



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY

AS/Bur/CB (2016) 06

30 May 2016

To the Members of the Assembly

Synopsis of the meeting held in Tallinn on 26 May 2016

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Thursday, 26 May 2016 in Tallinn, with Mr Pedro Agramunt, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Communications:**

- i. took note of the communication by the President of the Parliamentary Assembly and of his intention to submit a draft declaration on interparliamentary dialogue and cooperation at its next meeting;
- ii. took note of the communication by the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe;

- **Standing Committee (Tallinn, 27 May 2016):** took note of the draft agenda;

- **Third part-session of 2016 (Strasbourg, 20-24 June):** drew up the draft agenda;

- **References and transmissions to committees:** considered and approved the references as presented in Appendix 1, subject to ratification by the Standing Committee;

- **Election observation :**

- i. *Kazakhstan: early parliamentary elections (20 March 2016):* approved the report of the ad hoc committee;
- ii. *Serbia: early parliamentary elections (24 April 2016):* approved the report of the ad hoc committee;
- iii. *"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia": early parliamentary elections:* took note of the press release of the pre-electoral mission and of the cancellation of these elections initially scheduled for 5 June 2016;
- iv. *Azerbaijan: repeat of the parliamentary elections in constituency No. 90 (18 June 2016):* decided to ensure presence on the occasion of these elections with a delegation composed of 3 members: Mr Jordi Xuclà (Spain, ALDE) and the co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee, Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) and Mr Cezar Florin Preda (Romania, EPP/CD);
- v. *Belarus: parliamentary elections (11 September 2016, subject to receiving an invitation):* decided to observe these elections and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 11 members (EPP/CD: 3; SOC: 3; ALDE: 2; EC: 2; UEL: 1);
- vi. *Russian Federation: parliamentary elections (18 September 2016, subject to receiving an invitation):* decided to resume the matter at a later stage;

- vii. *Morocco: parliamentary elections (7 October 2016, subject to receiving an invitation)*: decided to observe these elections and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 11 members (EPP/CD: 3; SOC: 3; ALDE: 2; EC: 2; UEL: 1);
- viii. *Georgia: parliamentary elections (8 October 2016, subject to receiving an invitation)*: decided to observe these elections; constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 30 members (EPP/CD: 11; SOC: 10; ALDE: 4; EC: 3; UEL: 2); and authorised a pre-electoral mission;
- ix. *Montenegro: parliamentary elections (16 October 2016, date to be confirmed, subject to receiving an invitation)*: decided to observe these elections and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 11 members (EPP/CD: 3; SOC: 3; ALDE: 2; EC: 2; UEL: 1);
- x. *Republic of Moldova: presidential election (30 October 2016, subject to receiving an invitation)*: decided to observe this election; constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 20 members (EPP/CD: 8; SOC: 7; ALDE: 2; EC: 2; UEL: 1); and authorised a pre-electoral mission;
- xi. *Bulgaria: presidential election (October 2016, date to be confirmed, subject to receiving an invitation)*: decided to observe this election and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 11 members (EPP/CD: 3; SOC: 3; ALDE: 2; EC: 2; UEL: 1);
- **Ad hoc committee of the Bureau on the situation of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in Greece**: took note of the draft agenda of the meeting, approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee (Appendix 2) and appointed Mr Pedro Agramunt, President of the Parliamentary Assembly and Ms Meritxell Mateu (Andorra, ALDE) respectively as Chairperson and Rapporteur of the ad hoc committee;
- **2016 World Forum for Democracy (Strasbourg, 7-9 November)**: took note of the concept paper and decided to constitute an ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in the Forum, composed of members to be proposed by the Assembly committees before the Bureau meeting of 24 June 2016;
- **Petitions:**
 - i. *No Maternity Traffic petition*: took note of the memorandum by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly, found that the petition was admissible and decided to transmit it to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development to be taken into account in the context of the preparation of the report on *Human rights and ethical issues related to surrogacy*;
 - ii. *Petition on serious administration problems at the European Court of Human Rights concerning the case of Ms S.H.*: took note of the memorandum by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly and decided that the petition was not admissible;
- **Request for a financial allocation by a member not belonging to any political group**: decided that a fixed amount of 679.01 euro of *per capita* allowance be granted in 2016 to Mr Alex Salmond (United Kingdom, NR) upon his request in accordance with the Assembly Rules of Procedure and Opinion No 82 (1977) after the submission to the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs of proof of expenses incurred;
- **Other business:**
 - i. took note of the exchange of letters between the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly and Mr Axel Fischer (Germany, EPP/CD) on the procedures for the adoption of reports in committees and in plenary session and agreed to request the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs to give its opinion on interpretation of the Rules of Procedure in this respect;
 - ii. invited the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly to inform it about the procedure concerning staff appointments at one of its next meetings;
- **Budgetary matters - Analysis of the use made by the Assembly's political groups of their allocations for 2015**: approved the draft communication submitted by the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs;

- **Composition of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs:** on the basis of a proposal by the Socialist Group, nominated Mr Evangelos Venizelos (Greece) to replace Mr Florin Iordache (Romania);
- **Dates and places of next meetings:**
Monday, 20 June 2016, Strasbourg at 8 am;
Friday, 24 June 2016, Strasbourg at 8.30 am;
Monday, 5 September 2016, Paris, at 9 am;
Monday, 10 October 2016, Strasbourg at 8 am;
Friday, 14 October 2016, Strasbourg, 8.30 am.

Angela Garabagiu

Copy to:

Secretary General of the Assembly
Director General, Director 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 1

A. References and transmissions to committees

Doc. [13978](#), motion for a resolution, The functioning of democratic institutions in Poland: reference to the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) *for report*;

Doc. [13980](#), motion for a resolution, Resolving the ongoing conflict in Turkey and finding a political solution to the Kurdish question: *no further action*;

Doc. [13981](#) motion for a resolution, Promoting diversity and equality in politics: reference to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for report*;

Doc. [14026](#), motion for a resolution, The value of cultural heritage in a democratic society: consultation of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media *on possible follow-up*;

Doc. [14027](#), motion for a resolution, Good football governance: reference to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media *for report*;

Doc. [14032](#), motion for a resolution, Counter-Narratives to Terrorism: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report* and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for opinion*;

Doc. [14033](#), motion for a resolution, A potential threat to European countries imposed by the nuclear power plant in Belarus: transmission to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *on possible follow-up*;

Doc [14034](#), motion for a resolution, The “Panama Papers” – an opportunity to expose corruption and organised crime,

Doc [14045](#), motion for a resolution, The “Panama Papers” and the concern about fiscal, social justice and public trust in our democratic system,

Doc [14047](#), motion for a resolution, Panama Papers: what lessons for the state of democracy in Council of Europe member States? : reference to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for report* and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for opinion* with the following title: “The concern about fiscal, social justice and public trust in our democratic system”.

B. Modification of references

Doc. [13646](#) , motion for a recommendation, Closing the protection gap of unaccompanied children in Europe (Ref. 4099 of 26 January 2015): reference to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report* and to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for opinion*;

Doc. [13905](#) , motion for a resolution, Jurisdictional immunity of international organisations and rights of their staff (Ref. 4185 of 29 January 2016): reference to the Committee on Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report* and to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for opinion*;

Doc. [13965](#), motion for a resolution, Compatibility of Sharia law with the European Convention on Human Rights: can States Parties to the Convention be signatories of the “Cairo Declaration”? (Ref. 4188 of 4 March 2016): reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report* and to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for opinion*.

Appendix 2**Ad hoc committee of the Bureau on the situation of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in Greece
Visit to Greece (30-31 May 2016)****List of members****President of the Ad hoc committee / Président de la Commission ad hoc**

Mr Pedro Agramunt, President of the Assembly / Président de l'Assemblée *

Rapporteur

Ms Meritxell Mateu (ALDE), Chairperson of the delegation of Andorra / Présidente de la délégation de l'Andorre

**Members of the Presidential Committee or their representatives /
Membres du Comité des Présidents ou leurs représentants**

Mr Tobias Zech (Germany, EPP/CD) *
Mr Michele Nicoletti (Italy, SOC) *
Mr Jordi Xuclà (Spain, ALDE) *
Mr Paul Scully (United Kingdom, EC) *
Mr Nikolaj Villumsen (Denmark, UEL) *

**Chairpersons of national delegations or their representatives // Président(e)s des délégations
nationales ou leurs représentants**

Ms Petra De Sutter (SOC)	Belgium
Mr Senad Šepić (EPP/CD)	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mr René Rouquet (SOC)	France
Ms Ionneta Kavvadia (UEL)	Greece
Mr Zsolt Csenger-Zalán (EPP/CD)	Hungary
Mr Karl Garðarsson (ALDE)	Iceland
Mr Yves Cruchten (SOC)	Luxembourg
Mr Predrag Sekulić (SOC)	Montenegro
Mr Frank J. Jenssen (EPP/CD)	Norway
Mr Aleksander Pocij (EPP/CD)	Poland
Mr Antonio Gutiérrez Limones (SOC)	Spain
Mr Alfred Heer (ALDE)	Switzerland
Mr Erkan Kandemir (EC)	Turkey
Mr Serhii Kiral (EC)	Ukraine
Mr Mark Pritchard (EC)	United Kingdom

* members of the delegation going to Lesvos on 31 May
/ membres de la délégation se rendant à Lesbos le 31 mai

Mr Mohamed Yatim (Morocco)

Partner for democracy delegation

**Delegation of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons //
Délégation de la Commission des migrations, des réfugiés et des personnes déplacées**

Ms Sahiba Gafarova (Azerbaijan, EC)
Mr Irakli Chikovani (Georgia, ALDE)
Ms Annette Groth (Germany, UEL)
Ms Vasiliki Katrivanou (Greece, UEL)
Mr Manlio Di Stefano (Italy, NR)
Mr Andrea Rigoni (Italy, ALDE)
Ms Tineke Strik (Netherlands, SOC) *
Ms Eva-Lena Jansson (Sweden, SOC)

Members of the Secretariat / Membres du Secrétariat

Mr Wojciech Sawicki	-	Secretary General of the Assembly
Ms Sonia Sirtori	-	Head of the Secretariat of the Bureau of the Assembly // Head of the Office of the Secretary General of the Assembly
Mr David Milner **	-	Secretary of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons
Ms Greta Faggiani	-	Deputy to the Head of the Office of the President of the Assembly
Ms Nathalie Bargellini	-	Press Officer
Ms Annick Schneider	-	Assistant to the Secretary General of the Assembly
Mr Sandro Weltin**	-	Photographer

Interpreters / Interprètes

Ms Julia Tanner
Ms Ina Kang

* members of the small delegation going to Lesbos on 31 May
/ membres de la délégation se rendant à Lesbos le 31 mai

** members of the secretariat accompanying the delegation to Lesbos on 31 May
/ membres du secrétariat se rendant à Lesbos le 31 mai