



TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Secretariat of the Assembly

Synopsis No. 2003/79

23 June 2003

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting in Strasbourg on Monday 23 June 2003, with Mr Schieder in the Chair, as regards:

- *3rd part of the 2003 Ordinary Session (Strasbourg, 23-27 June 2003):*
 - a. updated the draft order of business;
 - b. requests for opinions for the urgent debate on “the Council of Europe and the Convention on the Future of Europe”: decided to recommend to the Assembly, in addition to the recommendations made at the last Bureau meeting, to refer this matter for written opinions to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and to the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, being understood that these opinions may only be adopted after the adoption of the report by the Political Affairs Committee;
 - c. took note of the information provided by the Estonian and Finnish parliamentary delegations with regard to the method used to apportion seats on the delegation in accordance with Rule 6.2;
 - d. took note of the draft agenda of the Joint Committee (Thursday, 26 June 2003, 6 pm);
- *Progress report of the Bureau (4 April-23 June 2003)* (Rapporteur: Mr Iwinski, Poland, SOC): approved the progress report;
- *Observation of elections in Armenia*: approved and declassified the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the observation of parliamentary elections (25 May 2003);
- *Case of Mr Gonghadze*: heard a statement of Mr Krüger, expert consultant appointed by the Bureau to report on the legal and judicial aspects of the case, and took note of his report;
- *Joint meeting with the European Parliament (25 September 2003)*: heard an information by the President on the meeting with Mr Cox, President of the European Parliament, held on 3 June 2003, and took note of the memorandum presented by the Secretary General of the Assembly on the proposed themes and organisational modalities of this meeting;
- *Seminar with the Belarus Parliament*:
 - a. approved the proposals of the Secretary General of the Assembly concerning the date, topics and composition of an Ad Hoc Committee to participate in this Seminar, which should take place on Monday 15 September 2003 in Minsk;
 - b. decided to set up an Ad Hoc Committee of the Bureau of 10 members on the basis of proposals from the political groups with the following repartition of seats: 3 (SOC), 2 (EPP), 2

(LDR), 2 (EDG), 1 (UEL), and invited the political groups to inform the Bureau about their candidates for this Ad Hoc Committee in due time before the Friday 27 June 2003 of the Bureau;

- *References and transmissions to committees:* approved the following proposals:

a. references to Committees:

Doc. 9834

Motion for a recommendation

The sustainable development of mountain regions, to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs *for report*

b. requests to modify references:

1. Doc. 9359

Motion for a resolution

Humanitarian situation of refugees and displaced persons in the Middle East, to the Political Affairs Committee *for opinion* (in addition to the previous Assembly's decision to refer this matter to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Demography *for report*).

2. Doc. 9728

Motion for a resolution

Political prisoners in Azerbaijan, to the Political Affairs Committee *for opinion* (in addition to the previous Assembly's decisions to refer this matter to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*, and to the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) *for oral opinion*);

3. Doc. 8425

Motion for a resolution

Resolution of ethnic conflicts in Council of Europe member states, to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs *for oral opinion* (in addition to the previous Assembly's decision to refer this text to the Political Affairs Committee, *for report*).

c. extension of reference:

Doc. 9113

Motion for a recommendation

Future of democracy

Ref. No 2625 of 25 June 2001 – Validity: 25 June 2003 (Political Affairs Committee), to extend the reference until 25 September 2003, being understood that no further extension will be granted.

Doc. 9202

Motion for a recommendation

Council of Europe presence in Northern Ireland

Ref. No 2653 of 28 September 2001 – Validity: 28 September 2003 (Political Affairs Committee), to extend the reference until 25 January 2004, being understood that no further extension will be granted.

- *Composition of the Monitoring Committee:* following the proposals of political groups, approved the following changes for ratification by the Assembly: EPP: Mr André (France) in

replacement of Mr Vahtre (Estonia), EDG: Mr Colombier (France) in replacement of Mr André (France), SOC: Mrs Burbiene (Lithuania) in replacement of Mr Olekas (Lithuania);

- *Meetings elsewhere than in Strasbourg and Paris:* authorised the following meeting:

Committee on Migration, Refugees and Demography, Nicosia (Cyprus), 20-22 October 2003.

- *Date and place of the next meetings:* confirmed the following next meetings:
 - . Strasbourg, Friday 27 June 2003 at 11 a.m. (at the end of the Part-Session)
 - . Naples, Monday 8 September 2003 at 9 am.
 - . Strasbourg, Friday 26 September 2003 at 3.00 pm
 - . Strasbourg, Thursday 2 October 2003 at 5.00 pm (at the end of the part-session)
 - . Maastricht, 25 November 2003 at 8.30.

Petr Sich/Agnès Nollinger

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