



TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Secretariat of the Assembly

Synopsis

25 January 2010

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Monday 25 January 2010 in Strasbourg, with Mr Lluís Maria de Puig, President of the Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- **1st ordinary part-Session of the Assembly in 2010 (Strasbourg, 25-29 January 2010)**
 - i. *Requests for debates under urgent procedure:*
 - a. “Faked Pandemics – a threat for health” (submitted by the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee): confirmed its decision to recommend to the Assembly not to hold a debate under urgent procedure on this matter;
 - b. “Recent events in Turkey” (submitted by the Chairpersons of the political groups): decided to recommend to the Assembly not to hold a debate under urgent procedure on this matter;
 - ii. *Request for a current affairs debate:*
 - a. « The tragedy in Haiti » (submitted by the Italian national delegation):
 - decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold a current affairs debate on the subject;
 - decided to propose to the Assembly to change the title of the debate as follows: “What can Europe do for Haiti?”
 - and appointed Mr Vitali in order to open the debate;
 - iii. *Draft agenda:* updated the draft agenda;
 - iv. *Election of a judge to the European Court of Human Rights in respect of Italy:* took note of the proposals made by the Sub-Committee on election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights contains in the document AS/Jur/Cdh (2009) 5 and decided to transmit this document to the members of the Assembly;
- **Progress Report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (2 October 2009 – 25 January 2010):** approved the progress report (Rapporteur, Mr de Puig, Spain, SOC);
- **Election observation:**
 - i. *Presidential election in Ukraine (17 January 2010):*
 - a. approved the report of the ad hoc committee on the first round;
 - b. extended the mandate of the ad hoc committee in order to observe the 2nd round of the presidential election which will take place on 7 February 2010;
- **References and transmissions to committees:** see Appendix;

- **Communications:** took note of the communications by the President, the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe as well as the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly;

- **Vice-Presidents of the Assembly in 2010:**

i. decided to propose to the Assembly to postpone the election of the Vice-President in respect of Ukraine, the seat for Ukraine remaining vacant;

ii. took note of the names of the other candidates for the posts of Vice-Presidents of the Assembly in 2010;

- **Credentials:** asked the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs to give an opinion on criteria to assess the fairness of the representation of the political parties or groups existing in the national parliaments in national delegations (Rule 6.2.a of the Assembly Rule of Procedure);

- **Composition of the Monitoring Committee and the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs:**

i. *Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs:* approved the list of members as proposed by political groups for ratification by the Assembly;

ii. *Monitoring Committee:*

a. noted that there was not yet an agreement among political groups regarding members from Armenia and Ukraine;

b. asked political groups to reach such an agreement up to Wednesday 27 January 2010 and to inform the Bureau accordingly with a view to ratification by the Assembly;

c. approved the rest of the list of members as proposed by political groups for ratification by the Assembly;

- **Appointments of Assembly representatives for official activities:** in reply to formal invitations, took the following decisions:

a. Mr Gardetto (Monaco, EPP/CD) : Winter session of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Vienna (Austria), 18-19 February 2010 (no cost for the Assembly) ;

b. Mr Blum (France, EPP/CD) : Seminar on the prospects of co-operation between the Kingdom of Morocco and the Council of Europe, Rabat (Morocco), 22-23 February 2010;

- **Date and place of the next meeting:**

. Strasbourg, Friday 29 January 2010 at 8.30 am.

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
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

References and transmissions to committees

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

i. references to committees

1. **Living wills and the protection of health and human rights**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs McCafferty and others
Doc. 12088, to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee *for report*
2. **The need for a code of good practice in the field of funding of electoral campaigns**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Lindblad and others
Doc. 12089, to the Political Affairs Committee *for report*
3. **The political situation in Northern Caucasus : immediate need for measures to increase democratic stability in accordance with Council of Europe standards**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Lindblad and others
Doc. 12090, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights to *take into account in the preparation of the report on "Legal remedies for Human Rights violations in the North Caucasus Region"*
4. **Towards a land acquisition policy in less developed countries and land governance**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Ducarme and others
Doc. 12091, to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs *for information*
5. **The environmental impact of sunken shipwrecks**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Meale and others
Doc. 12092, to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs *for report at the Standing Committee*
6. **The protection of freedom of expression and information in electronic media**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr McIntosh and others
Doc. 12094, to the Committee on Culture, Science and Education *for report*
7. **Request for the Assembly opinion from the Committee of Ministers**
Draft Third Additional Protocol to the European Convention on Extradition, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*
8. **Request for the Assembly opinion from the Committee of Ministers**
Draft Council of Europe Convention on the Counterfeiting of Medical Products and Similar Crimes involving Threats to Public Health, to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee *for report*

The Bureau took the following decisions :

i. consultation of committees

1. **An obligatory criterion for the selection procedure of the Parliamentary Assembly's presidential candidates**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Postanjyan and others
Doc. 12095, consultation of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs *on the follow-up to be given*

ii. Extension of references

1. **Human rights implications for voluntary return policies and programmes for irregular migrants**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Ostergaard and others
Doc. 11483, Reference 3408, 25.1.2008, until 30 June 2010.