

**TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON
EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN AND MEN**

Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly
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9 September 2003

The Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, meeting in Paris on 5 September 2003 with Mrs Err (Luxembourg, SOC) in the Chair:

As regards:

- *Impact of the "Mexico City Policy" on the free choice of contraception in Europe* (Rapporteur: Mrs Zwerver, Netherlands, SOC): considered and declassified a revised expert paper and held an exchange of views with the expert, Ms Dilya Cossey, (United Kingdom) and considered and adopted a draft resolution with a view to its presentation at the September 2003 part-session ;
- *Gender balanced representation in the Assembly* (Rapporteur for opinion: Mrs Zwerver, Netherlands, SOC): considered, amended and approved the opinion of the Committee, including six amendments to the draft resolution tabled by the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities;
- *The role played by women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts and in post-conflict reconstruction and reconciliation* (Rapporteur: Ms Cliveti, Romania, SOC) : considered a draft report (first reading);
- *Family mediation and equality of the sexes* (Rapporteur: Ms Err, Luxembourg, SOC): considered a draft report (first reading);
- *Domestic slavery* (Rapporteur: Mr Gaburro, Italy, EPP) : decided to ask the Bureau of the Assembly for an extension of the validity of the reference;
- *Seminar on participation of young women in political life* (Strasbourg, 16-17 September 2003) : prepared the participation of the *ad hoc* Sub-Committee in the Seminar;
- *Statement by representatives at meetings organised by other bodies*: heard statements by :
 - Mr Mooney (Ireland, LDR) on the Hearing on "*Elections 2004 - How to ensure balanced representation of women and men*" organised by the European Parliament Committee on Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities, Brussels, 11 June 2003;

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cc Secretary General of the Assembly
Directors of the Assembly
All staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly
Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly

Director Generals
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General
Director of Communication and Research
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

- Mrs Cliveti (Romania, SOC) on the 28th meeting of the Steering Committee for Equality between Women and Men (CDEG), Strasbourg, 16-18 June 2003;
- *Domestic violence against women*: considered the reply by the Committee of Ministers to Recommendation 1582 (2002) of the Parliamentary Assembly ;
- *Appointment of rapporteurs*: appointed :
 - Mrs Kósá-Kovács (Hungary, SOC), for an opinion on the situation of lesbians and gays in sports in member states,
 - Mrs Damanaki (Greece, UEL), for an opinion on social and health issues related to surrogate motherhood,
- *Joint meeting with the Committee on Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities of the European Parliament* (Strasbourg, Thursday, 25 September 2003, from 10 to 11.30 am): prepared the joint meeting (to be confirmed by the European Parliament Committee);
- *Appointment of representatives to meetings organised by other bodies*: appointed Mrs Čurdová (Czech Republic, SOC) to take part in the meeting of the *Ad hoc Committee on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (CAHTEH)*, Strasbourg, 15-17 September 2003;
- *Activities of the Steering Committee on Equality between Women and Men (CDEG)*: decided to invite the Chairperson of the CDEG, Mrs van Houwelingen, to an exchange of views with the Committee at its next meeting in Paris on Friday, 14 November 2003;
- *Next meetings*: decided to meet in:
 - Strasbourg, Thursday, 25 September 2003, 10-11.30 am (joint meeting with the European Parliament Committee on Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities) (to be confirmed);
 - Strasbourg, during the 2003 4th part-session (Thursday, 25 September – Thursday, 2 October)
 - Paris (Council of Europe Office), Friday 14 November 2003 at 9.30 am;
 - Paris (Council of Europe Office), Friday 9 January 2004 (to be confirmed).

Tanja Kleinsorge / Olga Kostenko