



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

Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly
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4 February 2009

The Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, meeting in Strasbourg, on 26 January 2009, with first Mr Olsson (Sweden, EPP/CD), senior member present, and then Mr Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD) in the Chair:

as regards:

- *Composition of the Committee's bureau*: elected by acclamation:
 - Mr Sigfússon (Iceland, UEL) Chairperson;
 - Mr Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD), first Vice-Chairperson;
 - Ms Circene (Latvia, EPP/CD), second Vice-Chairperson;
 - Ms Čurďová (Czech Republic, SOC), third Vice-Chairperson;
- *Nomination of candidates and election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights* (Rapporteur for opinion: Ms Err, Luxembourg, SOC) : adopted the Committee's opinion, including three amendments;
- *Parliamentary Assembly "Gender equality prize"* : decided to amend the rules of procedure and, notably, to extend the deadline for submitting candidatures for the prize until 1 June 2009;
- *Reconstitution of its Sub-Committees*: decided to reconstitute its sub-committees as follows:
 - **Sub-Committee on violence against women:**

Mr	AGIUS	Malta		
Ms	ASKO-SELJAVAARA	Finland		
Ms	BLANCO	Spain	Ms	SANÍN
Ms	BOLDI	Italy	Ms	CARLONI
Ms	BONDARENKO	Ukraine		
Ms	ČURDOVÁ	Czech Republic		
Ms	FAUTRIER	Monaco	Mr	GARDETTO
Ms	GIANNAKA	Greece	Ms	ZISSI
Ms	HÄGG	Sweden	Mr	OLSSON
Ms	McCAFFERTY	United Kingdom		

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

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

Ms	MEMECAN	Turkey		
Mr	MENDES BOTA	Portugal		
Ms	MIKUTIENE	Lithuania		
Ms	NAGHDALYAN	Armenia		
Ms	PAPADOPOULOS	Cyprus	Mr	SARIKAS
Ms	REPS	Estonia		
Ms	RIBA FONT	Andorra		
Ms	RUPPRECHT	Germany	Ms	BECK
Ms	SMET	Belgium	Mr	ANNEMANS
Ms	STANTCHEVA	Bulgaria	Ms	IVANOVA
Ms	STRIK	Netherlands	Ms	JONKER
Mr	STULIGROSZ	Poland		
Ms	STUMP	Switzerland	Ms	JOHN- CALAME
Ms	WURM	Austria	Ms	MUTTONEN
Mr	ZHIDKIKH	Russia	Ms	VOLOZHINSKAYA

ex officio Mr SIGFÚSSON (Chairperson, Iceland)

- ***Sub-Committee on equal participation of women and men in decision-making :***

Ms	ABLINGER	Austria		
Mr	AGIUS	Malta		
Ms	ATANASOVA	Bulgaria		
Ms	BONDARENKO	Ukraine		
Ms	CIRCENE	Latvia		
Ms	ERR	Luxembourg		
Ms	FERTUZHINHOS	Portugal		
Ms	GAJDŮŠKOVÁ	Czech Republic		
Ms	GRAF	Germany	Ms	BECK
Ms	HÄGG	Sweden		
Ms	JOHN-CALAME	Switzerland		
Ms	JONKER	Netherlands		
Ms	KELEŞ	Turkey		
Ms	KIURU	Finland		
Ms	McCAFFERTY	United Kingdom	Baroness	GALE
Ms	NAGHDALYAN	Armenia		
Ms	PAPADOPOULOS	Cyprus	Mr	SARIKAS
Ms	QUESADA	Spain	Ms	QUINTANILLA
Ms	REPS	Estonia		
Ms	SANDOR	Hungary		
Ms	SMET	Belgium		
Ms	SOLIANI	Italy	Ms	BERGAMINI
Ms	VOLOZHINSKAYA	Russia	Mr	ZHIDKIKH
Ms	ZISSI	Greece	Ms	BENAKI
Mr	WIKINSKI	Poland		

ex officio Mr SIGFÚSSON (Chairperson, Iceland)

- **Sub-Committee on trafficking in human beings :**

Mr	AUSTIN	United Kingdom	Ms	WILLIAMS
Mr	AYVA	Turkey		
Ms	BUGNANO	Italy	Ms	NIRENSTEIN
Ms	CIRCENE	Latvia		
Ms	ERR	Luxembourg		
Ms	GAJDŮŠKOVÁ	Czech Republic		
Ms	GIANNELLIS THEODOSIADIS	Greece	Ms	BENAKI
Ms	GRAF	Germany	Mr	WINKELMEIER
Ms	HERASYMYUK	Ukraine		
Ms	ILYAZ	Bulgaria	Ms	STANCHEVA
Ms	KIURU	Finland		
Mr	MENDES BOTA	Portugal		
Mr	OLSSON	Sweden		
Ms	QUINTANILLA	Spain	Ms	BLANCO
Mr	REISS	France		
Ms	STRIK	Netherlands		
Mr	STULIGROSZ	Poland		
Ms	STUMP	Switzerland		
Mr	WILLE	Belgium	Mr	ANNEMANS

ex officio Mr SIGFÚSSON (Chairperson, Iceland)

Resuming its meeting on 29 January 2009 with Ms Circene (Latvia, EPP/CD) in the Chair:

as regards:

- *Femicides* (Rapporteur: Ms Err, Luxembourg, SOC) : took position on the amendments tabled;
- *Parliamentary Assembly "Gender equality prize"* : elected the following members of the jury :
 - Ms Lena Hjelm-Wallén (Sweden), Chairperson
 - Ms Leena Linnainmaa (Finland)
 - Ms Dubravka Šimonović (Croatia)
- *Follow-up to Resolution 1635 (2008) and Recommendation 1847 (2008) on Combating violence against women: towards a Council of Europe convention* :
 - heard a statement by the Chairperson
 - heard a statement by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
 - held an exchange of views and agreed to launch a pan-European parliamentary initiative involving parliamentarians committed to combat violence against women on the occasion of the International Women's Day (8 March 2009).
- *Action against sexist representations in the media* (Rapporteur: Ms Stump, Switzerland, SOC) : decided to modify the title of the report as follows: "*Combating sexist stereotypes in the media*" and held an exchange of views on the preparation of the hearing to be held in Paris on 24 March 2009;
- *Appointment of rapporteurs*: appointed the following rapporteurs:
 - ✓ Ms Circene (Latvia, EPP/CD) on *The rights of today's girls: the rights of tomorrow's women* ;
 - ✓ Ms Kiuru (Finland, SOC) on *Involving women in the prevention and solution of unsolved conflicts in the Council of Europe area* ;
 - ✓ Ms Quintanilla (Spain, EPP/CD) on *The real situation of rural women in Europe* ;

- *Appointment of representatives to meetings organised by other bodies:* appointed:
 - ✓ Ms Err (Luxembourg, SOC) to take part in the event on *“the role of parliaments in promoting equal sharing of responsibilities between women and men”* organised by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women on the occasion of the 53rd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women, New-York, 3-4 March 2009;
 - ✓ Ms Quintanilla (Spain, EPP/CD) to take part in the Extraordinary meeting of the Network of the Parliamentary Committees for Equal Opportunities for Women and Men in the European Union (NCEO) on *“women candidates for the European elections”* organised by the Committee on Women’s Rights and Gender Equality of the European Parliament, Brussels, 5 March 2009;
 - ✓ Ms John-Calame (Switzerland, SOC) to take part in the seminar on « the Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women» and « the role of women parliamentarians in the resolution of conflicts » organised by the Parliamentary Assembly of Francophonía, Kinshasa, 30-31 March 2009 (without cost for the Assembly) ;
 - ✓ Mr Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD) to take part in the 1st meeting of the ad hoc Committee on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, Strasbourg, 6-8 April 2009;
- *Statement by representatives at meetings organised by other bodies:* heard statements by:
 - ✓ Mr Olsson (Sweden, EPP/CD) on the Conference *“Churches addressing Trafficking in Human Beings”* on the occasion of the 17th Churches’ Commission for Migrants in Europe General Assembly, Protaras (Cyprus), 8 October 2008;
 - ✓ Mr Olsson (Sweden, EPP/CD) on the Ad Hoc Committee of the Bureau on the *“Forum for the future of democracy”* organised by the Council of Europe, Madrid, 15-17 October 2008;
- *Held an exchange of views* with parliamentarians from Algeria and Tunisia;
- *Its next meetings:* thanked the Turkish delegation for its kind invitation to hold a two-day meeting in 2009 (place to be determined) and decided to meet as follows:
 - **Paris** (Council of Europe office), Monday, 23 March 2009: plenary committee and Tuesday, 24 March 2009: hearing on *“Combating sexist stereotypes in the media”* (9am-1pm);
 - **Strasbourg**, during the 2009 2nd part-session of the Assembly (27-30 April);
 - **Turkey** (place to be determined), Thursday, 14 May 2009 : plenary Committee and Friday, 15 May 2009: meeting of the contact parliamentarians on violence against women (subject to the authorisation of the Bureau);
 - **Strasbourg**, during the 2009 3rd part-session of the Assembly (22-26 June);
 - **Paris** (Council of Europe office), Tuesday, 8 September 2009 ;
 - **Strasbourg**, during the 2009 4th part-session of the Assembly (28 September – 2 October);
 - **Paris** (Council of Europe office), Monday, 30 November 2009 (to be confirmed).

The Sub-Committee on trafficking in human beings, meeting in Strasbourg on 27 January 2009 with Mr Olsson (Sweden, EPP/CD), senior member present, and then elected Chairperson in the Chair:

as regards:

- *Election of the Sub-Committee's Bureau*: elected Mr Olsson (Sweden, EPP/CD) Chairperson and Mr Austin (United Kingdom, SOC) Vice-Chairperson by acclamation;
- *Its work programme*: held an exchange of views on it;
- *Its next meeting*: left it to the Chairperson to decide on the date and place of the next meeting.

The Sub-Committee on equal participation of women and men in decision-making, meeting in Strasbourg on 27 January 2009, with first Mr Olsson (Sweden, EPP/CD), senior member present, and then Ms Err (Luxembourg, SOC) in the Chair:

as regards:

- *Election of the Sub-Committee's Bureau*: elected Ms Err (Luxembourg, SOC) Chairperson by acclamation and Ms Quintanilla (Spain, EPP/CD) Vice-Chairperson by acclamation;
- *Shortlisting of six personalities who will compose the jury of the "Gender Equality Prize"*: elected a shortlist of six personalities by secret ballot, on the basis of the proposals submitted by the secretariat;
- *Its work programme*: held an exchange of views on it;
- *Its next meeting*: decided to meet in Lisbon, on 2-3 April 2009 on the occasion of the Seminar organised by the North-South Center on *women's rights in the Euro-Mediterranean region*.

The Sub-Committee on violence against women meeting in Strasbourg on 27 January 2009 with first Ms Err (Luxembourg, SOC), senior member present, and then Ms Hägg (Sweden, SOC), in the Chair:

as regards:

- *Election of the Sub-Committee's Bureau*: elected Ms Hägg (Sweden, SOC) Chairperson by acclamation and Ms Wurm (Austria, SOC) Vice-Chairperson by acclamation;
- *Implementation of Resolution 1635 (2008) on Combating violence against women : towards a Council of Europe convention :*
 - ✓ heard a statement by the Chairperson
 - ✓ discussed the launch and the setting-up of the network of contact parliamentarians
 - ✓ held an exchange of views on the future activities, including:
 - Pan-European parliamentary activity on the occasion of 8 March 2009
 - 1st meeting of the contact parliamentarians
- *its work programme*: held an exchange of views on it;
- *its next meeting*: left it to the Chairperson to decide on the date and place of the next meeting.

Tanja Kleinsorge, Sylvie Affholder, Jannick Devaux