debate in Parliament		
13/12/2000	Decision by Parliament	T5-0563/2000	Summary
	End of procedure in Parliament		

13/12/2000			
17/08/2001	Final act published in Official Journal		

Technical information	
Procedure reference	2000/2152(COS)
Procedure type	COS - Procedure on a strategy paper (historic)
Procedure subtype	Commission strategy paper
Legal basis	Rules of Procedure EP 142
Stage reached in procedure	Procedure completed
Committee dossier	AFET/5/12505

Documentation gateway					
Non-legislative basic document		COM(2000)0050	02/02/2000	EC	Summary
Committee report tabled for plenary, single reading		A5-0323/2000 OJ C 223 08.08.2001, p. 0006	07/11/2000	EP	
Text adopted by Parliament, single reading		T5-0563/2000 OJ C 232 17.08.2001, p. 0081-0186	13/12/2000	EP	Summary

EU/Indonesia relations: strategy

PURPOSE : to present the key elements of a strategy for the development of closer relations between the EU and Indonesia. **CONTENT** : The EU's relations with Indonesia are now thirty years old and have largely been conducted within the framework of the EU-ASEAN dialogue. The East Timor issue, has, however, put a strain on the EU's relations with Indonesia and by extension with ASEAN, for some time. Now, Indonesia's renunciation of its territorial claim to East Timor has created a new situation, and the EU wishes to build a renewed and multi-faceted relationship with a democratising Indonesia. - Political dialogue: the Communication looks at Indonesia's role as a key player in the Asia Pacific Region. The change in Indonesian leadership opens new avenues for dialogue on the promotion of security such as in the South China Sea, the enhancement of the EU-ASEAN dialogue, and the promotion of concepts of democracy and human rights in the region. Indonesia's future relationship with East Timor will also be carefully scrutinised. Human rights policies need to be considered in a long-term perspective. Formal elements of a democratic government are now in place, but there is resistance from the supporters of the old structures within the bureaucracy and the army. The Communication discusses constitutional reform and the role of the armed forces, as well as good governance, and proposes future actions. Fundamental rights including the rights of minorities should be an essential part of any future dialogue with Indonesia with a view to supporting a constructive approach to the problem. - Economic and trade relations: Indonesian trade remained sluggish in 1998-99, even with the stimulus of currency depreciation. The stagnation of imports is related to the fall in investment and the weakness of the domestic supply of credits of the industrial sector. The communication discusses both multilateral trade within the WTO context and bilaterally with the EU. There is significant potential to expand trade, in both goods and services, which can be developed through a continuous focus on the opening of markets. Meanwhile, discussions should start on current market access issues between both partners with a view to stimulating two-way trade flows. Indonesia's recovery from the financial crisis has been the slowest in the region. The government needs to address the macroeconomic challenges swiftly, and in particular, the reform and recapitalising of the financial system, containing the levels of sovereign and foreign debt, and eradicating corruption and cronyism and replacing them with the rule of law. - Sustainable development: social safety net programmes, such as family planning, should be prioritised in future actions. The Union should pay particular attention to the question of poverty alleviation. A key priority will remain sustainable natural resources management, in particular with regard to forestry. It is evident that an additional effort needs to be made regarding financial resources in order to upgrade the EU's co-operation to a level consistent with Indonesia's needs.?

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The committee adopted the report by Hanja MAIJ-WEGGEN (EPP-ED, NL) expressing cautious optimism about progress towards democracy in Indonesia. Although it felt that Indonesia was gradually establishing a political system based on the rule of law, the committee was concerned at the disloyalty of some elements in the army, the action of paramilitary forces in Timor, the Laskar Jihad fighters in the Moluccas and the actions of forces from the old Suharto regime. It accordingly called for international support for the new government to help in the process of dismantling the civil and military privileges of the army. On the situation in the Moluccas - where there are some 300 000 refugees and have been 5000 fatalities - the committee felt that more involvement by the international community could not be ruled out. It also called for the paramilitary groups in the refugee camps of West Timor to be disbanded. The report stressed the need for the Indonesian Government to step up its fight against corruption, while applauding the steps that it was taking to enable the entire population to benefit from the economic upturn. Finally it expressed support for further aid to Indonesia, provided that the process of democratisation was continued and that Jakarta made attempts to tackle the considerable problems that remained. ?

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The European Parliament adopted the report by Mrs Hanja MAIJ-WEGGEN (EPP/ED, NI) by 501 votes to 4 with 25 abstentions. (Refer to the previous document). In addition to what was expressed in the previous document, the European Parliament supports the intention of the Indonesian Government to improve human rights by improving legislation, strengthening the National Human Rights Commission (KomNasHAM) and establishing special tribunals for human rights. It also calls on the Government to allow international observers to attend the special tribunals, and to clarify as soon as possible the scope of the amendment to the clause in the constitution on retroactive effect. With regard to trade, the Commission is called upon to act jointly with Indonesia in the WTO to press for a speedy start to a comprehensive round of trade negotiations and also to consider bringing Indonesia back into the EU's generalised system of preferences (GSP) in view of the fall in incomes in the last two years. Lastly, an amendment welcomes the overturning by the Supreme Court of the decision that former President Suharto was unfit to stand trial and calls for him to face a new trial.?