



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

Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly
Synopsis No. 2009/06
10 September 2009

The Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, meeting in Paris on 8 September 2009, with Ms Frahm (Denmark, UEL), in the Chair:

As regards:

- *Rape, including marital rape* (Rapporteur: Ms Rupperecht, Germany, SOC): considered a draft report, decided to change the title to "rape of women, including marital rape", and amended and unanimously adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation with a view to presenting the report to the Assembly at the next part-session (28 September – 2 October 2009);
- *Parliamentary Assembly "Gender equality prize"*: heard a statement by the President of the Jury of the "Gender Equality Prize", Ms Hjelm-Wallén, and designated three prizewinners who will be awarded their prizes by the President of the Assembly during an official ceremony to be held on Wednesday, 30 September 2009, at 1 pm:
 - 1st winner: the Socialist Party of Portugal;
 - 2nd winner: the Labour Party of the United Kingdom;
 - 3rd winner: the Swedish Left Party (*Vänsterpartiet*);
- *The wage gap between women and men* (Rapporteur: Mr Wille, Belgium, ALDE): held an exchange of views with Dr. Daniela Bankier, Head of Unit: "Equality between Men and Women", Directorate General Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, European Commission;
- *Action against trafficking: parliamentarians' involvement in promoting the widest possible ratification of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings* (Rapporteur: Ms Wurm, Austria, SOC): considered and declassified an introductory memorandum;
- *Impact of electoral systems on women's representation in politics* (Rapporteur: Ms Err, Luxembourg, SOC): considered and declassified an introductory memorandum;
- *The impact of the economic and financial crisis on women* (Rapporteur: Ms Memecan, Turkey, ALDE): held an exchange of views with
 - Ms Jane Hodges, Director of the ILO Bureau for Gender Equality;
 - Ms Martine Lévy, Vice-Chairperson of the European Women's Lobby (EWL);

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

- *Involving women in the prevention and solution of unsolved conflicts in the Council of Europe area* (Rapporteur: Ms Kiuru, Finland, SOC): considered and declassified an introductory memorandum;
- *Combating sexist stereotypes in the media* (Rapporteur: Ms Stump, Switzerland, SOC): considered an outline report;
- *Implementation of Recommendation 1847 (2008) and Resolution 1635 (2008) on “Combating violence against women: towards a Council of Europe convention”*: heard a statement by Mr Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD) on the state of progress of the drafting of the Council of Europe Convention, approved his proposals concerning co-operation with the Interparliamentary Union (IPU) in the area of combating violence against women, and took note that the next meeting of the Network of Contact Parliamentarians committed to combating violence against women would take place the following day in the framework of the Bureau's ad hoc Committee meeting (Venice, 9 September 2009) on “the role and responsibility of the media in the fight against violence against women”;
- *Appointment of rapporteurs*: appointed the following rapporteur for opinion:
 - ✓ Ms Keleş (Turkey, SOC) on *The Monitoring of commitments concerning social rights*
- *Appointment of representatives to meetings organised by other bodies*:
 - ✓ left it to the Chairperson to appoint a representative to take part in the 9th meeting of the Informal Network on Gender Mainstreaming, 23 September 2009, Strasbourg;
- *Cooperation with the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Equality between Women and Men (CDEG)*: heard a statement by the Chairperson and by Ms Sophie Del Corso, member of the CDEG, and instructed the Chairperson to contact the Chairperson of the CDEG to put forward proposals to enhance the co-operation between the two sister committees;
- *Islam, Islamism and Islamophobia in Europe*: heard a statement by the Chairperson, regretted that no Committee representative could take part in the hearing on the subject organised by the Committee on Culture, Science and Education the same day in Copenhagen, and decided to ask that the Committee be seized for opinion on the issue;
- *Date and place of the next meetings of the Committee*:

Plenary Committee:

 - **Strasbourg**, during the 2009 4th part-session of the Assembly (28 September – 2 October);
 - **Paris** (Council of Europe office), Monday, 30 November 2009;
 - **Strasbourg**, during the 2010 1st part-session of the Assembly (25-29 January);
 - **Paris** (Council of Europe office), Friday, 26 March 2010.

Sub-Committee on Trafficking in Human Beings:

 - **Strasbourg**, Monday, 28 September 2009, 2 pm;

Network of Contact Parliamentarians committed to combating violence against women:

 - **Venice**, Wednesday, 9 September 2009, in the framework of the Bureau's ad hoc Committee meeting on “the role and responsibility of the media in the fight against violence against women”.

Tanja Kleinsorge, Sylvie Affholder, Jannick Devaux