



TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Secretariat of the Assembly

Synopsis

29 May 2006

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Monday 29 May 2006 in Strasbourg with Mr René van der Linden, President of the Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- ***Standing Committee (Moscow, 29 May 2006)***: took note of the updated draft agenda;

- ***3rd Part of the 2006 Ordinary Session (Strasbourg, 26-30 June 2006)***:

i. Draft agenda:

a. decided to include in it two reports of the Committee on Culture, Science and Education on the "Follow-up to the Third Summit: priorities for cultural co-operation" and on "Freedom of expression and respect for religious beliefs";

b. decided to remove from it the report on the "Establishment of a European remembrance centre for victims of forced population movements and ethnic cleansing" and to include it in the draft agenda of the October part-session;

c. adopted the draft agenda as revised;

ii. Draft order of business:

a. following a request by the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, agreed to invite Mrs Ertürk, Special Rapporteur of the United Nations on Violence Against Women, to participate in the debate on "Parliaments united in combating domestic violence against women";

b. following a request by the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population, agreed to invite Mrs Chekrouni, Minister-Delegate to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Co-operation of Morocco in charge of Moroccans Living Abroad, to participate in the debate on "Human rights of irregular migrants";

c. agreed to invite Mr Fava, rapporteur of the European Parliament Temporary Committee on the alleged use of European countries by the CIA for the transport and illegal detention of prisoners, to participate in the debate on "Alleged secret detentions in Council of Europe member states";

d. drew up the draft order of business;

iii. Joint Committee (Thursday 29 June 2006 at 6.30 pm): agreed to include the

following items on the draft agenda:

- a. Alleged secret detentions in Council of Europe member states;
 - b. Relations between the Council of Europe and the European Union;
 - c. Forum for the Future of Democracy;
 - d. Council of Europe budget forecasts for 2007;
- **Report of the Ad hoc Committee on dialogue with the Parliament of Liechtenstein:** agreed to declassify this report and to append it to the next Progress Report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee;
- **Application to initiate a monitoring procedure concerning the monopolisation of the electronic media and the possible abuse of power in Italy:** transmitted this motion for resolution to the Monitoring Committee for a written opinion for the Bureau in accordance with Resolution 1115 (1997) as modified by Resolution 1431 (2005);
- **Follow-up to the Third Summit:**
- i. Memorandum of understanding between the Council of Europe and the European Union:
 - a. took note of the latest official state of the draft memorandum as well as an addendum containing amendments and comments forwarded by the former Romanian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers to the Russian Chairmanship on the occasion of the 116th session of the Committee of Ministers held in Strasbourg on 18-19 May 2006;
 - b. agreed with the position expressed by the President in a letter addressed to Mr Ungureanu, former Chairman-in-office of the Committee of Ministers, pointing out that:
 - . the Assembly's proposals do not appear to be sufficiently taken into account in the Draft Memorandum of Understanding;
 - . the recommendations made in Prime Minister Juncker's report should be more fully reflected;
 - . the Assembly has to be "formally consulted" on the final text prior to its adoption;
 - ii. Forum for the Future of Democracy:
 - a. stressed that elected representatives and civil society must play an important part in the Forum and asked the Political Affairs Committee to take a clear position on the guidelines adopted by the Committee of Ministers;
 - b. agreed to co-organise the Forum with the State Duma of the Russian Federation in Moscow on 18-19 October 2006;

c. asked the Political Affairs Committee to make concrete proposals to strengthen the involvement of the Assembly in the Forum;

- **References and transmissions to committees:** see appendix 1;

- **UEFA conference “Promoting good governance in sports” (Strasbourg, 29 September 2006):**

a. took note, on the basis of a statement by the Chairman of the Committee on Culture, Science and Education, of the state of preparations and confirmed that the conference would take place on 29 September 2006 in Strasbourg with the participation of the State Duma of the Russian Federation;

b. took note that in this connection, a football match would take place between the teams of the Assembly and the State Duma;

- **Observation of elections:**

i. **Partial re-run of parliamentary elections in Azerbaijan (13 May 2006):** approved the report of the the ad hoc Committee which observed these elections;

ii. **Referendum on the State Status in the Republic of Montenegro (Serbia and Montenegro, 21 May 2006):** heard information on this matter by the Chairperson of the ad hoc Committee which observed this referendum;

iii. **Presidential and parliamentary elections in Mexico (2 July 2006):** approved the composition of the ad hoc Committee and appointed Mr de Puig (Spain, SOC) as its Chairperson;

iv. **Parliamentary elections in “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” (5 July 2006):** approved the composition of the ad hoc Committee and appointed Mr Cavusoglu (Turkey, EDG) as its Chairperson;

v. **International Conference on the Parliamentary Dimension of Election Observation:** decided to hold this conference on 15-16 February 2007 in Strasbourg;

- **Analysis of the use made by the Assembly’s political groups of their allocations for 2005:** took note of the information paper prepared by the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development;

- **Implementation of paragraph 16 of Resolution 1493 (2006) on the “Situation in the Middle East”:** agreed that invitations to the Palestinian Legislative Council to send a delegation to attend Assembly part-sessions and committee meetings should refer to the principles stated in paragraph 11 of the Resolution 1493;

- **Criteria for the drawing-up of the list of speakers and the list of questions during Part-Sessions:** approved the proposals contained in the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly and invited the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities to draw up a report, under Rule 66.2, on possible modifications of the Rules of Procedure;

- **Dates of Assembly part-sessions (2007-2010):** decided to postpone this matter to its next meeting;
- **Assembly representatives for official activities:** see appendix 2;
- **Guidelines for the drawing-up of the “White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue:** invited the Committee on Culture, Science and Education to follow up on this matter in the framework of its forthcoming report on intercultural dialogue;
- **Visit by rapporteur:** authorised Mr Lindblad (Sweden, EPP/CD) to carry out a fact-finding visit to Iran within the framework of the preparation of his report on “Iran’s nuclear programme: the need for an international response”;
- **Proposal of candidates for the North-South Prize of the Council of Europe North-South Centre:** following the proposals by the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development, agreed to submit the candidatures of Mrs Bibi, defender of human rights, justice and education in Pakistan and Mrs Vermot-Mangold, member of the Assembly, for the 2006 North-South Prize of the Council of Europe North-South Centre;
- **Date and place of next meetings:** decided to hold the following meetings:
 - . Strasbourg, Monday 26 June 2006 at 8.30 am;
 - . Strasbourg, Friday 30 June 2006 at 8.30 am;
 - . Paris, Wednesday 6 September 2006 at 9.30 (instead of Friday 8 September 2006).

Kjell Torbiörn/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
 Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

Decisions on documents tabled for reference to committees

Appendix 1

A. DOCUMENTS TABLED FOR REFERENCE UNTIL TUESDAY 11 APRIL 2006 AT 12 NOON

1. **Doc. 10847**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Açikgöz and others
Environmental problems in the Black Sea Region, to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs, *for information*
2. **Doc. 10885**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mrs Vésaité and others
The spread of avian influenza and the admission of Taiwan as an Associate Member in the World Health Organisation, to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee, *for information*
3. **Doc. 10887**
Motion for a recommendation 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 report* and the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for opinion*
4. **Doc. 10888**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Preda and others
Protecting the Danube Delta, to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs, *for information*
5. **Doc. 10891**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Etherington and others
Co-operation between the Assembly and the Conference of INGOs, to the Political Affairs Committee *for report at the Standing Committee*
6. **Doc. 10896**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr R. Huseynov and others
The state of the historically important cultural monuments of Azerbaijan in the territory of Armenia, to the Committee on Culture, Science and Education, *for information*

B. REPLY AFTER CONSULTATION

1. **Doc. 10641**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Wohlwend and others
Protection of human rights in emergency situations, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, *for report*

C. REQUESTS TO MODIFY A REFERENCE

1. **Doc. 10823**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Venendaal and others
Energy savings as a way out of Europe's energy crisis
Ref. 3183
and
Doc. 10697
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Schmied and others
Preserving the environment by energy savings within the public sector and
the Council of Europe
Ref. 3196, added the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and
Regional Affairs *for opinion*

2. **Doc. 10827**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Bockel and others
Transfrontier co-operation
Ref. 3184, to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and
Regional Affairs *for report*

D. REQUEST TO EXTEND A REFERENCE

1. **Doc. 10156**
Motion for a recommendation by Mr Azzolini and others
Seal hunting
Ref. 2962 valid until 30 April 2006, extended until 31 December 2006.

Assembly representatives for official activities

Appendix 2

- i. Appointments of Assembly Representatives for official activities: in reply to formal invitations, took the following decisions:
 - a. Mr Mimica (Croatia, SOC): 17th yearly session of the Crans Montana Forum, Monaco, 22-25 June 2006 (no cost to the Assembly);
 - b. Mr Legendre (France, EPP/CD): 1st conference of elected officials from the Mediterranean, UNESCO, Rabat, 28-29 June 2006 (no cost to the Assembly);
 - c. Mr Gross (Switzerland, SOC): 15th Baltic Sea Parliamentary Conference, Reykjavik, 3-5 September 2006 (no cost to the Assembly);
- ii. Reports by Assembly Representatives on their participation at official activities: took note of the following report and decided to transmit it to the competent committee for follow-up:
 - . Mr Miljenko Dorić, Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Local and Regional Democracy, Crans Montana Forum, Zagreb, 5 – 7 April 2006.