

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

Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly
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The Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, meeting in Paris on 15 January 2007 with Ms Zapfl-Helbling (Switzerland, EPP/CD), 1st Vice-Chairperson, in the Chair:

as regards :

- *The situation of women in the South Caucasus* (Rapporteur: Ms Oskina, Russia, EDG):
 - ✓ considered a draft report;
 - ✓ amended and unanimously adopted a preliminary draft resolution and a preliminary draft recommendation;
 - ✓ asked that the report be presented at the Assembly for debate during the April 2007 part-session;
- *Council of Europe campaign to combat violence against women, including domestic violence*: considered and adopted a questionnaire on parliamentary campaign activities to be sent to the contact parliamentarians;
- *Respect for the principle of equality in civil law* (Rapporteur: Ms Smirnova, Russia, EDG): heard a statement by the consultant expert Ms Svetlana Polenina (Russia) and held an exchange of views;
- *State of human rights and democracy in Europe*: appointed Ms Čurdová (Czech Republic, SOC) as rapporteur and held an exchange of views on the Committee's written contribution in accordance with its terms of reference;
- *Appointment of representatives to meetings organised by other bodies*: appointed Ms Čurdová (Czech Republic, SOC) to take part in 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 Interior of Cyprus, Nicosia, 15-16 February 2007;
- *Follow-up by the Committee of Ministers to PACE recommendations*: took note of the document prepared by the Secretariat on the analysis of replies given by the Committee of Ministers to recommendations of the Parliamentary Assembly (emanating from the Committee);
- *Statement on the Bureau meeting of 15 December 2006*: heard a statement by Ms Čurdová (Czech Republic, SOC) and held an exchange of views;

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

- *Launch of the Handbook for parliamentarians on the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings* : was informed of the launch of the Handbook at the meeting of the Sub-Committee on Trafficking in Human Beings (24 January 2007) and decided to invite, on this occasion, inter alia, Mr van der Linden, President of the Parliamentary Assembly and Ms Biaudet, OSCE Special Representative on the fight against trafficking in human beings;
- *The situation of women in Ukraine* : heard a statement by Ms Bondarenko (Ukraine, ALDE);
- *Its next meetings*: decided to meet as follows:
 - ✓ **Strasbourg**, during the 2007 1st part-session of the Assembly (22-26 January);
 - ✓ **Paris (Council of Europe office)**, Monday 26 February 2007 (morning: Committee meeting; from 2 pm to 3 pm : Joint meeting with the Committee on Rules of Procedures and Immunities) and Tuesday 27 February 2007 : hearing on “*abortion and its impact on women and girls in Europe*”
 - ✓ **Strasbourg**, during the 2007 2nd part-session of the Assembly (16-20 April).

Sylvie Affholder / Jannick Devaux