

House of Representatives of the States General

2

Session 1996-1997

25 465

Establishment of a permanent advisory body for international affairs, especially in relation to human rights, peace and security, development cooperation and European integration (Advisory Council on International Affairs Act)

No. 1

ROYAL MESSAGE

To the House of Representatives of the States General

We hereby offer for your consideration a Bill establishing a permanent advisory body for international affairs, especially in relation to human rights, peace and security, development cooperation and European integration (Advisory Council on International Affairs Act).

The explanatory memorandum with annexes which accompanies the Bill sets out the considerations on which it is based.

We hereby commend you to God's holy care.

The Hague, 22 August 1997 Beatrix

No. 2

BILL

We Beatrix, by the grace of God Queen of the Netherlands, Princess of Orange-Nassau, etc., etc., etc.

Greetings to all who shall see or hear these presents! Be it known:

Whereas We have considered that it is desirable to establish a permanent advisory body to advise on international affairs, especially in relation to human rights, peace and security, development cooperation and European integration, and that under article 79 of the Constitution to do so it is necessary to lay down statutory provisions;

We, therefore, having heard the Council of State, and in consultation with the States General, have approved and decreed as we hereby approve and decree:

Section 1

There shall be an Advisory Council on International Affairs, to be referred to hereinafter as 'the Council'.

Section 2

The duties of the Council shall consist in advising the government and both houses of the States General on international affairs, especially in relation to human rights, peace and security, development cooperation and European integration.

Section 3

1. The Council shall institute four permanent committees from among its members. The chairpersons of these committees shall be appointed from among council members by Our Minister of Foreign Affairs in agreement with such other of Our Ministers as are concerned.
2. If specific expertise is required that the Council does not possess to a sufficient extent to prepare recommendations, up to fifteen other persons in addition to the council members may be appointed to the committees referred to in subsection 1, notwithstanding section 16 of the Advisory Bodies Framework Act.
3. Sections 11 to 14 inclusive of the Advisory Bodies Framework Act shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to the committee members referred to in subsection 2, on the understanding

that these members shall be appointed, suspended and discharged by Our Minister in agreement with such other of Our Ministers as are concerned.

Section 4

1. The Council shall use the permanent committees it has instituted for this purpose when it prepares its recommendations on issues concerning human rights, peace and security, development cooperation and European integration or on issues touching on these subjects.
2. The Council shall append the written contribution of the committee to its recommendations if Our Minister of Foreign Affairs in agreement with such other of Our Ministers as are concerned considers this desirable.

Section 5

This Act shall enter into force with effect from the day after the date of the Bulletin of Acts and Decrees in which it is published.

Section 6

This Act shall be cited as the Advisory Council on International Affairs Act.

We order and command that this Act shall be published in the Bulletin of Acts and Decrees and that all ministries, authorities, bodies and officials whom it may concern shall diligently implement it.

Done at ... on

The Minister of Foreign Affairs,

The Minister of Defence,

The Minister for Development Cooperation,

The State Secretary for Foreign Affairs,

The State Secretary for the Interior,