



SECRETARIAT
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6 June 2018

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

Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on 5 June 2018

The Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, meeting in Paris on 5 June 2018, with first Mr Manuel Tornare (Switzerland, SOC), First Vice-Chairperson, and then Ms Elvira Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD), Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Alleged extreme discrimination and crimes against LGBTI people in the Chechen Republic (Russian Federation)** (*Rapporteur: Mr Piet de Bruyn, Belgium, NR*):
 - decided to change the title of the report to *Persecution of LGBTI people in the Chechen Republic (Russian Federation)*;
 - considered and approved a draft report;
 - unanimously adopted a draft resolution, as amended, and a draft recommendation;
- **Forced marriage in Europe** (*Rapporteur: Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo, Monaco, ALDE*): considered and approved a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution, as amended;
- **Women in the economy: promoting gender equality and women's access to STEM education and careers (science, technology, engineering and maths)** (*Rapporteur: Ms Elena Centemero, Italy, EPP/CD*):
 - decided to change the title of the report to *Empowering women in the economy*;
 - considered and approved a draft report;
 - unanimously adopted a draft resolution, as amended;
- **Private and family life: achieving equality regardless of sexual orientation** (*Rapporteur: Mr Jonas Gunnarsson, Sweden, SOC*): held a hearing with the participation of Ms Kia Aarnio, researcher, University of Helsinki, Finland;
- **Making sign language one of Europe's official languages** (*Rapporteur: Ms Miren Edurne Gorrotxategui, Spain, UEL*): considered an introductory memorandum;
- **Stop hate speech and acts of hatred in sport** (*Rapporteur: Mr Goran Beus Richembergh, Croatia, ALDE*): considered an introductory memorandum and held a hearing with the participation of Ms Aleksandra Knežević, independent expert for international cooperation and youth policy, Belgrade;
- **Freedom of expression and assembly of LGBTI persons**: heard a statement by Mr Piet de Bruyn (Belgium, NR), General Rapporteur on the rights of LGBTI people;
- **Co-operation with the Moroccan partner for democracy delegation**:
 - heard a statement by its Chairperson;
 - decided to set up an ad hoc sub-committee to take part, subject to the Bureau's authorisation, in the *Regional Conference on women in politics: how to progress towards equality?* to be held in

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- Rabat on 5 July 2018 and organised in cooperation with the Moroccan parliament in the framework of the South Programme III, and appointed as its members Mr Goran Beus Richemberg (Croatia, ALDE), Ms Miren Edurne Gorrotxategui (Spain, UEL), Mr Florian Kronbichler (Italy, SOC) and Mr Manuel Tornare (Switzerland, SOC) (*at no cost to the Assembly*);
- took note of the draft agenda of the next meeting of the Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence, to be held in Paris on 20 September 2018;
 - **World Forum for Democracy:** appointed Ms Maryvonne Blondin (France, SOC) and Ms Elvira Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD) as its representatives to the Ad Hoc Committee of the Bureau of the Assembly to participate in the next World Forum for Democracy (Strasbourg, 19 - 21 November 2018) (*at no cost to the Assembly*);
 - **Work programme:**
 - took note of the work programme;
 - appointed Ms Maryvonne Blondin (France, SOC) as rapporteur for a report on *Obstetrical and gynaecological violence* and heard from her a declaration of absence of conflict of interest;
 - appointed Ms Elvira Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD) as rapporteur for a report on *An ambitious Council of Europe agenda for gender equality* and heard from her a declaration of absence of conflict of interest;
 - **Appointment of representatives** (*subject to the availability of funds*): appointed Mr Damien Thiéry (Belgium, ALDE) to participate in the conference on *Minorities and Minority Languages in a Changing Europe*, Strasbourg, 18-19 June 2018;
 - **Reply from the Committee of Ministers:** considered the reply of the Committee of Ministers to Assembly Recommendation 2116 (2017) on *Promoting the human rights of and eliminating discrimination against intersex people* and heard a statement by the Rapporteur, Mr Piet de Bruyn (Belgium, NR);
 - **Reporting back:** heard reports from:
 - Ms Elvira Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD) on her participation in the *Conference to launch the Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy 2018-2023: Gender Equality: paving the way*, held in Copenhagen on 3-4 May 2018;
 - Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE), Rapporteur on *Forced marriage in Europe*, on her participation in the 15th Plenary meeting of the Ad hoc Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (CAHROM) held Athens on 22-25 May 2018;
 - **Next meetings:** confirmed its next meetings as follows:
 - Strasbourg, during the 3rd part-session 2018 of the Assembly (25-29 June);
 - Paris, 19 September 2018 (Council of Europe Office);
 - Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence, Paris, 20 September 2018 (Council of Europe Office);
 - Strasbourg, during the 4th part-session 2018 of the Assembly (8-12 October);
 - Paris, 3 December 2018 (Council of Europe Office).

Sonia Sirtori, Sarah Burton, Giorgio Loddo, Elodie Fischer

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