

23 April 2008
Synopsis No 2008/12

To the Members of the Committee on Culture, Science and Education

Synopsis

of the meeting held in Strasbourg from 14 to 17 April 2008

The **Committee on Culture, Science and Education** meeting in Strasbourg on 14 and 17 April 2008 with Mrs Brasseur in the Chair:

- approved an opinion on *European Muslim communities confronted with extremism* (Rapporteur: Mr Tekelioğlu, Turkey, EPP/CD) and adopted amendments to the draft resolution and the draft recommendation presented by the Political Affairs Committee;
- approved an opinion on *Sustainable development and tourism: towards quality growth* (Rapporteur: Mr Olsson, Sweden, EPP/CD) and adopted amendments to the draft recommendation presented by the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development;
- took note that no amendments had been tabled to its draft recommendation on *promoting the teaching of European literature* (Rapporteur: Mr Legendre, France, EPP/CD) and looked forward to a statement by the writer Amin Maalouf during the Assembly debate;
- held an exchange of views with Mr Aulake, Chairman of the Steering Committee on Culture;
- held an exchange of views with Mrs Battaini-Dragoni, Director General of DGIV and Coordinator for Intercultural Dialogue on the finalisation of the White Paper on intercultural dialogue;
- held an exchange of views with Mr Huber, Executive Director of the North-South Centre
- was informed by Miss Keaveney, Rapporteur on *history teaching of recent conflicts*, on the workshop for history teachers (Sarajevo, 14-15 March 2008);
- was informed by Mrs Brasseur on the Venice Commission round table on “art and sacred beliefs: from collision to co-existence” (Athens, 31 January to 1 February);
- was informed by Baroness Hooper on the consultation on religion, law and human rights (Windsor, 3-4 March 2008) and by Mr Schneider on the Committee of Ministers’ experimental exchange on the religious dimension of intercultural dialogue (Strasbourg, 8 April 2008);
- heard a presentation by Mr Wodarg (Germany, SOC) of a preliminary draft report on *indicators for media in a democracy* and hoped to adopt it at its next meeting with a view to presenting it at the June Assembly part-session on the occasion of the debate on the state of democracy in Europe;

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
 Secretariat of the Assembly
 Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly
 Observers to the Assembly
 Directors General
 Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
 Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
 Director of Communication
 Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

- took note of a preliminary draft report on *the promotion of a culture of democracy and human rights through teacher education* by Mr Glavan (Romania, ALDE) and postponed discussion in the absence of the rapporteur;
- was informed by Mrs Melo on preparations for a joint meeting with the North South Centre in Cape Verde and asked her to pursue preparations together with the Centre and the secretariat;
- appointed Mr McIntosh (United Kingdom, SOC) Rapporteur on *respect for media freedom* and asked him to visit Belarus in this context, subject to Bureau authorisation;
- appointed Mr Arnaut (Portugal, EPP/CD) Rapporteur on *copyright in Europe* in place of Mr Mosella who had resigned;
- appointed the following further members of its sub-committees:
 - Sub-Committee on the Cultural Heritage:* Mrs Kovács as alternate to Mr Dačić
 - Sub-Committee on the Media:* Mr Reimann, Switzerland;
 - Sub-Committee on Youth and Sport:* Mrs Khorkina (Alternate: Mr Lebedev), Russia, Mr Reimann, Switzerland and Mr Vandenberghe, Belgium;
- proposed Mrs Melo (Portugal, SOC) as an alternate to Mr Wodarg in the Executive Council of the North-South Centre;
- was informed by Mr Korobeynikov of an international symposium (Moscow, 2009) on “Education in Europe – for a balanced development of children” and of a proposal to set up a European Centre for a balanced development of children
- decided, following further consultation with rapporteurs, to hold its next meeting in Paris (Council of Europe office) on 21 May 2008 (all day).

The **Sub-Committee on Cultural Heritage** meeting on 15 April 2008 with Mr Nachbar in the chair:

- elected Mrs Muttonen Vice-Chairperson by acclamation;
- in the context of the Council of Europe Museum Prize, exchanged views with Dr Graesslé (Director of the International Museum of the Reformation, Geneva, winner of the 2007 prize), Dr Hultgreen (Director of the Svalbard Museum, Longyearbyen, winner of the 2008 prize) and accompanying delegation and Mr Woodtli (European Museum Forum);
- was informed by Baroness Hooper on her study visit on 4-6 April 2008 to the Veneto and the relocated European Centre for Heritage Crafts and Professions in Thiene and discussed the scope of her report on old and traditional crafts;
- was informed by Mr O'Hara, General Rapporteur, on recent developments concerning Rosia Montana, the Bergisel Panorama (Innsbruck), the mediaeval remains of Famagusta (Cyprus) and the heritage of the South Caucasus;
- considered its work programme and decided to postpone to the autumn the conference on rescue archaeology;
- left open the date and place of its next meeting.

The **Sub-Committee on the Media**, meeting on 16 April 2008 with Mr McIntosh in the chair:

- took note of a preliminary draft report on indicators for media in a democracy (Rapporteur: Mr Wodarg, Germany, SOC);
- held an exchange of views on the media situation in Belarus with Mr Yury Hubarevich, Vice-Chairman of the Movement for Freedom, and Mrs Zhanna Litvina, President of the Belarusian Association of Journalists and regretted that the invited representative of the National Assembly of Belarus was unable to attend on this occasion;
- approved a declaration by its Chairman on the situation of the media in Belarus;
- decided, subject to Bureau authorisation, to hold its next meeting in Warsaw on 6-7 June 2008 on the occasion of the conference on democratisation of media in Belarus organised by the Council of Europe*.

The **Sub-Committee on Youth and Sport** meeting on 17 April 2008 with Mr Schneider in the chair:

- agreed an outline for the report on *a new step for youth cooperation in Europe* (Rapporteur: Mr Schneider, France, EPP/CD) and discussed the arrangements for its finalisation for debate on the occasion of the reopening of the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg in October;
- held an exchange of views with representatives of the Directorate for Youth and Sport with a view to the forthcoming ministerial conferences on youth (Kyiv, 10-11 October 2008) and sport (Athens, 11-12 December, 2008);
- was informed on the activities of the Council of Europe in the field of sport and in particular the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (Governing Board, Strasbourg, 21-22 April 2008);
- discussed the politicisation of the Beijing Olympic Games in the light of the hearing organised that morning by the Political Affairs Committee and decided to press for Assembly activity on the sports aspects of the games;
- decided to meet during the next part-session (Strasbourg, 23-27 June 2008).

Christopher Grayson, João Ary, Rüdiger Dossow

* The Bureau meeting on 18 April authorised an Ad-Hoc Sub-Committee composed of one member of each political group