

**FOR THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY**

**Secretariat of the Assembly**  
**Synopsis No. 2002/135**  
12 December 2002

**The Bureau of the Assembly**, meeting on 9 December 2002 in Paris with Mr Schieder in the Chair, as regards:

- *Prospects for a 3<sup>rd</sup> Council of Europe Summit of Heads of State or Government*: held an exchange of views and decided to resume the discussion at its next meeting with the participation of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe and the Chairman of the competent working group of the Ministers' Deputies;
- *1<sup>st</sup> Part of the 2003 Ordinary Session (Strasbourg, 27-31 January 2003)*: adopted the agenda and drew up the draft order of business;
- *Code of good practice in electoral matters submitted by the Venice Commission*: welcomed the idea of the President for the Political Affairs Committee to introduce a request for a debate under urgent procedure on this matter during the January 2003 Part-Session;
- *Progress report of the Bureau and Standing Committee (Rapporteur: Mr Schreiner, France, EDG)*: adopted the first part covering the period 27 September to 18 November 2002;
- *Observation of elections*:
  - a. Held an exchange of views on draft revised guidelines for the observation of elections and agreed to resume consideration at its next meeting with a view to their adoption;
  - b. *Federal Republic of Yugoslavia*:
    - (i) *Presidential elections in Serbia (8 December 2002)*: took note of the information from the Secretariat that these elections were likely to be annulled due to a voter turnout of less than 50 %;
    - (ii) *Presidential elections in Montenegro (22 December 2002)*: took note of the composition of the ad hoc committee;
  - c. *Palestinian Legislative Council and Palestinian Authority (Parliamentary and presidential elections, 20 January 2003)*: took note of the information by the Secretary General of the Assembly on the prospects and preparations for the elections;
  - d. *Other elections in early 2003*: decided to observe the parliamentary elections in Monaco (9 February 2003) and the presidential elections in Armenia (19 February 2003);

- *Petition concerning the Dutch-speakers' rights to health-care in Brussels and the surrounding Dutch-speaking municipalities*: referred the petition to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights to report back to the Bureau on the Committee's recommendations and conclusions;
- *References and transmissions to committees*: submitted to the Assembly the proposal to refer the Motion for a resolution on women's participation in elections (Doc. 9629) to the Committee on Equal Opportunities between Women and Men;
- *Meeting of the Standing Committee in Moldova in 2003*: following an invitation from the parliamentary authorities of Moldova, proposed to the Assembly to hold the meeting in Chisinau on Tuesday 27 May 2003;
- *future meetings*:
  - . Paris, Monday 13 January 2003 at 9.30
  - . Strasbourg, Monday 27 January 2003 at 8.30
  - . Strasbourg, Friday 31 January 2003 at 12.00 noon (at the end of the sitting)
  - . Paris, Monday 10 March 2003 at 9.30 am
  - . Strasbourg, Monday 31 March 2003 at 8.30 am
  - . Strasbourg, Friday 4 April 2003 at 12 noon (at the end of the sitting)
  - . Berlin, Monday 28 April 2003 at 3 pm
  - . Chisinau, Tuesday 27 May 2003 at 9 am.

Horst Schade/Agnès Nollinger

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cc. Secretary General of the Assembly  
 Secretariat of the Assembly  
 Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly  
 Special guests and observers to the Assembly

Directors General  
 Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe  
 Secretary to the Committee of Ministers  
 Director of Communication and Research

Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe