

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON CULTURE, SCIENCE AND EDUCATION

SYNOPSIS N° 2002/123

5 November 2002

The **Committee on Culture, Science and Education**, meeting in Paris on 30 October 2002, under the chairmanship of Mr de Puig:

- approved a report and adopted unanimously a draft recommendation on the digital divide and education (Rapporteur: Mrs Isohookana-Asunmaa, Finland, LDR) and took note that this subject was on the draft agenda of the next meeting of the Standing Committee in Malta (18 November 2002);
- approved a report and adopted unanimously a draft recommendation on youth policies in the Council of Europe (Rapporteur: Mrs Agudo, Spain, SOC), asked the Rapporteur to present it at the Youth Ministerial meeting in Thessalonica (8-9 November) and took note that this subject was on the draft agenda of the next meeting of the Standing Committee in Malta (18 November 2002);
- held an exchange of views with diplomatic representatives of Algeria, Egypt, Mauritania and Tunisia on Cultural co-operation between Europe and the south Mediterranean countries (Rapporteur: Mr de Puig, Spain, SOC), regretted the refusal by the Assembly Bureau to extend the reference by one month, approved a report and adopted unanimously a draft resolution, a draft recommendation and a draft order and expressed the wish that these would be debated by the Assembly at its January 2003 part-session;
- decided to postpone consideration of a draft report on cultural co-operation in the south Caucasus and therefore not to present it to the meeting of the Standing Committee in Malta;
- regretted the request of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights to place its report on religious freedom and religions minorities in France on the agenda for the Standing Committee in Malta as this would prevent the Committee from contributing an opinion ;
- held an exchange of views on the future of its Sub-Committee on Science and Ethics and decided to pursue it at forthcoming meetings;

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cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
The Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly
Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly

Directors General
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General
Secretary of the Committee of Ministers
Director of Communication and Research

Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

- was informed by Lord Russell-Johnston on the Youth Symposium on learning from violence (Budapest, 28-30 October);
- was informed by Mr Varela on a visit he had made to Unesco on 29 October and agreed in principle to organise a meeting involving the Council of Europe, Unesco, OECD, the European Union, the Interparliamentary Union and the World Bank to discuss education priorities on the occasion of the April 2003 Assembly part-session;
- designated representatives to forthcoming meetings:
 - = Mr de Puig: Conference on language, Diversity and Citizenship: Strasbourg, 13 November,
 - = North-South Centre Europe-wide global education congress: Maastricht, 15-17 November,
 - = Mr Braga: North-South Centre Executive: Lisbonne, 29 November;
- decided to hold its next meeting in Paris on Wednesday 5 December.

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The **Sub-Committee on the Media (Committee on Culture, Science and Education)** meeting in Paris on 29 October 2002 with Mr Jařab in the chair:

- held a first exchange of views on a preliminary draft report on freedom of expression in the media (Rapporteur: Mrs Isohookana-Asunmaa, Finland, LDR);
- was informed by its Chairman about the conference "The media in a democratic society" held in Luxembourg on 30 September - 1 October 2002 and about the Forum 2000 conference on "Bridging Global Gaps" held in October in Prague;
- took note of the conference "Culture in the radio" organised in the framework of Prix Europa, Berlin, 17-18 October 2002;
- was informed by Mrs Isohookana-Asunmaa about developments in the Republic of Mari-El in the Russian Federation following a Committee hearing in April 2002 which had revealed serious problems;
- left it to its Chairman to decide on the date and place of the next meeting.

Christopher Grayson, Joăo Ary, Bonnie Theophilova, Bogdan Torcatoriu

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