

## TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

### Secretariat of the Assembly

#### Synopsis

29 September 2008

**The Bureau of the Assembly**, meeting on Monday, 29 September 2008 in Strasbourg with Mr Lluís Maria de Puig, President of the Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

**- 4<sup>th</sup> Part of the 2008 Ordinary Session (Strasbourg, 29 September – 3 October 2008):**

*i. Debate under urgent procedure*

a. “Consequences of the war between Georgia and Russia” (submitted by the five chairpersons of the Assembly’s Political Groups, on behalf of their groups): confirmed its decision to recommend to the Assembly to hold a debate under urgent procedure on this matter and to refer it to the Monitoring Committee for report and to the Political Affairs Committee, the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population for opinion;

*ii. Current affairs debate*

a. “Agrofuels and the food crisis” (submitted by 24 parliamentarians): decided to recommend to the Assembly not to hold a current affairs debate on this matter;

*iii. Draft agenda: approved the updated draft agenda;*

*iv. Signatures to motions tabled under Rule 9.1 of the Assembly’s Rules of Procedure: agreed with the proposal of the President to consult the President of the Committee of the Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs concerning the possible withdrawal or addition of signatures to motions tabled under Rule 9.1 of the Assembly’s Rules of Procedure;*

*v. Election of a judge to the European Court of Human Rights in respect of Luxembourg: took note of the report of the Sub-Committee on the election of judges, including the recommendations contained in it, and decided to forward it to Assembly members;*

*vi. Draft agenda of the Joint Committee (Thursday, 2 October at 6.30 pm): following a proposal of the Ministers’ Deputies, agreed to add the item “Date of the*

election of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe” to the agenda of the meeting;

- **Georgia-Russia conflict:**

i. took note of a memorandum prepared by Mr Van den Brande (Belgium, EPP/CD), President of the ad hoc committee of the Bureau which studied the situation on the ground in Russia and Georgia from 21-26 September 2008, and decided to declassify it for publication as an Addendum to the Progress Report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee;

ii. held an exchange of views with the Chairpersons of the Georgian and Russian parliamentary delegations to the Assembly;

- **Progress Report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (27 June – 29 September 2008):** approved the Progress report (Rapporteur: Mr Andros Kyprianou (Cyprus, UEL));

- **Elections:**

i. *Senatorial elections in Kazakhstan (4 October 2008):* in accordance with point 12 of the Guidelines on Observation of elections by the Assembly, decided to cancel the observation mission initially foreseen;

ii. *Presidential election in Azerbaijan (15 October 2008):* heard a report by Mr Herkel (Estonia, EPP/CD), Chairman of the ad hoc Committee which had carried-out a pre-electoral mission from 15 to 19 September 2008, and took note of a press release;

- **Reports by Assembly representatives on their participation in official activities:** took note of a report by Mrs Jonker (Netherlands, EPP/CD) on her participation in the Parliamentary Forum on economic migrations, social cohesion and development held in Kyiv on 5 September 2008 and referred it to the competent committee for possible follow-up;

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

- **Date and place of the next meetings:** decided to hold the following meetings:

. Strasbourg, 3 October 2008 at 8.30 a.m.

. Madrid, 28 November 2008 at 4 pm.

Kjell Torbiörn/Alexandra Alléon

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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

Observers to the Assembly

Secretary General of the Congress

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

## APPENDIX I

### References and transmissions to committees

The Bureau approved the following references and modifications of references, subject to ratification by the Assembly:

- i. references to committees*
- a. **Doc. 11670**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Jacquat and others Promoting active ageing – capitalising on older people's working potential**, to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee *for report*
- b. **Doc. 11672**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Asko-Seljavaara and others Prevention of obesity and type 2 diabetes and promotion of healthy nutritional habits among children and the young**, consultation of the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee *on the follow-up to be given*
- c. **Doc. 11673**  
**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr van der Linden and others Human rights and business**, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report* and to the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development *for opinion*
- d. **Doc. 11675**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Wohlwend and others The death penalty in Council of Europe member and observer countries – an unacceptable violation of human rights**, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*
- e. **Doc. 11676**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr von Sydow and others Situation in Kosovo**, to the Political Affairs Committee *for report* and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for opinion*
- f. **Doc. 11678**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Hurskainen and others The socio-economic potential of the Baltic Sea region**, to the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development *for report at the Standing Committee*
- g. **Doc. 11679**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Jonker and others**

**Asylum and gender-based persecution**, to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population *for report* and to the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men *for opinion*

**h. Doc. 11680**

**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr van der Linden and others Migrants, intercultural dialogue and integration**, to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population *to take it into account in the preparation of the report on "Migration in Europe: a constant challenge"*

Consequently, reference 3298 is modified as follows: Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population *for report* and Committee on Culture, Science and Education *for opinion*.

Extension of the validity of this reference : 22 January 2010

**i. Doc. 11681**

**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Ducarme and others Prohibiting the marketing and use of the "Mosquito" youth dispersal device**, to the Committee on Culture, Science and Education *for report* and to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee *for opinion*

**j. Doc. 11617 rev.**

**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Legendre and others Balanced approach to the rescuing of archaeological finds from development projects**, to the Committee on Culture, Science and Education *for report at the Standing Committee*

*ii. modification of references*

**a. Doc. 11213**

**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Dupraz and others Ban of cluster munitions**

**Ref. 3364 of 25 June 2007**, to the Political Affairs Committee *for report*, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee and to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population *for opinion*

**b. Doc. 11581**

**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Prescott and others The challenges posed by climate change**

**Ref. 3447 of 29 May 2008**, to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs *for report* and to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population *for opinion*

*iii. replies after consultation*

**a. Doc. 11409**

**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr de Puig and others**

**The eradication of discrimination based on the principle of "collective guilt" in Europe**

**Ref. 3386 of 21 January 2008**, to the Political Affairs Committee *for report*

**b. Doc. 11398**

**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Frunda and others**

**Secret detention centers: clarifying the allegations, no further action**

*iv. extension of references*

**a. Doc. 11028-11029**

**Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Bemelmans-Videc and others  
Nomination of candidates and election of judges to the European Court  
of Human Rights**

**Ref. 3279 of 6 October 2006 (validity : 6 October 2008), extension until 31  
December 2008**

**b. Doc. 11085**

**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Çavuşoğlu and others  
Migration in Europe : a constant challenge**

**Ref. 3298 of 22 January 2007 (validity: 22 January 2009), extension until  
31 December 2009**

**c. Doc. 11103**

**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mrs Vermot-Mangold and  
others**

**Improving the quality and consistency of asylum decisions in the  
Council of Europe member states**

**Ref. 3305 of 22 January 2007 (validity: 22 January 2009), extension until  
30 April 2009**