

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Secretariat of the Assembly

Synopsis No 2005/53

2 May 2005

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Friday 29 April 2005 in Strasbourg with Mr René van der Linden, President of the Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- *2nd Part of the 2005 Ordinary Session (Strasbourg, 25-29 April 2005)*:
 - i. Current affairs debate on “the European Constitutional Treaty”: invited the Political Affairs Committee to consider a possible follow-up;
 - ii. Follow-up to be given to the texts adopted:
 - a. Resolution 1433 (2005) on “Lawfulness of detentions by the United States in Guantanamo Bay”: took note that the President will raise this matter during his visit to Washington in September 2005;
 - b. Resolution 1436 (2005) on “Iran’s nuclear programme: need for international response”: asked the Political Affairs Committee to discuss the follow-up to be given to paragraph 12 of this Resolution calling for the promotion of democratic values, full respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms and an open society in Iran through parliamentary dialogue;
 - iii. Third Summit (Warsaw, 16-17 May 2005): agreed that the Assembly will be represented by the Presidential Committee, the rapporteur of the Political Affairs Committee on the Third Summit, and, if included in the national delegation to the Summit, by the rapporteur of the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development for the Assembly’s opinions on the Council of Europe and Parliamentary Assembly’s budgets for 2006;
- *Standing Committee (Lisbon, 6 June 2005)*: approved the draft agenda and took note of the draft programme;
- *3rd Part of the 2005 Ordinary Session (Strasbourg, 20-24 June 2005)*: adopted the draft agenda and drew up the draft order of business;
- *Parliamentary elections in Bulgaria (25 June 2005)*: decided to set up an ad hoc committee of five members (one from each political group) to observe these elections;

- *Parliamentary elections in Albania (June-July 2005)*: decided to increase the number of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections to 40 (SOC: 14; EPP/DC: 13; LDR: 6; EDG: 5; UEL: 2);
- *Relations with Belarus*: took note of the memorandum on “strengthening democratic forces in Belarus” prepared by the Sub-Committee on Belarus (of the Political Affairs Committee) and agreed to invite the political groups of the Assembly to develop contacts with the respective democratic political parties in Belarus and to invite representatives of these parties to the Assembly part-sessions;
- *Immunities of Assembly members*:
 - i. took note that the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities had decided to close the procedure concerning Mr Iannuzzi’s request for the defence of his immunity as a member of the Assembly;
 - ii. asked the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities to prepare a report on the interpretation of Article 15 of the General Agreement on privileges and immunities of the Council of Europe;
- *European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT)*: drew up the lists of the candidates for the CPT in the following order:
 - i. Candidates in respect of Greece:
 - 1/ Mr Linos-Alexander SICILIANOS
 - 2/ Mr Artemis PAPATHANASSIOU
 - 3/ Mrs Haritini DIPLA
 - ii. Candidates in respect of Hungary:
 - 1/ Mrs Anikó Krisztina MÜLLER
 - 2/ Mr Gergely FLIEGAUF
 - 3/ Mr László CSETNEKY
 - iii. Candidates in respect of Serbia and Montenegro
 - 1/ Mrs Olivera VULIĆ
 - 2/ Mrs Sanda RAŠKOVIĆ-IVIĆ
 - 3/ Mrs Violeta BESIREVIĆ
 - iv. Candidates in respect of the Russian Federation: took note that the Sub-Committee on Human Rights had decided to postpone its decision until its next meeting, with a view to obtaining additional information concerning the candidates;

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

i. references:

1. Doc. 10517

Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr R. Huseynov and others

Threat for the Iranian cultural heritage being a precious piece of the world civilization, to the Committee on Culture, Science and Education, *for information*

2. Doc. 10519

Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Preda and others

Management of solid urban waste, to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs, *for information*

3. Doc. 10522

Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Jakavonis and others

Disposal and storage of spent nuclear fuel and long-lived radioactive nuclear waste, to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs, *for report*

4. Doc. 10523

Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Margelov and others

Inadmissibility of anti-Semitism in the social and political life of the Council of Europe member states, to the Political Affairs Committee, *for information*

5. Doc. 10524

Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Fenechiu and others

The Budapest – Odessa Corridor: the solution to a major problem in the transportation networks in Central and Eastern Europe, to the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development, *for information*

6. Doc. 10525

Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Schmied and others

The environment and the United Nations Millennium Development Goals, to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs, *for report*

7. **Doc. 10526****Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Zingeris and others**

A series of travelling exhibitions of major European works of art, to the Committee on Culture, Science and Education, *for information*

8. **Doc. 10527****Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr McNamara and others**

Anti-terrorism legislation in the United Kingdom, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, *to be taken into account in the preparation of the report on "Respect for human rights in the fight against terrorism"*

9. **Doc. 10528****Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr McNamara and others**

Prosecution of offences falling within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, *for report*

10. **Doc. 10535****Motion for a recommendation by Mr van den Brande and others**

The Council of Europe and the European neighbourhood policy of the European Union, to the Political Affairs Committee, *for report*

11. **Decision of the Bureau**

Interpretation of Article 15 of the General Agreement on Privileges and Immunities of the Council of Europe, to the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities, *for report*;

ii. requests to extend references:

1. **Doc. 9775****Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Iwiński and others****Relations with Kazakhstan**

Ref. 2826 of 27 May 2003 – Validity: 27 May 2005, extended the reference until 31 December 2005;

2. Doc 9787

Motion for an order presented by Mr Jurgens and others

The concept of “nation”

Ref. 2835 of 27 May 2003 - Validity: 27 May 2005, extended the reference until 27 November 2005;

3. Doc 9788

Motion for a recommendation presented by Ms Melandri and others

The privatisation of cultural property

Ref. 2836 of 27 May 2003 - Validity: 27 May 2005, extended the reference until 27 November 2005;

- *Meetings elsewhere than in Strasbourg and Paris:*
 - i. authorised the following meetings:
 - a. Sub-Committee on Refugees (of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population), Baku (Azerbaijan) 4 July 2005;
 - b. Monitoring Committee, Baku (Azerbaijan) 5 July 2005;
 - c. Sub-Committee on Science and Ethics (of the Committee on Culture, Science and Education), Budapest (Hungary), 19-20 September 2005;
 - ii. did not authorise the Political Affairs Committee to meet in Baku (Azerbaijan) on 3-4 July 2005;
- *Opinion of the Venice Commission on the constitutional situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the powers of the High Representative:* took note of this opinion and referred it to the Monitoring Committee for consideration;
- *Exhibitions in the Assembly lobby during part-sessions:* approved the draft decision contained in the memorandum on this matter;
- *Official reports of Assembly debates:* postponed the consideration of this matter to one of its next meetings;
- *Stepping up internal security in the Palais de l'Europe by extending the access control system:* took note of the proposals contained in the memorandum on this matter;
- *International Parliamentary Conference on Pan-European Cooperation dedicated to the 60th anniversary of the victory of the anti-Hitler coalition in World War II (15 April 2005, St. Petersburg):* took note of the Final Declaration adopted at this conference;

- *Composition of the Ad Hoc Committee on the implementation of paragraph 5 of Resolution 1416 (2004) on the conflict over the Nagorno-Karabakh region dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference*: took note that the UEL group appointed Mr Doros Christodoulides (Cyprus) for the vacant seat;
- *Appointment of a rapporteur for the progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (29 April - 20 June 2005)*: appointed Mr Glesener (Luxembourg, EPP/CD) as rapporteur;
- *Institutional representation of the Parliamentary Assembly in the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)*: appointed Mr Zingeris (Lithuania, EDG) to represent the Assembly in the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI);
- *First Session of the Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly (Cairo, 12-15 March 2005)*: took note of the information document by Mr Azzolini on his participation in this meeting and referred it to the Political Affairs Committee for consideration;
- *Inaugural mass of His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI*: heard an oral report of Mr Azzolini on his participation in this inaugural mass and agreed to invite His Holiness Pope Benedict XVI as well as His All Holiness Ecumenical Patriarch Bartholomew to address the Assembly;
- *Date and place of the next meetings*: decided to hold the following meetings:
 - . Lisbon, Monday 6 June 2005 at 8.30 am,
 - . Strasbourg, Monday 20 June 2005 at 8.30,
 - . Strasbourg, Friday 24 June 2005 at 8.30 am
 - . Monaco, Thursday 1 September 2005 at 8.30 am.

Petr Sich/Alexandra Alléon

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
 Secretariat of the Assembly
 Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly
 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