



SECRETARIAT
AS/Ega/CB (2018) 05 rev.
3 July 2018

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

(Revised) synopsis of the meeting held in Strasbourg from 25 to 28 June 2018

The Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, meeting in Strasbourg from 25 to 28 June 2018, with first Ms Elvira Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD), Chairperson, and then Mr Manuel Tornare (Switzerland, SOC), First Vice-Chairperson, in the Chair:

- **Monday 25 June 2018, from 2 to 3 pm**, as regards:
 - **Communication:** heard a communication by its Chairperson including an update on the state of preparation of the IPU/PACE regional survey on sexism, harassment and violence against women in parliaments in Europe;
 - **Private and family life: achieving equality regardless of sexual orientation** (*Rapporteur: Mr Jonas Gunnarsson, Sweden, SOC*): considered a preliminary draft report;
 - **Regional conference on women in politics: how to progress towards equality?** (Rabat, 5 July 2018): considered the draft programme, the practical information and the list of participants; and approved the final composition of the ad hoc sub-committee to participate in the conference (*at no cost for the Assembly*), to include Ms Elena Centemero (Italy, EPP/CD), Ms Edite Estrela (Portugal, SOC) and Ms Albane Gaillot (France, NR);
 - **World Forum for Democracy** (Strasbourg, 19 – 21 November 2018): appointed Mr Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ALDE) as its representative to the ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in the World Forum for Democracy (*at no cost for the Assembly*);
 - **Sub-Committee on Disability and Inclusion and Intersectional Discrimination:** approved changes to the composition of the sub-committee, with Mr Steve Double (United Kingdom, EC) becoming a full member and Mr Nigel Evans (United Kingdom, EC) his alternate;
- **Wednesday 27 June 2018, from 2 to 3.30 pm**, as regards:
 - **Persecution of LGBTI people in the Chechen Republic (Russian Federation)** (*Rapporteur: Mr Piet de Bruyn, Belgium, NR*): took position on the amendments which had been tabled to the draft resolution and asked its Chairperson to propose that the amendments which had been unanimously approved by the committee be declared as adopted by the Assembly under rule 34.11 of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure;
 - **Migration from a gender perspective: empowering women as key actors for integration** (*Rapporteur: Ms Gabriela Heinrich, Germany, SOC*): considered and approved a draft report; unanimously adopted a draft resolution;
 - **Making sign language one of Europe's official languages** (*Rapporteur: Ms Miren Edurne Gorrotxategui (Spain, UEL)*): considered an information memorandum;

- **Thursday 28 June 2018, from 8.30 to 10 am**, as regards:
 - **Forced marriage in Europe** (*Rapporteur: Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo, Monaco, ALDE*): took position on the amendments which had been tabled to the draft resolution; decided to table one sub-amendment and one oral amendment; asked its Chairperson to propose that the amendments which had been unanimously approved be declared as adopted by the Assembly under rule 34.11 of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure; and appointed Mr Jonas Gunnarsson (Sweden, SOC) to replace its Chairperson during the debate;
 - **Growing hate speech and role of the political leaders in fighting hate crime: follow-up to ECRI Recommendations** (*Rapporteur: Ms Elvira Kovács, Serbia, EPP/CD*): considered an information memorandum and decided to ask the Bureau for an extension of the reference until 25 January 2019;
 - **Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy (2018-2023)**: heard a presentation by Ms Marja Ruotanen, Director of Committees, Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly, and asked its Chairperson to prepare a memorandum on *A strategy to promote gender mainstreaming in the work of the Assembly*;
 - **Work programme:**
 - took note of the work programme;
 - following a vote by secret ballot, appointed Mr Manuel Tornare (Switzerland, SOC) as rapporteur for report on *Russian racial discrimination of Crimean Tatars in Crimea*, and heard from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interests;
 - following a vote by secret ballot, appointed Ms Zita Gurmai (Hungary, SOC) as rapporteur for report on *Achievements and challenges in implementing the Istanbul Convention on violence against women* and heard from her a declaration of absence of conflict of interests;
 - appointed Ms Isabelle Rauch (France, NR) as rapporteur for opinion on *Concerted action on human trafficking*, subject to hearing from her a declaration of interests;
 - appointed Mr Piet De Bruyn (Belgium, NR) as General Rapporteur on the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people (LGBTIs) for a second and last year;
 - launched a call for candidatures for the appointment of rapporteurs for report on *Ethnic profiling in Europe: a matter of high concern* and *Preserving Europe's linguistic, ethnic, cultural and national diversity*, as well as for the appointment of a rapporteur for opinion on *Evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the parliament of Morocco*;
 - **Reporting back:** heard reports from:
 - Ms Isabelle Rauch (France, NR) on her participation in the conference on *Ten years of implementation of the Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings: impact and challenges ahead*, Strasbourg, 22 May 2018;
 - Mr Damien Thiéry (Belgium, ALDE) on his participation in the conference on *Minorities and Minority Languages in a Changing Europe*, Strasbourg, 18-19 June 2018;
- **Thursday 26 April 2018, from 2 to 3.30 pm**, as regards:
 - **Empowering women in the economy** (*Rapporteur: Ms Elena Centemero, Italy, EPP/CD*): took position on the amendments which had been tabled to the draft resolution; decided to table three sub-amendments; asked its Chairperson to propose that the amendment which had been unanimously approved by the committee be declared as adopted by the Assembly under rule 34.11 of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure; and appointed Mr František Kopřiva (Czech Republic, ALDE) to replace its Chairperson during the debate;
 - **Other business:**
 - took note of an information memorandum prepared by Mr Piet De Bruyn (Belgium, NR), General Rapporteur on the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex people (LGBTIs), on *Freedom of expression and assembly of LGBTI persons in Europe: May 2017 – May 2018*;
 - authorised Mr Adão Silva (Portugal, EPP/CD), Rapporteur on *For a disability inclusive workforce*, to carry out a fact-finding visit to Denmark in the framework of the preparation of his report, subject to the availability of financial resources by the Assembly;
 - and heard a statement from Ms Petra Bayr (Austria, SOC) on her intention to table a motion for a resolution on *Empowering women: promoting access to contraception in Europe*;

- **Next meetings:** confirmed its next meetings as follows:
 - Paris, 19 September 2018 (Council of Europe Office);
 - Paris, 20 September 2018 (Council of Europe Office) – Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence;
 - Strasbourg, during the 4th part-session 2018 of the Assembly (8-12 October);
 - Paris, 3 December 2018 (Council of Europe Office).

The No Hate Parliamentary Alliance, meeting in Strasbourg on Tuesday 26 June 2018 from 9 to 10 am, with Ms Gabriela Heinrich (Germany, SOC), Co-ordinator of the Alliance, in the chair, as regards:

- **Migrant invasion – breaking the myth:** held a hearing with the participation of:
 - Mr Yannis Kotsifos, member of the steering committee, European Federation of Journalists, Brussels (via video conference);
 - Ms Karolin Schwarz, fact-checker, founder of Hoaxmap.org, Berlin;
- **Next meeting:** left it to its Co-ordinator to decide the date and place of the next meeting.

The Sub-Committee on Disability and Multiple and Intersectional Discrimination of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, meeting in Strasbourg on Tuesday 26 June 2018 from 2 to 3.30 pm, with Mr Adão Silva (Portugal, EPP/DC), Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Combating discrimination in access to employment:** held a hearing with the participation of:
 - Ms Kimberly McIntosh, Policy Officer, Runnymede Trust, United Kingdom;
 - Mr James Crowe, President of the European Association of Service Providers for Persons with Disabilities (EASPD), United Kingdom;
 - Ms Aletta Gräfin von Hardenberg, Director of the German Diversity Charter Initiative, Germany (via video conference);
- **Next meeting:** left it to its Chairperson to decide the date and place of the next meeting.

Sonia Sirtori, Sarah Burton, Giorgio Loddo, Elodie Fischer

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