



MEETING OF THE SECRETARIES GENERAL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION PARLIAMENTS

15 February 2016, Luxembourg

CONCLUSIONS ON IPEX

1. The Secretaries General take note of the annual report on the current status of IPEX and thank the IPEX Board for its work in 2015.
2. The Secretaries General confirm the following composition of the IPEX Board during the Slovak Presidency of the Conference of Speakers of the European Union Parliaments in 2016/2017:
 - **Luxembourg (Chamber of Deputies)**, Chair of the IPEX Board (*ex officio*);
 - **Italy (Chamber of Deputies and Senate)** (*ex officio*);
 - **Slovakia (National Council)** (*ex officio*);
 - **The Netherlands (Chamber of Deputies and Senate)** (*ex officio*);
 - *(the list to be completed according to the information being collected by the Chair)*
 - **The European Parliament** (*ex officio*);
 - Any other national Parliament wishing to participate in the work of IPEX Board.

According to the IPEX Guidelines, COSAC, the ECPRD, the European Commission and the Council participate in and contribute to the IPEX Board meetings.

3. The Secretaries General thank the IPEX Board, and the Italian Parliament as its Chair, for the efforts undertaken in order to implement the new Guidelines, adopted in Rome on 13 March 2015. The Secretaries General appreciate that the rotating presidency mechanism has been successfully put into practice and trust that this will lead to an increased feeling of ownership of IPEX by all EU Parliaments.
4. The Secretaries General thank the Austrian Parliament for hosting the Annual IPEX Correspondents Meeting on 5-6 November 2015 in Vienna. They recall the importance of the Annual IPEX Correspondents meetings as an excellent opportunity for networking and encourage the Correspondents to be promoters of in-depth trainings for parliamentary staff. The Secretaries General also thank the Chamber of Deputies of Luxembourg and the European Parliament for hosting the Board meetings held respectively in Luxembourg on 29 June 2015 and in Bruxelles on 2 October 2015.
5. The Secretaries General express their gratitude both to the Senate of Belgium for offering to formally hire, as of January 2015, the IPEX Information Officer and to the European Parliament for providing the logistics and the infrastructure.

6. The Secretaries General, reaffirming the importance to continue the practice of organising IPEX Users conferences, agree to first focus on the implementation of the outcome of the Conference held in Copenhagen on 26 of January 2015 - as stated in the Report of the Conference submitted by the Board - before organizing a new meeting and mandate the Board on this issue
7. The Secretaries General thank the Board for the fruitful debate held on the role of IPEX and, having taken into consideration the final note drafted on the subject, express their agreement on its content.
8. The Secretaries General call on the IPEX Board to present proposals for the definition of a Digital Strategy, meant to provide IPEX with a comprehensive and efficient strategy with the view of a mid-term work programme to be carried out by the rotating presidency.