



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 Strasbourg on 22 June 2009, with Ms Frahm (Denmark, UEL), in the Chair:

As regards:

- *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):
 - held an exchange of views on the mechanisms of the Convention with:
 - Ambassador Pēteris Kārlis Elferts, Chairperson of the Committee of Parties of the Convention;
 - Ms Hanne Sophie Greve, President of the Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA);
 - heard a statement on the latest developments by Ms Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe;
- *Maltese list of candidates to the European Court of Human Rights:* heard a statement by the Chairperson;
- *Implementation of Recommendation 1847 (2008) and Resolution 1635 (2008) on Combating violence against women: towards a Council of Europe convention:*
 - heard a report from Mr Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD), the Committee's representative at the second meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (CAHVIO), held in Strasbourg on 25-27 May 2009;
 - heard a statement by Ms Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe;
 - considered, unanimously approved and declassified a position paper summarising the Committee's point of view, prepared by the Committee's representative on CAHVIO, on the future Convention being prepared by the CAHVIO in the light of its interim report;
 - invited its Chairperson to ask the President of the Assembly to transmit this position to the Committee of Ministers.

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

Resuming its meeting on 23 June 2009 with Ms Frahm (Denmark, UEL) in the Chair:

As regards:

- *The state of human rights in Europe: the need to eradicate impunity* (Rapporteur for opinion: Ms Čurdová, Czech Republic, SOC): unanimously adopted a draft opinion, including five amendments to the draft resolution and one amendment to the draft recommendation;

- *Parliamentary Assembly “Gender equality prize”*: was informed by the Chairperson that ten candidatures had been received by the (extended) deadline of 1 June 2009, and that a meeting of the jury had had to be cancelled at the last moment because two of the jury members had fallen ill; and decided to postpone the designation of the prizewinners to the next meeting of the Committee on 8 September 2009 in Paris, with a view to awarding the prize during the September/October 2009 part-session of the Assembly;

- *Migrant women: at particular risk of domestic violence* (Rapporteur: Ms Woldseth, Norway, EDG): in the absence of the rapporteur, considered a draft report, and unanimously adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation, with a view to presenting the report to the Assembly at the September/October 2009 part-session;

- *Impact of electoral systems on women’s representation in politics*: (Rapporteur: Ms Err, Luxembourg, SOC): in the absence of the rapporteur, took note of the opinion of the Venice Commission;

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

- ✓ Ms Memecan (Turkey, ALDE) on *The impact of the economic and financial crisis on women*;
- ✓ Ms Circene (Latvia, EPP/CD) on *Gender budgeting as a tool for safeguarding women’s health*.

- *Appointment of representatives to meetings organised by other bodies*: appointed:

- ✓ Ms Čurdová (Czech Republic, SOC) and Ms Kiuru (Finland, SOC) to take part in the Forum on early warning in conflict prevention organised by the *ad hoc* Sub-committee on early warning systems and conflict prevention in Europe of the Political Affairs Committee, Strasbourg, 24 – 25 September, 2009;
- ✓ Mr Olsson (Sweden, EPP/CD) to take part in the 3rd meeting of the Committee of the Parties of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, Strasbourg, 21 September 2009.

- *Date and place of the next meetings of the Committee*:

- **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.

Resuming its meeting on 24 June 2008 with Ms Frahm (Denmark, UEL) in the Chair:

As regards:

- *5th meeting of women members of the Parliamentary Assembly* devoted to: The role of women in conflict resolution and post-conflict reconstruction: held an exchange of views with:

- Ms Helen Shaw, Chair of the Board of British Irish Rights Watch, Winner of the 2009 Assembly’s Human Rights Prize;
- Ms Krista Kiuru (Finland, SOC), Rapporteur on “Involving women in the prevention and solution of unsolved conflicts in the Council of Europe area”;
- Ms Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

Tanja Kleinsorge, Sylvie Affholder, Jannick Devaux