



SECRETARIAT

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10 September 2014

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

Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on Monday 8 September 2014

The Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, meeting in Paris on 8 September 2014, with Ms Gisela Wurm (Austria, SOC) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Exchange of views with Ms Brigitte Gonthier-Maurin, Chairperson of the Delegation for Women's Rights and Equal Opportunities for Men and Women of the French Senate:** held an exchange of views on the activities of the Delegation and recent developments regarding women's rights in France;
- **Equality and the crisis (Rapporteur Mr Nikolaj Villumsen, Denmark, UEL):** held an exchange of views with Mr Luis Jimena Quesada, President of the European Committee of Social Rights (ECRS), and considered a revised memorandum;
- **The situation of women in emerging democracies following the Arab revolutions (Rapporteur: Ms Fatiha Saïdi, Belgium, SOC):** decided to change the title of the report to "Women's rights and prospects for Euro-Mediterranean co-operation", approved a draft report and adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation;
- **Entry into force of the Istanbul Convention:** heard a statement by Mr José Mendes Bota, General Rapporteur on violence against women and Political Co-ordinator of the Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence, and by members of the Network regarding activities carried out in their respective countries to celebrate the entry into force of the Convention;
- **Promoting best practices in tackling violence against women (Rapporteur: Mr José Mendes Bota, EPP/CD):** heard a statement by the Rapporteur;
- **Focusing on the perpetrators to prevent violence against women (Rapporteur: Ms Athina Kyriakidou, Cyprus, SOC):** approved a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution;
- **Counteraction to manifestations on neo-Nazism (Rapporteur: Ms Olga Kazakova, Russian Federation, NR):** approved a draft opinion, as amended, to the report of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, including four amendments;
- **No Hate Parliamentary Alliance:** heard an update by its Chairperson on the composition of the Alliance;
- **Discrimination against transgender persons in Europe (Rapporteur: Ms Deborah Schembri, Malta, SOC):** considered a preliminary draft report;

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- **Future work:**
 - **“Women’s rights in North Caucasus”** (Rapporteur: Ms Tina Acketoft, Sweden, ALDE): decided to request to the Bureau of the Assembly an extension of the reference until 31 October 2015;
 - **“Tackling intolerance and discrimination in Europe with a special focus on Christianity”** (Rapporteur: Mr Valeriu Ghiletschi, Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD): decided to request the Bureau of the Assembly an extension of the reference until 30 April 2015;
 - **“The creation of a European observatory on violence against women”**: decided to propose that no follow-up should be given to the motion on “The creation of a European observatory on violence against women”, considered a redrafted motion presented by Ms Maria Edera Spadoni (Italy, NR) on “Systematic collection of data on violence against women”, and decided to ask the Bureau of the Assembly to be seized for report;
- **Conference “Safe from fear, safe from violence. Celebrating the entry into force of the Istanbul Convention” (Rome, 18 and 19 September 2014)**: considered the programme of the Conference and approved the changes to the composition of the ad hoc sub-committee (see Appendix);
- **Appointment of representatives**: appointed:
 - Mr Robert Biedroń (Poland, SOC) to participate in the International Conference organised by the Hirschfeld-Eddy-Foundation and the NGOs Labris and Civil Rights Defenders Belgrade on “The Future belongs to us: LGBT Rights on the road to the European Union”, on 12 September 2014, in Belgrade (Serbia) (*at no cost for the Assembly*);
 - Ms Carmen Quintanilla Barba (Spain, EPP/CD), in her capacity as Rapporteur on equality and inclusion of persons with disabilities, to attend a meeting of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and Regional Mechanisms in the field of disability rights, on 26 September 2014, in Geneva (Switzerland);
 - Mr José Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD), in his capacity as General Rapporteur on violence against women and former Rapporteur on Prostitution, trafficking and modern slavery in Europe, to participate in the international abolitionist congress “Prostitution and trafficking in human beings in the world: an exploitation of the most vulnerable groups”, on 12-13 November 2014, in Paris (*subject to the availability of funds*);
 - Mr Robert Biedroń (Poland, SOC), in his capacity as General Rapporteur on The rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people (LGBTs), and Ms Maria Giannakaki (Greece, SOC), in her capacity as General Rapporteur on combating racism and intolerance, to attend the meeting of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) on 10 December 2014, in Strasbourg (*at no cost for the Assembly*);
- **Appointment of a rapporteur**: appointed Ms Gülsün Bilgehan (Turkey, SOC) as Rapporteur for opinion on “Evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic” and heard from her a declaration on the absence of conflicts of interest;
- **Next meetings**: confirmed its next meetings as follows:
 - Strasbourg, during the 4th Part-Session 2014 of the Assembly (29 September-3 October);
 - Paris, 3 December 2014;
 - Strasbourg, during the 1st Part-Session 2015 of the Assembly (26-30 January).

Sonia Sirtori, Giorgio Loddo and Elodie Fischer

Appendix: Composition of the Ad Hoc Sub-committee to take part in the Conference “Safe from fear, safe from violence. Celebrating the entry into force of the Istanbul Convention”, Rome, 18-19 September 2014

The changes approved appear in bold.

1.	Ms Silvia Eloïsa BONET PEROT	Andorra
2.	Ms Gisela WURM	Austria
3.	Ms Sahiba GAFAROVA	Azerbaijan
4.	Ms Fatiha SAÏDI	Belgium
5.	Ms Ismeta DERVOZ	Bosnia and Herzegovina
6.	Ms Athina KYRIAKIDOU	Cyprus
7.	Mme Bernadette BOURZAI	France
8.	Ms Guguli MAGRADZE	Georgia
9.	Ms Maria GIANNAKAKI	Greece
10.	Ms Elena CENTEMERO	Italy
11.	Ms Maria Edera SPADONI	Italy
12.	Ms Snežana JONICA	Montenegro
13.	Mr José MENDES BOTA	Portugal
14.	Mr Viorel BADEA	Romania
15.	Ms Elvira KOVACS	Serbia
16.	Ms Carmen QUINTANILLA BARBA	Spain
17.	Ms Tülin ERKAL KARA	Turkey

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