

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

Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly  
Synopsis No. 2007/04  
20 April 2007

**The Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men**, meeting in Strasbourg on 16 and 17 April 2007 with Ms Bilgehan (Turkey, SOC) in the Chair:

as regards:

- *Candidates for the European Court of Human Rights* (Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Mendes Bota, Portugal, EPP/CD): adopted the Committee's opinion;
- *The code for good practices of the political parties* (Rapporteur for opinion: Ms Bilgehan, Turkey, SOC): adopted the Committee's opinion (including amendments to be tabled on behalf of the Committee);
- *State of human rights and democracy in Europe* (Rapporteur for opinion: Ms Čurďová, Czech Republic, SOC): considered the amendments proposed by the Rapporteur, amended and approved them (for tabling on behalf of the Committee);
- *The feminisation of poverty* (Rapporteur: Ms Naghdalyan, Armenia, ALDE): considered a draft report, amended and adopted a preliminary draft resolution and a preliminary recommendation with a view to presenting the report for debate at one of the upcoming part-sessions;
- *Appointment of representatives to meetings organised by other bodies*: appointed:
  - ✓ Ms Hägg (Sweden, SOC) to attend the Seminar on "Men's active participation in combating domestic violence" organised by the Equality Division of the Directorate General of Human Rights of the Council of Europe in co-operation with the Ministry of Family, Veterans' Affairs and Intergenerational Solidarity of Croatia, Zagreb, 9-10 May 2007;
  - ✓ Ms Err (Luxembourg, SOC) to attend the meeting of the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities of the Parliamentary Assembly, Biel (Switzerland), 30 May 2007, and left it to the Chairperson to appoint a different member should Ms Err be unable to attend;
- *References*: instructed its Chairperson to ask the Bureau to propose to the Assembly that the Committee be seized for opinion on the two following issues:
  - ✓ European Muslim communities confronted with extremism (Committee seized for report: Political Affairs Committee);
  - ✓ Blasphemy, religious insults and hate speech against persons on grounds of their religion (Committee seized for report: Committee on Culture, Science and Education);

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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

**Holding a joint meeting** with the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities on 18 April 2007, with Ms Čurďová, First Vice-Chairperson (Czech Republic, SOC) and Mr Jürgens (Netherlands, SOC) in the Chair:

as regards:

- *Gender equality principles in the Parliamentary Assembly's internal work, decision-making mechanisms and election procedures* (Rapporteur: Ms Mendonça, Portugal, SOC - Rapporteur for opinion: Ms Err, Luxembourg, SOC) : held an exchange of views with :

- ✓ Ambassador Pēteris Kārlis Elferts (Latvia), Rapporteur on Equality between Women and Men of the Committee of Ministers ;
- ✓ Ms Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe;

- *Its next meetings* : decided to meet in:

- **Paris** (Council of Europe Office), Friday 11 May 2007;
- **Strasbourg**, 4-5 June 2007: 2<sup>nd</sup> 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;
- **Strasbourg**, during the 2007 3<sup>rd</sup> part-session of the Assembly (25-29 June);
- **Turkey**, September 2007; (subject to the Bureau's authorisation)
- **Strasbourg**, during the 2007 4<sup>th</sup> part-session of the Assembly (1-5 October);
- **Paris** (Council of Europe Office), Friday 7 December 2007 (to be confirmed).

Tanja Kleinsorge / Sylvie Affholder / Jannick Devaux