



THE PRESIDENCY IN FIGURES

BUDGET

75 million euros had been provided on the budget for the Federal Government in 2010 to cover personnel costs and the expenses for the organisation of meetings and events in Belgium and abroad.

59 million euros – i.e. 78% of the total amount budgeted – were distributed among the different departments.

ACTIVITIES

Several thousands of official meetings – of ministers, functionaries, experts, etc. – as well as hundreds of cultural and scientific activities and events in Belgium and all over the world marked the six months of the Belgian Presidency. These included:

- The ASEM8 (Asia-Europe) summit, which brought fifty heads of state and heads of government, over 3,000 delegates and 1,000 journalists to Brussels: a fantastic showcase of Belgium and Brussels;
- The European Development Days, which gathered some thirty heads of state and heads of government, ministers from the EU and from partner countries, as well as 5,000 representatives of development NGOs;
- 16 informal Council meetings (in Brussels, Ghent, Liège, Bruges, Antwerp, etc.);
- 41 Councils of Ministers or Heads of State/Government from the EU;
- 1943 meetings of EU Council working groups;
- Over 800 seminars and cultural events in Belgium have allowed the general public and civil society to become involved in the issues and challenges of the Presidency;
- Over 80 seminars and cultural events organised by the Embassies of Belgium – within the EU and beyond – have contributed to the prestige of the Presidency and of Belgium;

Within the framework of these activities, some 20,000 delegates, 3,500 journalists and 8,000 suppliers came to the various meeting venues; the 140 vehicles available to the organisation of the Presidency together covered some 300,500 kilometres.

CULTURE, CREATIVITY AND COMMUNICATION

The Presidency website (www.eutrio.be) enabled 700,000 visitors to read 2,500,000 pages of information on diverse subjects: a calendar containing over 800 cultural and scientific events, tens of pages presenting projects and EU-related challenges and issues, 360 press releases, hundreds of tweets, more than 40 live broadcasts of events, 110 video clips and 3,500 photos.

Promotional material in the colours of the Presidency and gifts showing the creativity and talent of Belgian artists were presented to the more than 25,000 delegates and journalists who attended the meetings of this Presidency.

SUSTAINABLE PRESIDENCY

A guide to sustainable organisation enabled the organisers to reduce the environmental footprint of their activities by adhering to best practices in transportation, using environmentally friendly materials, local products or fair trade products.

A compensation scheme was established for the carbon dioxide emissions caused especially by air travel.