



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY

AS/Bur/CB (2019) 09

4 September 2019

To the Members of the Assembly

Synopsis of the meeting held in Bern on 3 September 2019

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Tuesday 3 September 2019 in Bern, 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 and the Secretary General of the Council of Europe;
- **Fourth part-session of 2019 (Strasbourg, 30 September-4 October):** drew up the draft agenda;
- **Dissolution of the Free Democrat Group:** took note of the dissolution of the Free Democrat Group as from 30 June 2019;
- **Apportionment of the allocation of political groups for 2019:** decided to modify its decision of 14 December 2018 and to increase the overall allocation to the political groups of the Assembly for 2019 by 60 000 Euros;
- **References and transmissions to committees:** approved the references and transmissions as set out in Appendix 1, subject to ratification by the Assembly through the progress report;
- **Election observation:**

Ukraine: early parliamentary elections (21 July 2019): took note of the withdrawal of the invitation to observe these elections;
- **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize :** took note of the shortlist made by the Selection Panel at its meeting in Prague on 26-27 August 2019, consisting of (in alphabetical order):
 - . Mr Ilham TOHTI (China)
 - . Mr Buzurgmehr YOROV (Tajikistan)
 - . Youth Initiative for Human Rights
- **Independent Investigation Body on the allegations of corruption within the Parliamentary Assembly:** took note of the letter by the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, Immunities and Institutional Affairs and of the progress report on the follow-up given to the conclusions and recommendations of the report of the Independent Investigation Body on the allegations of corruption within the Parliamentary Assembly and declassified this progress report;

- **Guidelines on the external relations of the Parliamentary Assembly:** took note of a memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly and decided to fix for 15 October 2019 the deadline for possible comments by Bureau members on these guidelines, to be submitted to the Secretary General of the Assembly with a view to adopting them at the Bureau meeting in Tbilisi on 28 November 2019;
- **Issues raised by committees:**
 - Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons:* decided not to authorise Mr Fabien Gouttefarde (France, ALDE) to carry out a fact-finding visit to Kenya in the framework of the preparation of his report on *The protection of victims of forced displacement under international law*;
- **Composition of the Monitoring Committee:** subject to ratification by the Assembly;
 - on the basis of a proposal by the ALDE Group, appointed Ms Alexandra Louis (France);
- **Composition of the Committee on Rules, Immunities and Institutional Affairs:** subject to ratification by the Assembly;
 - took note of the request by Mr Artuss Kaimiņš (Latvia, NR) to become a member of the Committee and appointed him.
- **Dates and places of next meetings**
 - Monday, 30 September 2019, Strasbourg, at 8 am
 - Friday, 4 October 2019, Strasbourg, at 8.30 am
 - Thursday, 28 November 2019, Tbilisi, at 3 pm
 - Friday, 13 December 2019, Paris, at 9 am

Isild Heurtin, Kateryna Gayevska

Copy to:

Secretary General of the 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. 14920](#), Motion for a resolution, *Humanitarian and legal assistance to victims of gross violations of human rights and the right to reparations*: transmission to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for information*;
- [Doc. 14921](#), Motion for a resolution, *The situation in Kosovo**: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*;
- [Doc. 14924](#), Motion for a resolution, *Combating Afrophobia in Europe*: reference to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for report*;
- [Doc. 14925](#), Motion for a resolution, *Celebrating the 70th anniversary of the Geneva conventions: the contribution of the Council of Europe to the increasing synergy between International Humanitarian Law and International Human Rights Law*: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*.

* Throughout this text, all reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.