



TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Secretariat of the Assembly

Synopsis

29 November 2011

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on 24 November 2011 in Edinburgh with Mr Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, President of the Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Standing Committee meeting (Edinburgh, United Kingdom, 25 November 2011):** considered and took note of the revised draft agenda and decided to recommend to the Standing Committee to hold a current affairs debate on “The young generation sacrificed: political, social, economic and other consequences of the financial crisis” to be introduced by Mr Volontè.
- **1st Part of the 2012 Ordinary Session (Strasbourg, 23-27 January 2012):** updated the preliminary draft agenda.
- **References and transmissions to committees:** considered and approved the references and modifications to references as presented in Appendix I, subject to ratification by the Standing Committee.
- **Request by the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic for “partner for democracy status”:** took note of the request by the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic for “partner for democracy status” and decided to refer this request to the Political Affairs Committee for report as well as to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and to the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men for opinion.
- **Observation of elections:**
 - i. **Meeting of the Chairpersons of Ad Hoc Committees for the observation of elections (4 October 2011):** approved the report of the meeting of the Chairpersons of Ad Hoc Committees for the observation of elections, and invited the Secretariat to prepare revised Guidelines on the observation of elections by the Assembly as proposed by the meeting;
 - ii. **Presidential election in Bulgaria (23 and 30 October 2011):** approved the report of the ad hoc Committee;
 - iii. **Elections to the National Constituent Assembly of Tunisia (23 October 2011):** approved the report of the ad hoc Committee;
 - iv. **Presidential election in the Kyrgyz Republic (30 October 2011):** approved the report of the ad hoc Committee;
 - v. **Parliamentary elections in Morocco (25 November 2011):** took note of the press release of the pre-electoral mission (9-12 November 2011);
 - vi. **Parliamentary elections in the Russian Federation (4 December 2011) :** took note of the press release of the pre-electoral mission (8-11 November 2011);

vii. *Early parliamentary elections in Kazakhstan (15 January 2012)* : decided to observe these elections, and to constitute an ad hoc Committee for this purpose composed of 11 members (EPP/CD: 3, SOC: 3; EDG: 2, ALDE: 2, UEL: 1).

- ***Follow-up to Resolution 1822 (2011) on the Reform of the Parliamentary Assembly***: took note of the content of a memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly and decided to approve the new arrangements for the organisation of part-sessions of the Assembly as from the opening of the January 2012 Part-session, in particular the arrangements listed in paragraphs 2 and 5 of the document.

- ***Issues raised by committees***:

i. *Political Affairs Committee*:

. decided that the next Assembly debate on the state of democracy in Europe foreseen for June 2012, should be devoted to: "Democracy at risk: role of citizens and the state today" and that the reports on "crisis of democracy and role of the state in today's Europe" and on "the rise of populist movements in Europe and its danger for democracy" be the subject of a joint debate on this occasion;

. took note of the recent arrest of three members of the Turkish Cypriot community for "conspiring to have a sexual intercourse against the order of nature" and decided that the elected representatives of the Turkish Cypriot Community will be approached on this matter;

. took note of the information document approved by the Political Affairs Committee on PACE Recommendation 1975 (2011) on "Living Together in 21st-century Europe: follow up to the report of the Group of Eminent Persons of the Council of Europe" and approved the proposed action contained in it;

ii. *Ad hoc Committee of the Bureau to participate in the Conference on "Women as drivers of change in the Mediterranean" (Rome, 24 and 25 October 2011)*: took note of the oral report from the Chairperson of the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men.

- ***Communications***:

. took note of communications by the President, the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, as well as by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly;

. took note of the Memorandum by the Secretary General of the Assembly on the implementation of Resolution 1822 (2011) on the reform of the Assembly: "Organisation chart and list of tasks of different entities of the Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly", to enter into force as from 1st January 2012.

- ***Other business***:

- ***International day for the elimination of violence against women (25 November 2011)***: approved a Declaration in the framework of the International day for the elimination of violence against women for adoption by the Standing Committee.

- ***Situation in Syria*** : approved a Statement by the Bureau on the situation in Syria.

- ***Situation in Egypt*** : approved a Statement by the Bureau on the situation in Egypt.

- ***Situation in Belarus*** : approved a Statement by the Bureau on the sentence handed down on Mr Bialatski.

- ***European Conference of Presidents of Parliament, Strasbourg, 20-21 September 2012***: took note of the new dates

- ***Forum for the Future of Democracy, Cyprus, 13-14 October 2011***: took note of the conclusions of the Forum.

- ***Composition of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs***: approved the changes made to the list of members and decided to submit these proposals to the Standing Committee for ratification.

- ***Date and place of the next meetings*** : decided to hold the following meetings:
 - . Monday, 12 December 2011, Paris at 9.30 am
 - . Monday, 23 January 2012, Strasbourg, at 8.00 am
 - . Friday, 27 January 2012, Strasbourg, at 8.30 am

Markus Adelsbach

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
Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations
Secretary General of the Congress
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Directors General
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 I

References and transmissions to committees Standing Committee - 25 November 2011

Doc No.	Nature of document	Title of document	Committee concerned	Reference No.
12737	Motion for a Resolution	Role of NGOs in countering nationalism, migrantophobia and xenophobia in Europe	Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights <i>for report</i>	3817
12740	Motion for a Resolution	Securing decent work for all	Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee <i>for report</i>	3818
12749	Motion for a Resolution	Keeping political and criminal responsibility separate	Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights <i>for report</i> Political Affairs Committee <i>for opinion</i>	3819
12752	Motion for a Recommendation	Revision of the European Convention on transfrontier broadcasting	Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights <i>for report</i> Committee on Culture, Science and Education <i>for opinion</i>	3820
12754	Motion for a Resolution	Strengthening the mechanism for the disclosure of conflicts of interest in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe	Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs <i>for report</i>	3821
12759	Motion for a Resolution	Restoring social justice through a tax on financial transactions	Committee on Economic Affairs and Development <i>for report</i>	3822
0	Bureau Decision	Request for partner for democracy status with the Parliamentary Assembly submitted by the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic	Political Affairs Committee <i>for report</i> Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights <i>for opinion</i> Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men <i>for opinion</i>	3823

Extensions of references (for information)

Doc No.	Nature of document	Title of document	Committee concerned	Reference No.	New validity date
0	Bureau Decision	Measures to improve the democratic character of elections in Council of Europe member states	Political Affairs Committee <i>for report</i>	3629	30 June 2012