Preliminary Programme of the Prague Summit on Higher Education

Date: May 18-19, 2001

Venue: Prague Castle

Languages: English, French, German, Czech; language of discussion groups: English

May 18, 2001

16.00 - 18.30 Plenary session

Chair: Minister of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic

16.00 - 16.30 Welcoming addresses

Eduard Zeman, Minister of Education, Youth and Sports

Václav Havel, President of the Czech Republic

16.30 - 17.45

• Report to the Ministers of the Follow-up group, prepared by Mr. Pedro Lourtie;
• Comments of Ministers;
• Recommendations of the Convention of European Higher Education Institutions (Salamanca) presented by the President of European University Association;
• Comments of Ministers;

17.45 - 18.30

• Recommendations of the Convention of European Students (Göteborg) presented by the chair person of ESIB;
• Comments of Ministers;
• Contribution of the Minister of Education and Science of Sweden
19.00 . 19.30 Concert given by the students of the Faculty of Music, Academy of Performing Arts

19.45 . 22.00 Welcome drink. Reception hosted by His Excellency Mr. Eduard Zeman

May 19, 2001

9.00 . 12.15 Concurrent sessions

A. Ministers' meeting

Participants: heads of government delegations and their assistants

Chair: Minister of Education and Science of Sweden

• Future priorities

• Adoption of the Communiqué of the Ministers -. Prague Communiqué. (including the structure after Prague).

B. Discussion group meetings: The latest development in the system of higher education in Europe: Contribution to Salamanca Discussion presented by the representatives of the Czech and Swedish Rectors. Conferences.

Participants:

1. higher education representatives,
2. representatives of the government not involved in Ministers' meeting,
3. other participants

3 discussion groups

1. Curricular content based on the articulation of studies into two main cycles

   key words: looking for convergence by keeping diversity - compatible qualifications - relevant higher education and professional networks at the European level - specifications of core constituents of qualifications and enhancement of their mutual acceptance - openness and transferability.

2. Networking of higher education institutions . facilitating mobility
**key words: exploiting advantages of existing European and national legislation in order to facilitate mutual recognition of study programme units, degrees and qualifications throughout Europe. credit accumulation and transfer scheme. credits obtained at institutions and in programmes outside higher education (seen from the perspective of lifelong learning).**

### 3. Quality assessment, accreditation

**key words: internal and external evaluation (types of responsible bodies) - accreditation (responsible bodies, role of the state) - recognition of national processes in Bologna signatory countries (procedures, mechanisms etc.) - quality assurance mechanisms - European dimension - meta-accreditation on the European level?**

Each group session will be opened with a presentation of either a Swedish or Czech participants on the relevant topic, followed by a paper given by a European expert on the same issue. After the discussion rapporteurs will sum up the work in each group.

**12.15 - 12.45 Coffee break**

**12.45 - 13.45 Plenary session**

Chair: Minister of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic

12.45 - 13.15

Overview of the group sessions provided by rapporteurs

13.15 - 13.30

Communiqué of the Ministers . . Prague Communiqué. presented by the Minister of Education and Science of Sweden

13.30-13.45

Closing of the Summit - Minister of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic

**13.45 - 14.15 Press Conference**

14.15 Closing lunch