

Y Pwyllgor Materion Ewropeaidd Ac Allanol

EUR(2) 01-06 (p.1)

Dyddiad: 18 Ionawr 2006

Amser: 9.00 – 12.00

Lleoliad: Cynulliad Cenedlaethol Cymru, Bae Caerdydd

Teitl: Adroddiad y Gweinidog

Diben

1. Rhoi'r manylion diweddaraf ynghylch amryw faterion sydd wedi codi ers cyfarfod diwethaf y Pwyllgor.

Argymhelliad

2. Gwahoddir yr aelodau i nodi cynnwys yr adroddiad.

Y Cefndir

3. Cynhaliwyd cyfarfod diwethaf y Pwyllgor ar 24 Tachwedd 2005. Mae'r papur hwn yn rhoi diweddariad.

Gweithgareddau Rhyngwladol Prif Weinidog Cymru

- 25 Tachwedd 2005 Cyfarfod y Gynhadledd Canada-Deyrnas Unedig

Siaradais yng nghinio'r gynhadledd flynyddol, a gynhaliwyd yng Nghymru am y tro cyntaf. Mae'r sefydliad dwyochrog yn dod ag aelodau seneddol, swyddogion, pobl fusnes, academyddion ac aelodau'r cyfryngau ynghyd, o'r ddwy wlad, i rannu safbwyntiau a thrafod materion sy'n ymwneud â pholisi cyhoeddus a materion sydd o ddiddordeb i'r ddwy wlad. Mae hefyd yn cyhoeddi ymchwil ar bob un o'r pynciau dan sylw. Thema'r gynhadledd eleni oedd "Dinasoedd a Llwyddiant Cenedlaethol." Traddodwyd yr araith agoriadol yn y gynhadledd gan y Gweinidog dros Gyllid, Llywodraeth Leol a Gwasanaethau Cyhoeddus, Sue Essex AC.

- 8 Rhagfyr 2005 Ymweliad gan y Tywysog Seeiso Bereng Seeiso, Uchel Gomisiynydd Lesotho

Cyfarfum â'r Tywysog Seeiso Bereng Seeiso, Uchel Gomisiynydd Lesotho, ar ei ymweliad swyddogol cyntaf â Chymru. Buom yn trafod datblygu perthynas rhwng Cymru a Lesotho, yn enwedig o ran

cysylltiadau iechyd ac addysg.

- 14 Rhagfyr 2005 Ymweliad Ei Ardderchogrwydd Jan Winkler, Llysgennad y Weriniaeth Tsiec yn y DU

Cyfarfum ag Ei Ardderchogrwydd Jan Winkler, Llysgennad y Weriniaeth Tsiec yn y DU, a oedd yn ymweld â Chymru am y tro cyntaf. Cyhoeddodd benodiad Is-gennad Anrhydeddus i'r Weriniaeth Tsiec yng Nghymru, a buom yn archwilio cysylltiadau diwylliannol ac addysgol rhwng y ddwy wlad. Cyfarfu hefyd â'r Gweinidog dros Ddatblygu Economaidd a Thrafnidiaeth, a thrafododd â chynrychiolwyr o gwmnïau Cymreig, Celfyddydau Rhyngwladol Cymru a Phrifysgol Morgannwg.

Materion Eraill

- Cyngor Ewropeaidd Brwsel: 15/16 Rhagfyr

Persbectif Ariannol

Dominyddwyd yr agenda gan y cytundeb a gafwyd ar Bersbectif Ariannol newydd yr Undeb Ewropeaidd ar gyfer y cyfnod chwe blynedd sy'n dechrau yn 2007.

Cytunodd yr Aelod-wladwriaethau y bydd cyllideb o 308 biliwn ewro yn y Cronfeydd Strwythurol a Chydlyniant, sy'n 0.37% o GNI yr UE, ar gyfer Persbectif Ariannol 2007-2013. Bydd hyn yn canolbwyntio ar dri amcan newydd: Amcan Cydgyfeirio i ranbarthau â CMC sy'n is na 75% o gyfartaledd yr UE; Amcan Cystadleurwydd i ranbarthau eraill; ac Amcan Cydweithredu i brosiectau trawsffiniol a thrawswladol.

Amcangyfrif y bydd y DU yn derbyn cyfanswm o ryw 9.4 biliwn ewro (prisiau 2004) mewn derbynebaw'r Gronfa Strwythurol yn ystod 2007-2013, o'i gymharu â 16.6 biliwn ewro (prisiau 1999) yn y Persbectif Ariannol cyfredol. O hyn, bydd y DU yn derbyn tua 2.6 biliwn ewro mewn arian Cydgyfeirio (Amcan 1 hen dymor) a bydd Gorllewin Cymru a'r Cymoedd yn derbyn ariannu Cydgyfeirio llawn, sy'n debygol o fod yn debyg i'r dyraniadau cyfredol. Mae'n bosibl y bydd gweddill Cymru yn gymwys am y ffrwd ariannu Cystadleurwydd. Mae'n bwysig nodi mai amcangyfrifon cychwynnol yw'r ffigurau hyn. Bydd y ffigurau manwl yn dibynnu ar y cyfrifiadau terfynol a wneir gan y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd ar ôl i'r Cyngor a'r Senedd ddod i Gytundeb Rhyng-Sefydliadol terfynol ar y gyllideb.

Ceir copi o ddatganiad ysgrifenedig llawn yn Atodiad A.

Adolygiad o Gyllideb yr UE

Fel rhan o fargen y gyllideb, sicrhaodd Llywyddiaeth y DU ymrwymiad i adolygu'r holl agweddau ar gyllideb yr UE yn 2008, wedi'i arwain gan Lywydd Barroso y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd. Disgwylir y bydd

diwygio'r PAC a'r Ad-daliad Prydeinig yn rhan o hyn.

UE-Affrica

Mabwysiadodd y Cyngor y strategaeth "Yr UE ac Affrica: Tuag at Bartneriaeth Strategol." Mae'r strategaeth yn rhoi pwyslais ar wella'r deialog gwleidyddol rhwng yr UE ac Affrica, a chynnal ail uwchgynhadledd UE-Affrica. Mae'n cytuno i adolygu cynnydd yn rheolaidd.

Ymfudo Byd-Eang

Pwysleisiodd y Cyngor yr angen am agwedd gydlynol wrth fynd i'r afael â mewnfudo anghyfreithlon a manteisio ar ymfudo cyfreithiol. Bydd yr UE yn atgyfnerthu ei ddialog â thrydydd gwledydd, yn enwedig y rheiny sy'n ffinio â'r UE i'r de ac i'r dwyrain. Pwysleisiodd y Cyngor ymrwymiad yr UE i fynd i'r afael â'r hyn sy'n achosi ymfudo yn y bon, drwy greu cyfleoedd ar gyfer cyflogaeth, dileu tloedi mewn gwledydd y tarddiad, agor y marchnadoedd, hyrwyddo twf economaidd, llywodraethu da ac amddiffyn hawliau dynol. Mabwysiadodd y Cyngor y papur Comisiynu: "Agwedd fyd-eang tuag at ymfudo: Camau blaenoriaeth sy'n canolbwyntio ar Affrica a'r Canoldir" a gofynnodd i'r Comisiwn adrodd ar y cynnydd a wnaed ar ddiwedd 2006.

Gwrthderfysgaeth

Mabwysiadodd y Cyngor Strategaeth Gwrthderfysgaeth yr UE sy'n ceisio: rhwystro lledaeniad radicaleiddio a recriwtio terfysgwyr; diogelu dinasyddion a seilwaith yr UE; gwella cydweithredu er mwyn ymlid terfysgwyr a'u hymchwilio; a gwella'r ymateb i ganlyniadau ymosodiadau. Bydd y Cyngor yn trafod y cynnydd a wnaed yn ei gyfarfod ym mis Mehefin 2006.

Macedonia

Rhoddodd y Cyngor statws gwlad a all wneud cais i Macedonia.

- Sefydliad Masnach y Byd:Trafodaethau Hong Kong

Er ei bod yn rhyddhad nad oedd y cyfarfod yn fethiant fel yn achos Cancun a Seattle, roedd yn siom i lawer na wnaed mwy o gynnydd. Caiff cymorthdaliadau allforion fferm eu dileu yn raddol erbyn 2013. Ni chafwyd unrhyw gytundeb, fodd bynnag, ar dariffau mewnfurio. Bydd gwledydd datblygedig yn dileu cymorthdaliadau allforio ar gyfer cotwm yn raddol, ond nid oes unrhyw gytundeb ar ddyddiad ar gyfer cynnwys cymorthdaliadau domestig i ffermwyr yn yr UD. Caiff y gwledydd tlotaf hefyd fynediad heb gwota a di-doll i farchnadoedd byd-eang ar gyfer 97% o'u nwyddau. Bydd angen gwneud gwaith gwirioneddol nawr i gwblhau'r cylch yn ystod 2006.

Newyddion Ewropeaidd

- Yr UE yn gweld yr Ukrain fel economi farchnad – Mewn cyfarfod yn yr uwchgynhadledd a gynhaliwyd rhwng yr UE a'r Ukrain ddechrau mis Rhagfyr, sef y cyntaf ers y Chwyldro Oren flwyddyn yn ôl, rhoddwyd statws economi farchnad i'r Ukrain. Cefnogodd arweinwyr yr UE hefyd gais yr Ukrain i ymuno â Sefydliad Masnach y Byd. Roedd yr Ukrain wedi gobeithio ymuno â Sefydliad Masnach y Byd eleni, ond ni lwyddodd ei senedd i basio'r holl ddeddfwriaeth angenrheidiol. Cynhaliwyd yr uwchgynhadledd ar yr un diwrnod ag y cychwynnodd gwaith yr UE i fonitro ffin yr Ukrain â Moldofa. Mae mwy na 100 o swyddogion yn monitro'r ardal, sy'n cynnwys tiriogaeth y Trans-Dneister, a wahanodd oddi wrth Moldofa. Y gobaith yw y bydd y prosiect yn helpu i rwystro arfau, cyffuriau a phobl rhag cael eu masnachu.
- Rhaid i'r aelod-wladwriaethau wneud mwy i agor y marchnadoedd ynni – Mae adroddiad gan y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd ar weithredu'r farchnad fewnol mewn nwy a thrydan wedi beirniadu'r aelod-wladwriaethau am beidio â gwneud mwy i roi mesurau ar waith a fydd yn agor y farchnad yn effeithlon o dan gyfarwyddebau nwy a thrydan yr Undeb Ewropeaidd. Bwriad y Comisiwn Ewropeaidd yw parhau â'i ymchwiliad i'r sectorau ynni cystadleuol a nodi atebion digonol, a allai gynnwys camau o dan reolau Cytuniad yr UE ar arferion busnes cyfyngol, monopoliau a chymhorthion gwladwriaethol, ac adolygiad posibl o reolau uno'r UE.
- Y Cyngor Iechyd - Mae Cyngor Iechyd Ewrop wedi cefnogi cynlluniau i gynyddu cynhyrchiant meddyginiaethau i blant. Byddai'r gyfraith yn mynnu bod cwmnïau sy'n cynhyrchu cyffur i oedolion yn yr Undeb Ewropeaidd yn ei brofi i weld a ellid ei ddefnyddio ar gyfer plant hefyd. Byddai hefyd yn cymell cwmnïau i gynhyrchu cyffuriau i blant drwy ychwanegu chwe mis at y cyfnod diogelu patent. Ar hyn o bryd, nid yw mwy na 50% o'r cyffuriau a ragnodir i blant wedi'u profi ar gyfer defnydd pediatreg. Rhaid pasio'r rheoliad ar gynnyrch meddyginiaethol at ddefnydd pediatreg am yr eilwaith gan y Senedd Ewropeaidd, ac fe allai fod yn ddeddf erbyn 2007.

Rhodri Morgan AC
Prif Weinidog

EEAC First Minister's Report

Date	Assembly Minister/ Official/ Division	Event	Objectives	Outcomes

<p>24 Nov 2005</p>	<p>Minister for Assembly Business, Equalities and Children;</p> <p>Minister for Finance, Local Government and Public Services</p>	<p>Women in Politics Conference - Job shadowing</p>	<p>Jane Hutt AM, Minister for Assembly Business, Equalities and Children addressed the Conference to share her personal reflections on being a successful female politician. The Minister was later shadowed by Dr Habiba M Lawal, Director of Womens Affairs, Federal Ministry of Women Affairs, Abuja, Nigeria and Ms Irena Selisnik, Researcher in the Department of Sociology, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia.</p> <p>The Minister for Finance, Local Government and Public Services was shadowed by Hon. Eudine Job-Davis, MP for Trinidad and Tobago, Minister for Community Development, and Mr Tariq Saleem Masarweh (Jordan). Hon Eudine Job-Davis is also a member of the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Steering Committee, representing the Caribbean, Americas and Atlantic Region.</p>	<p>The guests appreciated a unique opportunity to get a first-hand insight in to one of the 'working days' of leading Members of the Welsh Cabinet.</p>
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25 Nov	First Minister; Minister for Finance, Local Government and Public Services	Meeting of the Canada-United Kingdom Colloquia	The Minister for Finance, Local Government and Public Services gave the opening address at the first Canada-UK Colloquium to be held in Wales. The First Minister spoke at the gala dinner. The bilateral organisation brings together parliamentarians, officials, businessmen, academics and members of the media, of both countries, to share views and discuss matters of public policy and mutual interest.	
29 Nov 05 to 30 Nov 05	Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning	Mobilising Experience conference, Hilton Hotel, Cardiff	<p>The objectives agreed for this conference were to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Raise awareness of the proposed Integrated Lifelong Learning programme for 2007-2013 and of current EU-funded lifelong learning projects; · Share experience on successful methods to harness and exploit results from such projects; 	<p>Workshop groups looked at a number of case studies in order to apply lessons learned to one of four themes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Responding to real user needs; · Building links through cross-programme fertilisation; · Improving visibility and accessibility of results; and · Using dissemination and exploitation to transform

· Identify tools needed to help practitioners and policy makers to identify what has and has not worked in the past, to adapt results and findings to other contexts, and help others to exploit their own results;

· Stimulate debate on ways of improving conditions necessary for dissemination and exploitation and enhancing the applicability of results;

· Open up discussion on the most appropriate roles of different stakeholders in harnessing and disseminating good practice;

· Help shape the European

systems.

The event helped to inform both the Commission and delegates from member states on the benefits of dissemination and exploitation as part of the process of negotiating and agreeing the new Integrated Lifelong Learning Programme and other programmes in education and lifelong learning. It also fed into the objective of analysing how improving the skills of the European workforce would contribute to increased productivity, as well as adding to discussion on education and training's contribution to competitiveness and social inclusion under the Lisbon agenda.

Early conclusions from the event show a need for greater understanding of the means and benefits of dissemination and exploitation, especially as it affects projects from other programmes, and the need for effective and sustainable ways to keeping information available to future project managers and policy makers.

			Commission's strategy and guidelines for future project promoters and policy makers.	
30 Nov 05	Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning	Meeting with Gianfranco Simoncini, Deputy Minister for Education, Training and Employment, Region of Tuscany	The Minister wished to take advantage of Snr Simoncini's attendance at the above conference to discuss the structures of the Welsh and Tuscan education systems and to explore possible areas of further co-operation between the two regions.	<p>Both Ministers gained a better understanding of the systems and the pressure points in each region – for example, the Italian national government plans to take control of secondary (academic) education from the regions. They agreed to explore:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Contacts between officials on using knowledge/ research to drive economic growth; · Sharing information on 14-19 pathways; · A possible visit by ELL Minister to Tuscany to the National Research Centre in Pisa

<p>7 Dec 2005</p>	<p>Minister for Culture, Welsh Language & Sport;</p> <p>Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning;</p> <p>Deputy Minister for Health and Social Services</p>	<p>Visit by Secretariat and Committee of Experts, European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages</p>	<p>As part of the second review of the implementation of the Charter in relation to Welsh, the Committee of Experts undertook an "on the spot" visit to the UK to receive oral and written submissions from relevant stakeholders.</p>	<p>Oral submissions provided by Ministers and officials at the meeting. This is to be followed by written submissions within 30 days. The Committee of Experts is expected to publish its Report in the Spring of 2006.</p>
<p>8 Dec 2005</p>	<p>First Minister; Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning;</p> <p>Minister for Health and Social Services.</p>	<p>Meeting with Prince Seeiso Bereng Seeiso, High Commissioner for Lesotho.</p>	<p>This was the first official visit to Wales of Prince Seeiso Bereng Seeiso, High Commissioner for Lesotho. He was keen to meet leading political figures and members of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (representatives visited Lesotho in October 05). He also wished to develop the relationship between Wales and Lesotho - essentially based on health and education links – developed by Dolen Cymru.</p> <p>The respective Ministers held separate meetings with the High Commissioner.</p>	<p>A possible visit by the Lesotho Education Minister to Wales</p>

14 Dec 2005	First Minister; Minister for Economic Development and Transport	Visit of the Czech Republic Ambassador to the UK	This was the first visit to Wales by the Czech Ambassador. He announced the appointment of an Honorary Consul to the Czech Republic in Wales, met businesses wishing to trade with the Czech Republic and explored cultural and educational links.	Meetings were arranged for the Ambassador with the Minister for Economic Development and Transport, Welsh companies, Wales Arts International and the University of Glamorgan.
15 Dec 2005	Minister for Education and Lifelong Learning	EARLALL Board meeting	The Minister attended the EARLALL Board meeting in Brussels in her capacity as Vice President of the Association. Membership of EARLALL provides a valuable opportunity for European regions to work together on strategies and programmes for lifelong learning. The Minister will table two papers, one proposing a draft EARLALL response to the Commission's consultation on the European Qualification Framework, and another seeking the Board's agreement to an EARLALL paper on the Transversal Strand of the new Integrated Lifelong Learning programme.	The Minister's attendance and status at these meetings further cements relationships with the other EARLALL regions and provides an opportunity for raising the profile of Wales within Europe. Through membership of EARLALL we are also undertaking work on a number of collaborative projects with EARLALL partner regions. The Association works to influence the Commission on important policy issues and highlight the important role that regional governments have to play within European policy .

16-19 Dec 2005	Minister for Environment, Planning and Countryside	HCC Trade Mission	<p>To assist Hybu Cig Cymru in developing export opportunities for Welsh Lamb to Dubai and the U.A. E in general. Through a series of meetings with the Head of State, Deputy Head of State plus the Health and Agriculture Ministers.</p> <p>The Minister also met local business men and general managers of the major hotels as potential purchasers of Welsh Lamb.</p>	<p>Too early to say whether the trip has met all its objectives. It is hoped that many of the technical issues surrounding animal health will be cleared up. This being the case, then we would have taken a major step forward in opening up the market to Welsh Lamb.</p>
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Written Statement by the First Minister

Implications for Welsh Structural Funds Arising from the European Union Budget Agreement

Following intense discussions at the end of last week, agreement was reached on a new European Union Financial Perspective for the seven-year period commencing in 2007. As part of this wide-ranging agreement, the West Wales and Valleys region will remain eligible for Objective One funding (re-branded "Convergence" for the new Programme) for the period 2007/2013. The rest of Wales will potentially be eligible for the "Competitiveness" funding stream and there will be continued opportunities for transnational initiatives of the Interreg type.

The retention of Objective One funding in Wales for a further seven years, with every likelihood of a further transitional Programme for the 2014-2019 period, will provide a significant boost to economic development in Wales. Early next year there is a real prospect of statistical evidence from Eurostat confirming a rise in levels of Welsh prosperity. A combination of rising prosperity and continued investment in skills and infrastructure provides the best possible basis for further improvement in the Welsh economy.

The agreement includes a provision to review EU spending as a whole in 2008/09. It plainly makes sense for any organisation to re-examine periodically its spending priorities and I welcome this plan. I am also particularly pleased to see the proportion of money ear-marked for research set to rise through the next spending period. This will enable researchers, companies, universities and government research institutions in Wales to extend their research capacity and so help build up more wealth in the knowledge-based sector of the economy.

The UK Government has agreed to modify the terms of the UK EU abatement in order to contribute, with others, the necessary level of structural investment for the ten countries which joined the EU last year. The essential components of the "historic" rebate remain in place and the UK rebate in total will rise, not fall, during the next budget period.

Getting the Budget agreed provides a significant boost to the preparatory work already well underway for the new round of Programmes. In conjunction with our partners in the private, public and voluntary sectors we now have a full 12 months to continue to take forward our preparations before the Programmes are due to start at the beginning of 2007. The previous preparatory period in 1999 was too short. The late agreement of the EU Budget then meant we only had a short time to finalise Programmes, leading to delays to getting Programmes agreed prior to the official start date of 1 January 2000.

For the new round of Programmes I am pleased to say that we have moved on from the unique Barnett Plus deal secured with the Chancellor of the Exchequer to provide additional funding to Wales. We can now look forward to stability of funding for the 2007-13 Programmes with the Chancellor's announcement in his recent

Pre-Budget Report that he will treat EU funding as a direct receipt to the Assembly budget. This will link our spending power directly to the resources received from the EU and there will no longer be a need to negotiate with the UK Government a Barnett Plus arrangement.

Whilst the Commission's proposals for the Regional Aid Guidelines which will apply from 2007 –2013 are quite separate from the EU Budget, the agreement of the Budget means that businesses located in West Wales & the Valleys (WWV) will continue to be able to benefit from the highest level of investment support available in the UK. WWV is only one of two areas in the UK to retain Article 87 3 (a) status, with Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly being the other. There will also be a lower level of grant aid available in parts of East Wales which will be determined in the Spring.

The Prime Minister, acting in his Presidency role said that "a very severe crisis had been avoided". Any budget negotiation is concluded through compromise and this deal ends months of uncertainty and potentially further months of grief. I believe the agreement brokered by the UK Presidency is in the interests of Wales, the UK and of Europe as a whole.