

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

Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly
Synopsis Ega2006/8
12 October 2006

The Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, meeting in Strasbourg on 3 October 2006 with Ms Cliveti (Romania, SOC) in the Chair:

as regards:

- *In favour of a Parliamentary Assembly "Equality Prize"* (Rapporteur: Mr Branger, France, EPP/CD): considered an outline report;

- *Co-ordination meeting of the contact parliamentarians involved in the parliamentary dimension of the Council of Europe campaign to combat violence against women, including domestic violence (2006-2008)*:

- was informed of the draft programme for the seminar to be held in Strasbourg on Thursday, 19 October 2006;
- was informed that the seminar would be preceded on 18 October 2006 (from 2 to 6 pm) by an informal consultation between NGOs and the Bureaux of the Committee and its Sub-Committee on Violence against Women, and invited interested members of the Committee to take part;
- held an exchange of views on the draft handbook for parliamentarians "*Parliaments united in combating domestic violence against women*";

- *Parliamentary seminar on upholding the principle of equality between women and men in civil law, including in family codes*: was informed of the draft programme for the Seminar to be held in Strasbourg on Friday, 20 October 2006;

resuming its meeting on 5 October 2006 with Mrs Zapfl-Helbling (Switzerland, EPP/CD), 1st Vice-Chairperson, in the Chair:

as regards:

- *The need to reconcile work and family life* (Rapporteur: Mrs Pericleous-Papadopoulos, Cyprus, ALDE) : took note that no amendment had been tabled;

- *Need of a greater transparency in the arms trade* (Rapporteur: Ms Westerlund Panke, Sweden, SOC) : adopted the Committee's opinion, including one amendment;

- *Parliamentary dimension of the Council of Europe campaign to combat violence against women, including domestic violence*: asked the Chairperson to convey its wish to the Bureau of the Assembly that the adoption of a solemn declaration on the question be added to the draft agenda of the next meeting of the Standing Committee in San Marino on 17 November 2006 as one of the first items;

cc Secretary General of the Assembly
Director General and Director 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

- *Motion on "Candidates for the European Court of Human Rights"*: opposed this motion for a resolution and asked the Chairperson to convey the conclusions of the discussion in the Committee to the Bureau, suggesting that no further action be taken on the motion;
- Planned debate *on human rights and democracy in Council of Europe member States*: attached great importance to making its own specific contribution from a gender perspective;
- *Appointment of representatives at meetings organised by other bodies*, appointed:
 - ✓ Mr Manzella (Italy, SOC) to the *Regional Seminar on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings: Prevention, Protection and Prosecution* organised by the Equality Division of the Directorate General of Human Rights of the Council of Europe in co-operation with the Department of Equal Opportunities, Presidency of the Council of Ministers of Italy, Rome, 19-20 October 2006;
 - ✓ Ms Vermot-Mangold (Switzerland, SOC) and Ms Woldseth (Norway, EDG) to the *Regional Seminar on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings: Prevention, Protection and Prosecution* organised by the Equality Division of the Directorate General of Human Rights of the Council of Europe in co-operation with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Norwegian Ministry of Justice and the Police, Oslo, 1-2 November 2006;
 - ✓ Ms Err (Luxembourg, SOC) to the *Inter-parliamentary Round Table "the role of Parliament in Ensuring Gender Equality: the International Experience"* organised by the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme in Ukraine, Kiev, 29 November 2006;
 - ✓ Ms Vermot-Mangold (Switzerland, SOC) to the *Regional Seminar on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings: Prevention, Protection and Prosecution* organised by the Equality Division of the Directorate General of Human Rights of the Council of Europe in co-operation with the General Secretariat for Gender Equality Ministry of the Interior, Public Administration and Decentralisation of Greece, Athens, 5-6 December 2006;
- *Statement by representatives at meetings organised by other bodies*: heard a statement by Mrs Vermot-Mangold (Switzerland, SOC) on the Regional Seminar on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings: Prevention, Protection and Prosecution organised by the Equality Division of the Directorate General of Human Rights of the Council of Europe in co-operation with the Ministry of the Interior of Latvia, Riga, 21-22 September 2006;
- *its next meetings*:
 - ✓ **Strasbourg**, Thursday 19 October 2006: co-ordination meeting of the contact parliamentarians involved in the parliamentary dimension of the Council of Europe campaign to combat violence against women, including domestic violence (2006-2008);
 - ✓ **Strasbourg**, Friday, 20 October 2006: parliamentary seminar with parliamentary representatives of Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia on *upholding the principle of equality between women and men in civil law, including in family codes*;
 - ✓ **Madrid**, Committee meeting on 27 November 2006 (participation in the launching conference of the Council of Europe campaign to combat violence against women, including domestic violence) and on 28 November 2006 - *subject to the Bureau's authorisation and to confirmation*;
 - ✓ **Paris** (Council of Europe office), Wednesday, 13 December 2006.

The Sub-Committee on trafficking in human beings, meeting in Strasbourg on 3 October 2006 with Ms Stănoiu (Romania, SOC) in the Chair:

as regards:

- *Presentation of the text of the Handbook for parliamentarians: the Council of Europe Convention on action against trafficking in human beings:*
 - ✓ held an exchange of views on the text of the Handbook ;
 - ✓ decided to ask the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe to postface the Handbook;
 - ✓ decided to officially launch the Handbook during the 2007 January part-session of the Assembly;
- *Its next meeting:* let it to the Chairperson to decide the date and place of the next meeting.

Tanja Kleinsorge / Sylvie Affholder / Jannick Devaux / Lamine Diallo