



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY

AS/Bur/CB (2020) 04

4 May 2020

To the Members of the Assembly

Synopsis of the meeting held by videoconference on Thursday 30 April 2020

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Thursday 30 April 2020 by videoconference, with Mr Rik Daems, 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;
- **Standing Committee meeting (by videoconference, 30 April 2020)**: took note of the request tabled on 24 April 2020 by the five political groups, to hold a current affairs debate on “Response of Council of Europe member States to the COVID-19 pandemic with respect to human rights, democracy and the rule of law”, decided to recommend to the Standing Committee to hold this current affairs debate and to appoint Mr Jacques Maire (France, ALDE) as first speaker in the debate, and took note of the draft agenda;
- **Supplementary working methods of Committees until the next part-session of the Assembly in Strasbourg**: approved the memorandum on Committees’ decision-making framework and decided its entry into force as from the day of its approval; authorised the tabling of motions for resolutions and recommendations through electronic means with scanned signatures of members, until the next part-session of the Assembly in Strasbourg and extended by six months the validity of all current references to committees; and agreed to resume consideration of detailed arrangements for the conduct of remote committee meetings at its next meeting;
- **Organisation of work of the Assembly until the end of 2020**: decided to postpone the summer part-session of the Assembly, scheduled to be held in Strasbourg on 22-26 June 2020, to a later date before the October part-session;
- **Election observations – State of play**: took note of the revised calendar of elections;
- **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize**: took note of the prolongation of the deadline to submit candidatures to the 2020 edition of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize, until 30 June 2020;

- **Dates and places of next meetings:** decided to hold its meetings as follows:

Thursday, 7 May 2020, Videoconference, at 9.30 am
June 2020, date to be decided
Monday, 7 September 2020, Paris, at 9 am
Monday, 12 October 2020, Strasbourg, at 8 am
Friday, 16 October 2020, Strasbourg, at 8.30 am
Thursday, 19 November 2020, Berlin, at 3 pm
Friday, 11 December 2020, Paris, at 9.30 am.

Isild Heurtin

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