

Parliamentary Assembly Assemblée parlementaire



TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Secretariat of the Assembly

Synopsis No 2005/102

3 October 2005

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Monday 3 October 2005 in Strasbourg with Mr René van der Linden, President of the Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- *4th Part of the 2005 Ordinary Session (Strasbourg, 3-7 October 2005):*
 - i. requests for debates under urgent procedure:
 - a. Opinion on the “Draft Framework Convention of the Council of Europe on the value of cultural heritage for society”:
 - . took note of the letter from Ambassador Duarte, Chairman of the Ministers’ Deputies, transmitting to the Assembly, for opinion, the “Draft Framework Convention of the Council of Europe on the value of cultural heritage”;
 - . recommended to the Assembly to hold this debate under urgent procedure and proposed to refer this matter to the Committee on Culture, Science and Education for report;
 - b. “Europe and bird flu – preventive health measures” :
 - . took note of the request to hold a debate under urgent procedure on this matter;
 - . recommended to the Assembly to hold this debate and proposed to refer this matter to Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee for report and the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs for opinion;
 - ii. updated the draft order of business;
 - iii. expressed the wish that Mr Lytvyn, Speaker of the Parliament of Ukraine, answer questions by the Assembly members after his statement on Thursday 6 October;
 - iii. Election of the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights:
 - a. authorised the distribution to Assembly members of the report of the Sub-Committee on Human Rights concerning the list of candidates for the post of Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights;
 - b. in conformity with the decision taken by the Bureau on 18 March 2005 in Paris, and endorsed by the Assembly during the April part-session, took note that upon the election of the

new Commissioner, the President will declare him elected for a non-renewable term of office of six years starting on 1 January 2006, while expressing the hope that he will be able to take up his office as soon as possible;

- c. asked the Chairman of the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities to examine the procedure concerning the secret ballots, in committees, for decisions regarding persons, and to inform the Bureau accordingly;
- v. Joint Committee (Thursday, 6 October at 6.30 pm):
 - a. took note of the letter from Ambassador Duarte stating that the Ministers' Deputies would like to address the question of the follow-up by national parliaments of the decisions taken at the Third Summit;
 - b. took note that the President had sent letters to the Presidents of Parliaments and Chairpersons of the national delegations asking them to provide him with the necessary information on action undertaken by their parliament concerning the follow-up of the Third Summit;
 - c. took note that the President had sent a letter to the Chairman of the Ministers' Deputies, proposing that the speaking time be limited to 5 minutes;
- *Follow-up to the Recommendation 1712 (2005) on the "Follow-up to the Third Summit":*
 - i. Forum on the Future of Democracy:
 - a. took note that Mr Gross attended the preparatory meeting of the Minister's Deputies advisory group concerning the launching meeting of the Forum on the Future of Democracy, which took place in Strasbourg on 20 September 2005, in his capacity of member of the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on the Forum;
 - b. took note that the President would address the launching meeting of the Forum which will take place in Warsaw on 3-4 November 2005 on the theme of "civic participation" in which members of the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on the Forum will also take part;
 - ii. Group of wise persons on the effectiveness of the European Court of Human Rights:
 - a. took note of the decision taken by the Ministers' Deputies on the composition of the group of wise persons on the long term effectiveness of the European Court on Human Rights;
 - b. took note that the President reiterated his wish that the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights contribute to the work of the group of wise persons;
 - iii. Task Force to combat violence against women:
 - a. took note of the letter from the Secretary General of the Council of Europe asking the Assembly to appoint an expert to take part in the Task force to combat violence against women;
 - b. asked the Committee of Equal Opportunities for Women and Men to make a proposal for the next Bureau meeting;

- *Observation of elections:*

i. *Partial parliamentary elections in Georgia (1 October 2005):* took note that it was not possible to observe these elections;

ii. *Parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan (6 November 2005):*

a. took note that a pre-electoral mission would take place from 10 to 14 October;

b. approved the composition of the ad hoc Committee;

c. decided to allow alternate members, appointed by their political groups, to join this Ad Hoc Committee;

iii. *Constitutional Referendum in Armenia (November 2005):* took note that the date of this referendum is not yet fixed;

iv. *Elections in the Chechen Republic (27 November 2005):*

a. took note of the letter from M. Alkhanov, President of the Chechen Republic, inviting the Assembly to observe the elections in the Chechen Republic on 27 November;

b. decided to send a delegation composed of one member from each political group and Mr Gross, Chairman of the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee for the organisation of the Round Table on the political situation in the Chechen Republic, and to lead a fact-finding mission on the occasion of these elections which will subsequently make a report to the Bureau;

v. *Elections to the Palestinian Legislative Council (25 January 2006):*

a. took note that the pre-electoral mission should take place from 12 to 17 December 2005;

b. took note that if these elections take place as currently planned during the January part-session 2006, the number of the Ad Hoc Committee will be decreased to 10 members (3 SOC, 2 EPP/CD, 2 ALDE, 2 EDG, 1 UEL);

vi. Request by the United Nations Electoral Assistance Division (UNEAD), the National Democratic Institute For International Affairs (NDI) and The Carter Center (TCC) for endorsement of a Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation and a Code On Good Conduct For International Election Observers:

a. took note of the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly;

b. decided to come back to this matter at its next meeting;

- *References and transmissions to committees:*

i. approved the President's proposal that the committees present to the Bureau in January 2006 the priorities for their work next year and that proposals for references will be considered in this context;

- ii. approved the following proposals:
 - a. references:
 - 1. **Doc. 10660**
Current affairs debate on "Violence and all forms of exploitation and abuse with respect to children" (1 September 2005) and Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Gardetto and others
The implementation of legal and other tools useful for fighting against violence and other forms of child exploitation and abuse, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights for report, and to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee *for opinion*
 - 2. **Doc. 10667**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Legendre and others
Promoting the teaching of European literature, postponed until January 2006
 - 3. **Doc. 10668**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mrs Stanoiu and others
The image of women in advertising, to Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men *for report*
 - 4. **Doc. 10669**
Motion for a resolution presented by Ms Wurm and others
Police handling of complaints filed by women, postponed until January 2006
 - 5. **Doc. 10672**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Toshev and others
Strengthening of the dialogue between the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and national parliaments, to the Political Affairs Committee *for report* on the use by Assembly members of their "double mandate", national and European
 - 6. **Doc. 10674**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Gardetto and others
The fight against harm to the environment in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea, postponed until January 2006
 - 7. **Doc. 10675**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Gardetto and others
Equal rights and opportunities for the disabled and their integration in society, postponed until January 2006
 - 8. **Doc. 10681**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Arabadjiev and others
Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights – stock-taking and perspectives, postponed until January 2006

9. **Doc. 10684**
Request for an opinion from the Committee of Ministers
Draft Framework Convention on the value of cultural heritage for society, to the Committee on Culture, Science and Education *for report*
10. **“Europe and bird flu – preventive health measures”**: to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee *for report* and to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs *for opinion*
- b. reply after consultation
1. **Doc. 10635**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Walter and others
Access to satellite broadcasting platforms, postponed until January 2006
2. **Doc. 10653 rev.**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Leutheusser-Schnarrenberger and others
Investigation of crimes allegedly committed by high officials during the Kuchma rule in Ukraine, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report* on the understanding that this report will include the Gongadze case
- c. request for extension
1. **Doc. 9875**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr van der Linden and others
Need for international condemnation of totalitarianism (new title decided by the Committee: "Need for international condemnation of the crimes of the communism"), Reference No. 2872 of 29 September 2003, extended the validity until the end of January 2006
- d. request for modification
1. **Doc. 10545**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mrs Krohn and others
An European Framework for Diabetes - A call for Europe's leaders to act
Ref. 3092 of 6 June 2005, postponed until January 2006
2. **Doc. 10604**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Branger and others
Men's involvement in equality projects
Ref. 3108 of 24 June 2005, confirmed its previous decision
3. **Doc. 10081**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Jurgens and others
Human rights of conscript soldiers
Ref. 2929 of 2 March 2004, confirmed its previous decision

- *European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT):*

- i. drew up the lists of the candidates for the CPT in the following order:
 - a. With regard to Croatia:
 - 1/ Ms Marija DEFINIS-GOJANOVIC
 - 2/ Ms Zvezdana ŠIMUNIC
 - 3/ Mr Damir BRNETIC
 - b. With regard to Germany:
 - 1/ Mr Dr. Wolfgang S. HEINZ
 - 2/ Mrs Prof. Dr. Hildburg KINDT
 - 3/ Mr Dr. jur. Klaus KOEPEL
 - c. With regard to Liechtenstein:
 - 1/ Mrs Isolde KIEBER
 - 2/ Mr Philipp WANGER
 - 3/ Mr Walter KRANZ
 - d. With regard to Moldova:
 - 1/ Ms Tatiana RADUCANU
 - 2/ Mr Victor ZAHARIA
 - 3/ Ms Galina BOSTAN
 - e. With regard to the Russian Federation:
 - 1/ Mrs Elena SEREDA
 - 2/ Mrs Olga ARTAMONOVA
 - 3/ Mr Alexander KOVALEV
 - f. With regard to Slovakia:
 - 1/ Mrs Zora BRUCHÁCOVÁ
 - 2/ Mr Ladislav GETLÍK
 - 3/ Mrs Viera STRÁŽNICKÁ
 - g. With regard to Sweden:
 - 1/ Mrs Ann-Marie ORLER
 - 2/ Mrs Elisabeth FRITZ
 - 3/ Mr Peter WEIDERUD
 - h. With regard to Netherlands:
 - 1/ Mr Antonius Maria VAN KALMTHOUT
 - 2/ Mr Adriaan VAN ES
 - 3/ Mr Johan Stephan Leonard GUALTHERIE VAN WEEZEL
- ii. Candidates with regard to Ireland: asked the Irish parliamentary delegation to submit a new list providing a real choice as regards the qualifications, experience, age and gender of the candidates;

- iii. Candidates with regard to Georgia: took note of the decision of the Sub-Committee on Human Rights to postpone the decision until its next meeting and to invite the Chairperson of the Georgian parliamentary delegation to attend it in order to provide additional information;
- iv. asked the Sub-Committee on Human Rights to invite Chairpersons of national delegations to meetings at which the lists of candidates from their country are considered;
- *Composition of the Monitoring Committee*: approved new members as proposed by the political groups for ratification by the Assembly i.e Mr Goerens (Luxembourg, ALDE) and Mr Wilshire (United Kingdom, EDG);
 - *Progress Report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (24 June – 3 October 2005)*: approved the Progress report covering the period from 24 June to 3 October 2005;
 - *Information*: took note of the information by the President of the Assembly, the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe .

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