



AS/EGA/synopsis (2011) 03
15 April 2011

Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men

Synopsis N° 2011/3

The Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, meeting in Strasbourg from 11 to 14 April 2011, with Mr Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD) in the Chair,

as regards:

- **Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence**: heard a statement by its Chairperson, took note of the Convention as adopted by the Ministers' Deputies on 7 April 2011, and was informed that it would be opened for signature at the Ministerial Conference in Istanbul on 11 May 2011;
- **Combating poverty** (Rapporteur for opinion: Ms Ferić-Vac, Croatia, SOC): heard a statement by the Rapporteur, considered and approved a draft opinion to the report tabled by the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee, including two amendments to the draft resolution and two amendments to the draft recommendation;
- **Protecting migrant women in the labour market** (Rapporteur for opinion: Ms Circene, Latvia, EPP/CD): heard a statement by the Rapporteur, considered and approved a draft opinion to the report tabled by the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population, including three amendments to the draft resolution and two amendments to the draft recommendation;
- **Rural women in Europe** (Rapporteur: Ms Quintanilla Barba, Spain, EPP/CD): unanimously approved the amendments which had been tabled to the preliminary draft resolution and asked its Chairperson to propose that they should be declared as adopted by the Assembly, according to Rule 33.10 of the Assembly Rules of procedure;
- **Reform of the Assembly**: following an exchange of views, considered and approved a memorandum on the Committee's position on the draft report of the ad hoc committee of the Bureau on the reform of the Parliamentary Assembly (Chairperson: Mr Mignon, France, EPP/CD);
- **Request from the Palestinian National Council for partner for democracy status with the Parliamentary Assembly** (Rapporteur for opinion: Ms Hägg, Sweden, SOC): held an exchange of views with Ms Rahiba Hamdan, Minister for Women's Affairs of the Palestinian National Authority;

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
Director General, Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly
Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly
Observers to the Assembly
Secretary General of the Congress
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Directors General
Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe for Organisational Development and Reform
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights
Director of Communication
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

- **Activities of the Council of Europe Steering Committee for Equality between Women and Men (CDEG):** held an exchange of views with Ms Sophie Del Corso (France), Vice-Chairperson of the CDEG;
- **PACE Network of contact parliamentarians committed to combating violence against women:** held the fourth meeting of the Network; held an exchange of views on the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence with Ambassador Emil KUCHAR, Permanent Representative of Slovakia to the Council of Europe and Chairperson of the Ministers' Deputies Rapporteur Group on Legal Co-operation (GR-J);
- **Pre-natal sex selection** (Rapporteur: Ms Stump, Switzerland, SOC): in the absence of the rapporteur, took note of a preliminary draft report and authorised her to carry out fact-finding visits to Armenia and Georgia, at no cost for the Assembly;
- **Action to combat violence against women must also take account of psychological violence** (Rapporteur: Ms Kovács, Serbia, EPP/CD): heard a statement by the rapporteur on the basis of a memorandum, decided to organise a hearing at one of its next meetings and to change the title of the report to 'Psychological violence';
- **Appointment of rapporteurs:** appointed Ms Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD) as Rapporteur for opinion on Living together in 21st Century Europe – follow-up to the Eminent Persons Report, after hearing from her a declaration of absence of conflict of interest;
- **Priorities and work programme:** took note of the work programme, held an exchange of views on the follow-up to be given to a reference for information on The situation of women in Ukraine and decided to organise a hearing on this subject during the June part-session 2011;
- **Place and date of its next meetings:** decided to postpone its meeting foreseen on 3 June 2011 to 8 June 2011, and confirmed its next meetings as follows:
 - Paris (Council of Europe office), Wednesday, 8 June 2011;
 - Strasbourg, during the 2011 3rd part session of the Assembly (20-24 June);
 - Paris (Council of Europe office), 9 September 2011;
 - Strasbourg, during the 2011 4th part session of the Assembly (3-8 October).

Sonia Sirtori, Giorgio Loddo, Elodie Fischer