



SECRETARIAT

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4 February 2014

To the members of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination

Synopsis of the meeting held in Strasbourg from 27 to 30 January 2014

The Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, meeting in Strasbourg from 27 to 30 January 2014, first with Mr Valeriu Ghiletschi (Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD), oldest member present, and then with Ms Gisela Wurm (Austria, SOC) and Ms Ismeta Dervoz (Bosnia and Herzegovina, EPP/CD), in the Chair, as regards:

- on Monday 27 January 2014, from 2 to 3.30 pm:
 - **Election of the Bureau of the Committee:** elected by acclamation:
 - Ms Gisela Wurm (Austria, SOC) as Chairperson,
 - Ms Ismeta Dervoz (Bosnia and Herzegovina, EPP/CD) as First Vice-Chairperson,
 - Ms Carmen Quintanilla (Spain, EPP/CD) as Third Vice-Chairperson;
 - **Opinion on the evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Palestinian National Council** (*Rapporteur for opinion: Ms Gülsün Bilgehan, Turkey, SOC*): unanimously approved a draft opinion to the report of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, including one amendment;
 - **Developments on abortion legislation in Spain:** held an exchange of views and decided to hold a hearing on this issue during the April-part session;
- on Tuesday 28 January 2014, from 8.30 to 10 am:
 - **The impact of the crisis on equality:**
 - held a hearing on the impact of the crisis on equality and the work of national human rights institutions with Dr Des Hogan, Acting Chief Executive Officer, Irish Human Rights and Equality Commission;
 - considered a memorandum on Equality and the crisis (*Rapporteur: Mr Nikolaj Villumsen, Denmark, UEL*), and authorised the rapporteur to conduct fact-finding visits to Iceland and Portugal;
 - considered an introductory memorandum on Improving co-operation between National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) and Parliaments in addressing Equality and Non-Discrimination Issues (*Rapporteur: Ms Katherine Zappone, Ireland, NR*);
 - **Prostitution and human trafficking in Europe** (*Rapporteur: Mr José Mendes Bota, Portugal, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the rapporteur, decided to change the title of the report to *Prostitution, trafficking and modern slavery in Europe* and held a hearing on recent legal developments on prostitution in France with the participation of:

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- Ms Irène Aboudaram, Doctors of the World International Network;
- Mr Grégoire Théry, Secretary General of *Mouvement du Nid*;
- **on Tuesday 28 January 2014, from 2 to 3.30 pm:**
 - **Exchange of views with Mr Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General of the Council of Europe:** held an exchange of views on violence against women, as well as on discrimination on the grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity;
 - **The rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people (LGBTs)** (*General rapporteur: Mr Robert Biedroń, Poland, SOC*): heard a statement by the General rapporteur;
 - **Tackling racism in the police** (*Rapporteur: Mr David Davies, United Kingdom, EDG*): took position on the amendments that had been tabled to the draft resolution and asked its Chair to propose that the amendment which was unanimously approved should be declared as adopted by the Assembly, according to Rule 33.11 of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure;
 - **A strategy to prevent racism and intolerance in Europe** (*Rapporteur: Mr Jonas Gunnarsson, Sweden, SOC*): unanimously approved the amendments that had been tabled to the draft resolution and asked its Chair to propose that they should be declared as adopted by the Assembly, according to Rule 33.11 of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure;
 - **Equality and non-discrimination in the access to justice** (*Rapporteur: Mr Viorel Riceard Badea, Romania, EPP/CD*): considered an outline for a report;
 - **The Gender Equality Prize:** heard a statement by the Chairperson and decided to inform the Bureau that the prize would not be awarded in 2014;
- **on Wednesday 29 January 2014, from 2 to 3.30 pm, holding a joint meeting with the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, the Parliamentary Network "Women Free from Violence" and the Network of Contact Parliamentarians to stop sexual violence against children**, with Mr José Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD) and Ms Stella Kyriakides (Cyprus, EPP/CD) in the Chair, as regards:
 - **Sexual exploitation of girls:** heard an opening address by Ms Gabriella Battaini-Dragnoni, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe and held a hearing with the participation of:
 - Ms Livia Anonisanu, Director of the Programme Center for Partnership and Equality (Romania);
 - Ms Roshan Heiler, Director of the *SOLWODI* counselling centre (Germany);
- **on Thursday 29 January 2014, from 9.15 to 10 am, holding a joint meeting with the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights:**

Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation and gender identity - Implementation of Strasbourg Court judgments: held a hearing with the participation of:

 - Mr André Potocki, Judge to the European Court of Human Rights in respect of France;
 - Mr Nigel Warner, Adviser to ILGA-Europe;
- **on Thursday 29 January 2014, from 2 to 3.30 pm:**
 - **Sub-committees:** reconstituted its sub-committees on gender equality and the rights of minorities and approved their composition as in the Appendix; constituted a sub-committee on disability and inclusion;
 - **General Rapporteurs:** approved the terms of reference of a General Rapporteur on combating racism and intolerance and decided to ask the Bureau to extend of one year the duration of the mandate of the General Rapporteur on violence against women;
 - **The situation and rights of traditional national minorities in Europe** (*Rapporteur: Mr Ferenc Kalmár, Hungary, EPP/CD*): held an exchange of views on the basis of a preliminary draft report;

- **Tackling intolerance and discrimination in Europe with a special focus on Christianity** (*Rapporteur: Mr Valeriu Ghilechi, Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD*): agreed to postpone the consideration of his introductory memorandum to its next meeting;
- **Appointment of representatives:**
 - appointed Mr José Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD) to participate in the 58th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) to be held in New York⁴, and relevant side events, including Council of Europe events organised on 10 March 2014 on the Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings and on the Istanbul Convention and a parliamentary hearing organised by the Inter-Parliamentary Union on 11 March 2014 (*subject to the Bureau's authorisation and the availability of financial resources*) and took note that Ms Carmen Quintanilla would also attend (*at no cost for the Assembly*);
 - appointed Mr David Davies (United Kingdom, EDG) to participate in the meetings of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) as a substitute for 2014;
- **Date and place of the next meetings of the committee:** decided to hold its next meetings as follows:
 - Vienna, 4-5 March 2014;
 - Strasbourg, during the 2nd Part-Session 2014 of the Assembly (7-11 April);
 - Strasbourg, during the 3rd Part-Session 2014 of the Assembly (23-27 June);
 - Strasbourg, during the 4th Part-Session 2014 of the Assembly (29 September-3 October).

Sonia Sirtori, Giorgio Loddo, Elise Cornu, Elodie Fischer and Géraldine Grenet

Cc.: Secretary General of the Assembly
 Director General, Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
 Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly
 Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations
 Secretary General of the Congress
 Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
 Directors General
 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

APPENDIX

Sub-committee on gender equality *Sous-commission sur l'égalité de genre*

List of members/ liste des membres (28 seats / 28 sièges)

Chairperson / Président(e):

Vice Chairperson / Vice-Président(e) :

| | Country / pays | Member / titulaire | Alternate / suppléant(e) |
|-----|--------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1. | Austria / Autriche | Ms Gisela WURM | |
| 2. | Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan | Ms Sahiba GAFAROVA | |
| 3. | Belgium / Belgique | Ms Fatiha SAÏDI | Ms Cindy FRANSSEN |
| 4. | Cyprus / Chypres | Ms Athina KYRIAKIDOU | Mr Nicos NICOLAIDES |
| 5. | Finland / Finlande | Ms Riitta MYLLER | |
| 6. | France | Mme Marie-Jo ZIMMERMANN | Mme Bernadette BOURZAI |
| 7. | Georgia | Ms Guguli MAGHRADZE | |
| 8. | Greece / Grèce | Ms Angeliki GKEREKOU | Ms Eleni RAPTI |
| 9. | Ireland / Irlande | Mr Michael McNAMARA | |
| 10. | Italy / Italie | Ms Maria Edera SPADONI | |
| 11. | Luxembourg | Mme Françoise HETTO-GAASCH | M. Yves CRUCHTEN |
| 12. | Montenegro | Ms Snezana JONICA | |
| 13. | Poland / Pologne | Mme Elzbieta RADZISZEWSKA | |
| 14. | Portugal | Mr José MENDES BOTA | |
| 15. | Romania | Ms Ana BIRCHALL | Mr Corneliu-Mugurel COZMANCIUC |
| 16. | Serbia / Serbie | Ms Aleksandra DJUROVIĆ | |
| 17. | Slovenia / Slovénie | Ms Andreja ČRNAK MEGLIČ | |
| 18. | Sweden / Suède | Ms Carina HÄGG | Mr Jonas GUNNARSSON |
| 19. | Switzerland / Suisse | Mr Gerhard PFISTER | |

Ex officio: Ms Gisela WURM (Chairperson of the Committee, Austria / Présidente de la Commission, Autriche)

Sub-committee on the rights of minorities
Sous-commission sur les droits des minorités

List of members/ liste des membres (28 seats / 28 sièges)

Chairperson / Président(e):

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-Président(e):

| | Country/pays | Member/titulaire | Alternate/suppléant(e) |
|-----|---|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1. | Belgium / Belgique | M. Patrick DE GROOTE | M. Armand de DECKER |
| 2. | Bosnia and Herzegovina | Mr Senad SEPIC | |
| 3. | Finland / Finlande | Ms Pirkko MATTILA | |
| 4. | Croatia / Croatie | Ms Melita MULIC | |
| 5. | Cyprus / Chypre | Ms Athina KYRIAKIDOU | Mr Nicos NICOLAIDES |
| 6. | France | Mme Josette DURRIEU | Mme Pascale CROZON |
| 7. | Greece / Grèce | Ms Maria GIANNAKAKI | Mr Epameinondas MARIAS |
| 8. | Ireland / Irlande | Ms Katherine ZAPPONE | |
| 9. | Italy / Italie | Mr Centemero AIELLO | |
| 10. | Latvia / Lettonie | Mr Boris CILEVIČS | |
| 11. | Republic of Moldova / République de Moldova | Mr Valeriu GHILETCHI | |
| 12. | Poland / Pologne | Mr Robert BIEDRÓN | |
| 13. | Romania / Roumanie | Mr Damian DRAGHICI | Mr Viorel-Riceard BADEA |
| 14. | Sweden / Suède | Ms Marietta de POURBAIX-LUNDIN | |
| 15. | Switzerland / Suisse | M. Gerhard PFISTER | M. Eric VORUZ |
| 16. | Ukraine | Mr Oleksandr FELDMAN | |

Ex officio: Ms Gisela WURM (Chairperson of the Committee, Austria / Présidente de la Commission, Autriche)