



TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Secretariat of the Assembly

Synopsis

14 September 2010

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Wednesday 8 September 2010 in Rome, first with Mr Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, President of the Assembly, and then Mr Erol Cebeci, Vice-President of the Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

Election of the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly: agreed to transmit to the Assembly Resolution CM/Res(2010)4 submitted by the Committee of Ministers, containing the candidatures for the election to the post of Secretary General of the Assembly;

- **Fourth Part of the 2010 Ordinary Session (Strasbourg, 4-8 October 2010)**

i. *Requests for debate under urgent procedure and/or current affairs debate*

Agreed to recommend to the Assembly the holding of a debate under urgent procedure on “Recent rise in national security discourse in Europe: the case of Roma”, and to refer the matter to the Political Affairs Committee for report, and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population for opinion;

ii. *Up-dating of the draft agenda:* adopted the updated draft agenda;

- **Implementation of paragraph 18.2 of Assembly Resolution 1739 (2010) “The situation in Kosovo and the role of the Council of Europe”:** held an exchange of views on the basis of a Secretariat memorandum, with the participation of Mr Dragoljub Mićunović, Chairperson of the Serbian delegation to the Assembly; and approved the proposals contained in the memorandum, for subsequent ratification by the Assembly within the framework of the Progress Report;

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

- **Observation of the constitutional referendum in Moldova (5 September 2010):** heard a statement by Mr Olsson, member of the observation mission and decided to return to this matter at its meeting in Strasbourg on 4 October on the basis of the report from the observation mission;

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

- **Cooperation with the European Parliament:** was informed of the results of the meeting held in Brussels on 2 September 2010 between the Assembly’s Presidential Committee and the European Parliament’s Conference of Presidents; and agreed to return to this matter in the course of the Assembly’s October 2010 part-Session regarding proposed terms of reference and composition of a joint European Parliament–Parliamentary Assembly informal body to coordinate information sharing in the context of the accession of the European Union to the European Convention of Human Rights;

- **Issues raised by committees**

i. *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights:* took note of the decision of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights to deal with two motions for a Resolution referred to it - “The definition of political prisoners” (Doc. 11922) and “The follow-up to the issue of political prisoners in Azerbaijan” (Doc. 11468) - in a single report;

ii. *Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men*: authorised Ms Err to attend a United Nations Summit on the Millennium Development Goals to be held in New York from 20 to 22 September 2010, for the purposes of her report “Fighting the global backlash against women’s human rights”;

- ***International Day of Democracy, 15 September 2010 (Interparliamentary Union)***: approved a draft Declaration to be published in connection with this event;

- ***Proposed Joint Conference – Interparliamentary Assembly of the Commonwealth of Independent States and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe: Nevsky International Ecological Congress, Saint Petersburg (Russian Federation), 16 – 17 May 2011***: agreed to return to this matter at a forthcoming meeting on the basis of a Secretariat memorandum dealing with past experiences of Joint Conferences;

- ***Composition of the Committee on Rules and Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs***: appointed Mr Joseph Debono Grech (Malta, SOC) as a new member (replacing Mr Rudy Vis (UK, SOC));

- ***Institutional representation of the Parliamentary Assembly in 2010***: appointed Mr Denis MacShane as a new member of the Parliamentary Assembly’s institutional representation to the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) in 2010;

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

a. Mr Kimmo Sasi (Finland, EPP/CD): Parliamentary Panel within the framework of the WTO Public Forum, Geneva (Switzerland), 16 September 2010;

b. Ms Cecilia Keaveney (Ireland, ALDE): 18th Council of Europe Informal Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport, Baku (Azerbaijan), 22 September 2010;

c. The Chairperson of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights or his representative: Conference on “Strengthening Subsidiarity: Integrating the Court’s Case Law Into National Law and Judicial Practice”, Skopje (“the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”), 1-2 October 2010;

d. Mr Jean-Charles Gardetto (Monaco, PPE/DC): 2010 OSCE PA Fall Meetings, Palermo (Italy), 8-10 October 2010, at no cost to the Assembly;

e. Mr Denis MacShane (United Kingdom, SOC), NATO Parliamentary Assembly Fall Session, Warsaw (Poland), 12-16 November 2010, at no cost to the Assembly;

- ***Fifth Summer University for Democracy (Strasbourg, 28 June – 2 July 2010)***: took note of a final declaration;

- ***Forum for the Future of Democracy (Yerevan, 19-20 October 2010)***: took note of the report of the meeting of the Advisory Board for the Forum held on 18 June 2010;

- ***Meetings of the Standing Committee and the Bureau in 2011***: approved the schedule of meetings as it appears in Appendix 2;

- ***Date and place of the next meetings:***
- . Strasbourg, Monday 4 October 2010 at 8 am
- . Strasbourg, Friday 8 October 2010 at 8.30

Kjell Torbiörn/Angela Garabagiu

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
Director General, Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly
Observers to the Assembly
Secretary General of the Congress
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Directors General
Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe for Organisational Development and Reform
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights
Director of Communication
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

Appendix 1

References and transmissions to committees

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

i. references to committee

1. **Accession of the European Union to the European Convention on Human Rights: election of judges**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Bemelmans-Videc and others
Doc. 12306, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*
2. **Need for political and civil rehabilitation of people who have suffered repression from the communist regimes in Europe**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Toshev and others
Doc. 12311, no further action
3. **Reaffirming the universal nature of human rights**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Badré and others
Doc. 12312, to the Political Affairs Committee *for report* and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and to the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men *for opinion*

ii. transmission for information

1. **The need for the creation of a better measure of national well-being than Gross Domestic Product (GDP)**
Motion for a resolution presented by the Earl of Dundee and others
Doc. 12314, to the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development *for information*
2. **Elderly drivers: transnational harmonisation of driving aptitude**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Reimann and others
Doc. 12315, no further action
3. **Soviet political repressions as a crime against humanity**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr R. Huseynov and others
Doc. 12316, no further action

The Bureau, took, as well, the following decisions:

iii. consultation of committees

- *transmission for consultation*

1. **Rule of law: is it implemented in the right way?**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Keleş and others
Doc. 12313, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for consultation on the follow-up to be given*

- *reply after consultation*

2. **More gender equality in Parliamentary Assembly positions**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Stump and others
Doc. 12230, no further action

In a letter dated 1 July 2010, the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs informed the Bureau that it considered that there was no need to prepare a further report on this issue.

iv. *extension of references*

1. **Human rights and business**

Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Holger Haibach and others

Doc 11673

Ref. 3480 of -- 29/09/2008 validity: 29 September 2010, *extension* until 31 December 2010

Appendix 2

Meetings of the Standing Committee and the Bureau in 2011

Preliminary proposals for dates¹

Monday 24 January, 8.00 am Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Friday 28 January, 8.30 am Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Thursday 10 March, 3.00 pm, Paris	Bureau
Friday 11 March, 9.00 am, Paris (to be confirmed)	Standing Committee
Monday 11 April, 8.00 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Friday 15 April, 8.30 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
May, Ukraine (date and place to be confirmed)	Bureau and Standing Committee (CM Presidency)
Monday 20 June, 8.00 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Friday 24 June, 8.30 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Monday 5 September, 9.30 am, Paris	Bureau
Monday 3 October, 8.00 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Friday 7 October, 8.30 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
November, United Kingdom (date and place to be confirmed)	Bureau and Standing Committee (CM Presidency)
Monday 12 December, 9.30 am, Paris	Bureau

¹ Dates of meetings due to be held elsewhere than in Strasbourg and Paris are subject to the conclusion of a formal agreement with the Parliament of the country concerned.