



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY

AS/Bur/CB (2019) 01

21 January 2019

To the Members of the Assembly

Synopsis of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 21 January 2019

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Monday 21 January 2019 in Strasbourg with Ms Liliane Maury Pasquier, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Communications:** took note of the communications by the President of the Assembly, the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe;
- **First part-session of 2019 (Strasbourg, 21-25 January):**
 - i. *Requests for debates under urgent procedure:* took note
 - of the request tabled by Mr Volodymyr Arieu (Ukraine, EPP/CD) and 58 members of the Assembly to hold a debate under urgent procedure on *Escalations of tensions around the sea of Azov and the Kerch Strait and threats to the European security*; decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold a debate under urgent procedure and to refer the matter to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy;
 - of the request tabled by Mr Tiny Kox (Netherlands, UEL) on behalf of the UEL group, to hold a debate under urgent procedure on *Worsening situation of opposition politicians in Turkey: what to do to protect their fundamental rights in a Council of Europe member state?*; decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold a debate under urgent procedure and to refer the matter to the Monitoring Committee;
 - ii. *Request for a current affairs debate:* took note of the withdrawal of the request by Ms Thorhildur Sunna Ævarsdóttir (Iceland, UEL) to hold a current affairs debate on *Promoting harassment-free parliaments in Council of Europe member States*;
 - iii. *Draft agenda:* updated the draft agenda;
 - iv. *Election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights:* took note of the report drawn up by the Committee on the election of judges following interviews with candidates for the posts of judges in respect of Italy and Sweden;
 - v. *Joint Committee (Strasbourg, 24 January 2019, 12.00 noon):* prepared the meeting and took note that the Committee of Ministers had received 4 candidatures for the post of Secretary General of the Council of Europe and that the Bureau would proceed at its meeting on 23 May in Paris with interviews of the candidates included in the recommendation of the Committee of Ministers;
- **Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (12 October 2018 to 20 January 2019)** (Rapporteur: Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, United Kingdom, EC): approved the Progress report;

- **Election observation:**
 - i. *Armenia: early parliamentary elections (9 December 2018)*: approved the report of the ad hoc committee;
 - ii. *"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia": presidential election (21 April 2019)*: subject to receiving an invitation, decided to observe this election and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 12 members (EPP/CD: 3; SOC: 3, EC: 2, ALDE: 2, UEL: 1, FDG: 1) as well as of the co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee;
 - iii. *Meeting of the Chairpersons of ad hoc committees for the observation of elections, 23 January 2019*: took note of the draft agenda;
- **References and transmissions to committees**: considered and approved the references and transmissions as set out in Appendix 1, subject to ratification by the Assembly in the Progress report;
- **Vice-Presidents of the Assembly for 2019**: took note of the list of candidates for Vice-Presidents of the Assembly (Appendix 2);
- **Resolution 1376 (2004) relating to Cyprus**: took note of the letters from the two Turkish Cypriot political parties informing the President of the Assembly of the names of the "elected representatives of the Turkish Cypriot community" entitled to sit in the Assembly in 2019, namely Mr Armağan Candan and Mr Hamza Ersan Saner, subject to ratification by the Assembly in the Progress report;
- **Composition of the Monitoring Committee, the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs and the Committee on the election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights**: on the basis of proposals by the political groups, nominated members of these three committees and decided to submit them to the Assembly for ratification (Commissions (2019) 01 Addendum 1);
- **Date and place of the next meeting:**

Friday 25 January 2019, Strasbourg, at 8.30 am.

Isild Heurtin, Kateryna Gayevska

Copy to:

Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly
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 1 – References and transmissions to committees

[Doc. 14777](#), Motion for a resolution, Ending violence against children: a Council of Europe contribution to the Sustainable Development Goals: reference to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for report*

[Doc. 14778](#), Motion for a resolution, Artificial intelligence and labour markets: friend or foe?: reference to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for report*

Appendix 2 – Candidatures Vice-Presidents of the Assembly for 2019

GROUPS / GROUPE	COUNTRY / PAYS	CANDIDATURES
GROUP I / GROUPE I	France	Ms Nicole TRISSE
	Germany / Allemagne	Mr Andreas NICK
	Italy / Italie	Mr Alvis MANIERO
	Russian Federation / Fédération de Russie	
	Turkey / Turquie	Mr Akif Çağatay KILIÇ
	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni	Sir Roger GALE
GROUP II / GROUPE II	Poland / Pologne	Mr Włodzimierz BERNACKI
	Spain / Espagne	Ms Carmen LEYTE
GROUP III / GROUPE III	Austria / Autriche	Mr Werner AMON
	Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan	Mr Samad SEYIDOV
	Belgium / Belgique	Mr Hendrik DAEMS
	Bosnia and Herzegovina / Bosnie-Herzégovine	Vacant seat / siège vacant
	Bulgaria / Bulgarie	Ms Dzhema GROZDANOVA
	Croatia / Croatie	Ms Sanja PUTICA
	Sweden / Suède	Ms Boriana ÅBERG
	Switzerland / Suisse	Ms Elisabeth SCHNEIDER-SCHNEITER
GROUP IV / GROUPE IV	Iceland / Islande	Ms Rósa Björk BRYNJÓLFSDÓTTIR
	Ireland / Irlande	Mr Joseph O'REILLY
	Latvia / Lettonie	Ms Inese LĪBIŅA-EGNERE
	Liechtenstein	Ms Susanne EBERLE-STRUB