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Subject: Preparation of the EU-US Summit, Washington, 25 June 2003

Delegations will find attached the partially declassified version of the above-mentioned document.



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NOTE

From : Secretariat

To : Members of the Transatlantic Relations Working Party

Subject : Preparation of EU-US Summit, Washington, 25 June 2003

Delegations will find annexed a paper from the Presidency, Secretariat and Commission, containing operational proposals for the preparation of the EU-US Summit.

DRAFT

**NOTE FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE
TRANSATLANTIC RELATIONS WORKING GROUP**

Subject: Preparations for the EU/US Summit

1. At COTRA on 10 April, it was agreed that the Presidency, assisted by the Secretariat, together with the Commission would come forward with operational proposals for the preparation of the EU-US Summit on 25 June 2003.

The Summit comes at a critical time in EU - US relations. Despite all efforts to promote a cooperative transatlantic relationship a growing perception of a deepening rift on both sides of the Atlantic dominates. **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

The Summit should be an occasion to reassert the fundamental importance of the EU - US relationship. This should be one of the central messages of the summit coming from both sides. The occasion should be used to try to reduce frictions, building on successful cases of EU-US cooperation (Western Balkans, fight against terrorism, Afghanistan, Quartet...). Of course, sight should not be lost of the necessary link between burden-sharing and power-sharing.

2. Also key to the success of this approach is the emphasis needed on the far reaching transatlantic interdependence linking our economies together regardless of the political context. Given the enormous inter-dependence between our two economies, our mutual goal should be to reassert the importance of continuous cooperation at government level to facilitate further the development of our business and trade relations. This includes the pursuit of common strategic goals such as a successful round of multilateral trade negotiations, but also more specific bilateral initiatives such as a result-driven Positive Economic Agenda and the Transatlantic Business Dialogue.
3. In preparing the meeting, we need also to find better ways to promote the effective use of

multilateral approaches notably in areas of strong EU interest (non-proliferation, human rights, environment, etc.). This should be a second guiding theme for the EU side as it approaches the Summit.

4. Despite these important themes, there should be no illusion that the Summit is likely to be dominated by discussions on the post-conflict situation in Iraq and the Middle East; and the impact this conflict has on the international system.
5. The run-up to the Summit must be used to give impetus to discussions/negotiations with the US on issues, where we currently have differences, and where there is a possibility to arriving at solutions by the time of the meeting. This is key to underline the resilience of transatlantic relationship.

Summit meeting

6. The summit meeting is usually quite short. It is therefore important not to overload the agenda. The subjects should also be of interest to the participants - technical issues should, where possible, be resolved or dealt with prior to the actual meeting (either by senior officials or ministers) and therefore become deliverables of the Summit. The EU side should endeavour to be clear as soon as possible on those issues it wishes to raise at the Summit. A preliminary agenda could include the following items:

- Iraq
(to be completed)
- Middle East
(to be updated: follow-up action of publication of road map)
(the subject of relations with the Arab/Muslim world and how a comprehensive dialogue could be developed might also be covered in this context).
- Non-proliferation/fight against weapons of mass destruction
(Aim would be to reach an agreement on future cooperation **NOT DECLASSIFIED**
(p.m. Council Conclusions of 14 April; **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

- Counter-terrorism

(Should be very brief, with emphasis on shared objectives, good cooperation to date and on the need to work closer together, such as through structured dialogue with the Department of Homeland Security) **NOT DECLASSIFIED**.

- Economic and Trade issues

WTO-Compliance **NOT DECLASSIFIED**

Doha Development Agenda: In view of the September Ministerial in Cancun the opportunity of the Summit should be used to confirm at the highest political level continued EU / US commitment to the success of the Doha Development Agenda. The aim should be to agree on some form of visible joint political commitment to drive forward the Doha process.

Bilateral cooperation: Building on the joint achievements of regulatory authorities under the Positive Economic Agenda (PEA) during the last year, leaders should identify new areas of potential bilateral cooperation (for example, Open skies, certain areas of potential interest within the Information Society field, etc.) and provide additional impetus to sectors where progress has still been too slow.

- Transatlantic Relations

(Could be very brief, with emphasis on the added value that working together brings – if

well and early prepared. Aim should be to have clear US commitment to engage with the EU on a reciprocal basis).

Deliverables

7. **Mutual Legal Assistance:** The agreements are expected to be finalised and agreed before the Summit and the formal signature should be organised at the Summit to provide the visibility EU-US cooperation in such a crucial area merits.

Passenger Name Record: The process will not have been completed by the Summit (Commission decision on adequacy of US data protection planned for end September). In view of high economic stakes and political significance (right balance between the legitimate rights of the US - shield against potential terrorists – and the EU data protection rights) the aim is to present a progress report to the Summit with the perspective to agree on a lasting bilateral arrangement.

Container Security Initiative: Based on the recent mandate for negotiation the Commission is seeking a common way forward with the US in order to negotiate an extension of customs cooperation to cover security aspects in transatlantic trade.

Positive Economic Agenda: The Summit should take stock of the progress made since the launching of the agenda, and look at ways to give it further impetus. This means announcing achievements as appropriate on e.g. clementines and e-procurement, etc. It should also stress the importance of progress made in the Financial Markets Regulatory Dialogue, provide additional impetus to the longer term initiatives and extend the agenda to new areas of potential bilateral cooperation. For example, as regards open skies: Provided that the mandate for negotiation is adopted by early-June, the Summit could offer the opportunity to publicise the launching of the negotiations.

Transatlantic Business Dialogue: The Summit should refer to the importance of a continuing dialogue with the business community and support the possible launch a new generation transatlantic business dialogue.

Galileo: The aim is to reach an agreement by the time of the Summit, which could then be announced and formalised at the Summit. This could possibly be done in the form of a joint

declaration on global satellite navigation.

Research: The Summit could be the opportunity to highlight the promising developments of EU-US energy scientific and technological co-operation, in the field of fuel cell technology in transportation and stationary applications.

Summit communications strategy

8. This should be seen as separate from, but complementary to, the current discussion on a general communications strategy. It will have several components: media contacts and briefing prior to the Summit, Summit press conference and fact sheets, or a combination of these. HoMs in Washington will have a vital role to play in promoting the message that working together benefits both. The following is the suggested treatment:

Press conference:

- General message on transatlantic relations
- Specific messages: Iraq, Middle East, Korea; economic and trade cooperation (including DDA, Compliance, and PEA)
- Possible joint statements on non-proliferation and economic and trade cooperation
- Deliverables as described above

Pre-Summit Briefings/Fact Sheets:

- Afghanistan (Afghanistan (*fact sheet*))
- Balkans (*fact sheet, pre-summit briefing reflecting good progress including on ESDP aspects*)
- Iran (**NOT DECLASSIFIED**)
- Counter-terrorism (**NOT DECLASSIFIED**)
- Economic and Trade issues (*fact sheets on Steel, Bioterrorism Act, WTO compliance and Open Skies* **NOT DECLASSIFIED**).
- Transport security (*fact sheet on CSI and PNR*).
- Research (*fact sheet on fuel cell technology*)

Next Step

9. It is proposed that a report on the Summit preparations be sent to the PSC (13 May) and COREPER (15 May), along the above lines and seeking confirmation for the proposed approach. This report could also be the basis for a discussion at the GAERC on 19 May. Subject to its endorsement, the approach outlined above will provide guidance to the Presidency, Secretariat and Commission in their contacts with the United States. Work should also begin on the fact sheets. The Presidency, Secretariat and Commission will report on a regular basis on their meetings with the US, so that the internal EU preparations can be adjusted as necessary.