

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

Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly
Synopsis No. 2008/09
11 December 2008

The Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, meeting in Paris on 5 December 2008, with Mr Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD), 1st Vice-Chairperson, in the Chair:

as regards:

- *Femicides* (Rapporteur: Ms Err, Luxembourg, SOC): in the absence of the Rapporteur, considered a draft report, amended and unanimously adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation with a view to presenting the report for debate at the 2009 first part-session (26-30 January);
- *Abduction and illegal confinement of women and girls in the name of practices contrary to human rights* (Rapporteur: Ms Papadopoulou, Cyprus, ALDE) :
 - heard a statement by the Rapporteur on the fact-finding mission in Morocco (28-30 October 2008) ;
 - following a proposal of the Rapporteur, agreed to change the title of the report as follows: *Action to combat gender-based human rights violations, including abduction of women and girls*;
 - considered a draft report, amended and unanimously adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation with a view to presenting the report for debate at the 2009 second part-session (27-30 April);
- *The rights of today's girls, the rights of tomorrow's women* (Rapporteur: Ms Cliveti, Romania, SOC): in the absence of the Rapporteur, held a hearing with the following experts:
 - Ms Amaya Gillespie, Director at UNICEF
 - Ms Christiane Spiel, Professor for educational psychology and evaluation at the University of Vienna (Austria)
 - Ms Carrie Paechter, Professor of Education at Goldsmiths University of London (UK)
 - Ms Inete Ielute, Chairperson of the Board of the NGO "Children's Forum of Latvia" (Latvia)
- *Nomination of candidates and election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights* (Rapporteur for opinion: Ms Err, Luxembourg, SOC): in the absence of the Rapporteur, started to prepare the Committee's opinion;
- *Double discrimination of Romani women and girls* (Rapporteur for information: Ms Stantcheva, Bulgaria, ALDE): decided to ask the Bureau for an extension of the deadline of this report until 30 June 2009;

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

- *Appointment of rapporteurs*: appointed the following rapporteurs:

a) for report

- Ms Wurm (Austria, SOC) on *Action against trafficking: parliamentarians' involvement in promoting the widest possible ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings* ;
- Ms Čurdová (Czech Republic, SOC) on *Decent pensions for women* ;
- Ms Stump (Switzerland, SOC) on *Action against sexist representations in the media*;
- Ms Smet (Belgium, EPP/CD) on *Cases of sexual violence against women in the east of the Democratic Republic of Congo* ;
- Ms Circene (Latvia, EPP/CD) on *Extending the "most favoured European woman clause" to all Council of Europe member states* ;

b) for opinion

- Ms Hägg (Sweden, SOC) on *Asylum and gender-based persecution* ;

- *Sub-Committee on violence against women* : heard a statement by Ms Hägg (Sweden, SOC), Chairperson of the Sub-Committee, on the meeting held in Madrid on 27 November 2008;

- *Statements by representatives at meetings organised by other bodies*: heard statements by :

- ✓ Mr Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD) on the hearing on *combating domestic violence* organised by the Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality of the European Parliament, Brussels, 13 October 2008;
- ✓ Ms Circene (Latvia, EPP/CD) on the meeting of the *Steering Committee for Equality between Women and Men* (CDEG), Strasbourg, 26-28 November 2008;
- ✓ Mr Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD) on the Conference on "*A parliamentary response to violence against women*" organised by the Inter-Parliamentary Union; Geneva, 2-4 December 2008;

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

- **Strasbourg**, during the 2009 1st part-session of the Assembly (26 – 30 January)
- **Paris** (Council of Europe office), Monday, 23 and Tuesday 24 March 2009;
- **Strasbourg**, during the 2009 2nd part-session of the Assembly (27-30 April).

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