

TWELVE PRIME MINISTERS MEET IN EPP SUMMIT IN MEISE

15-06-2004

Jan -Peter BALKENENDE, Prime Minister of Netherlands, Silvio BERLUSCONI (Italy), Jos M. DUR O BARROSO (Portugal), Mikulas DZURINDA (Slovakia), Lawrence GONZI (Malta), Jean-Claude JUNCKER (Luxemburg), Kostas KARAMANLIS (Greece), Juhan PARTS (Estonia), Jean-Pierre RAFFARIN (France), Wolfgang SCH SSEL (Austria), Kjell Magne BONDEVIK (Norway), Ivo SANADER (Croatia), along with European Commissioners close to the EPP, and opposition and party leaders from all over Europe will meet on June 16th and 17th at Meise for the EPP Statutory Summit in preparation for the next EU Council in Brussels, which will be dominated by the nomination of the future President of the Commission and the progress of the work of the Intergovernmental Conference (IGC).

The EPP Summit will take place in the Castle of Bouchout, National Botanic Garden of Belgium, in Meise.

The first session will start on June 16th at 19.00h and participants will analyze the result of the European elections and the work of the Convention. Regarding the future EU Constitution MARTENS said: European citizens will not understand another failure in the negotiations of a European Constitution. Although a small number of points still prevent an overall agreement, it is encouraging that consensus has been reached on a number of important issues.

The meeting will continue the next day, Thursday the 17th, at 11.00h focused on the nomination of the President of the European Commission.