



SECRETARIAT

AS/Ega (2019) CB 02 rev
11 March 2019

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

Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on 7 March 2019

The Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, meeting in Paris on 7 March 2019, with first Ms Elvira Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD), Chairperson, then Mr Manuel Tornare (Switzerland, SOC), First Vice-Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Promoting parliaments free of sexism and sexual harassment** (*Rapporteur: Ms Thorhildur Sunna Ævarsdóttir, Iceland, SOC*): considered and approved a draft report, and unanimously adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation, as amended;
- **Stop hate speech and acts of hatred in sport** (*Rapporteur: Mr Goran Beus Richembergh, Croatia, ALDE*): considered and approved a draft report, and unanimously adopted a draft resolution, as amended;
- **The role and responsibilities of political leaders in combating hate speech and intolerance** (*Rapporteur: Ms Elvira Kovács, Serbia, EPP/CD*): considered and approved a draft report, and unanimously adopted a draft resolution, as amended;
- **Russian racial discrimination of Crimean Tatars in Crimea** (*Rapporteur: Mr Manuel Tornare, Switzerland, SOC*): considered an introductory memorandum; decided to change the title of the report to *The situation of Crimean Tatars* and authorised the rapporteur to carry out a fact-finding visit to Ukraine, subject to the availability of funds;
- **Situation of Crimean Tatars in Crimea**: held a hearing with the participation of Mr Benjamin Moreau, Deputy Head of the UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine, and Ms Yulia Gorbunova, Researcher, Europe and Central Asia Division, Human Rights Watch (the latter by video-conference);
- **Exchange of views with Mr Jacques Toubon, Defenders of Rights, France**: held an exchange of views on combating harassment, preventing discrimination against persons with disabilities and artificial intelligence;
- **The Istanbul Convention on violence against women: achievements and challenges** (*Rapporteur: Ms Zita Gurmai, Hungary, SOC*): considered an information memorandum;
- **An ambitious Council of Europe agenda for gender equality** (*Rapporteur: Ms Elvira Kovács, Serbia, EPP/CD*): considered an information memorandum;
- **Obstetrical and gynaecological violence** (*Rapporteur: Ms Maryvonne Blondin, France, SOC*): heard a statement by the rapporteur and authorised her to carry out a fact-finding visit to Croatia, subject to the availability of funds;

This document is available on the Parliamentary Assembly Extranet website (restricted area for PACE Members)
<http://assembly.coe.int/extranet>

- **Strengthening co-operation with the United Nations in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development** (*Rapporteur for opinion: Ms Petra Bayr, Austria, SOC*): heard a statement by the rapporteur;
- **Work programme**: took note of the work programme;
- **Appointment of a rapporteur**: heard a declaration of absence of conflict of interests from Sir Jeffrey Donaldson (United Kingdom, EC) for his appointment as rapporteur for opinion on *The protection of freedom of religion or belief in the workplace*;
- **Appointment of representatives** (*subject to the availability of funds*):
 - appointed Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE), in her capacity as General Rapporteur on Violence against Women, to participate in the Conference *Tackling gender stereotypes and sexism*, organised by the Gender Equality Commission of the Council of Europe (GEC), on 28-29 March 2019 in Helsinki;
 - appointed Ms Thorhildur Sunna Ævarsdóttir (Iceland, SOC) to participate in the 24th meeting of the Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, on 5 April 2019 in Strasbourg;
- **Reply from the Committee of Ministers**: took note of the reply of the Committee of Ministers to Assembly Recommendation 2132 (2018) on *Detainees with disabilities in Europe*;
- **Sub-Committees**: approved changes in the composition of the Sub-Committee on Gender Equality, concerning Mr Frank Heinrich (Germany, EPP/CD) becoming a full member, and of the Sub-Committee on the Rights of Minorities, concerning Mr Christophe Lacroix (Belgium, SOC) becoming an alternate instead of Mr Pol Van Den Driessche (Belgium, NR);
- **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize 2019**: heard a statement by its Chairperson;
- **Next meetings of the Committee**: confirmed its next meetings as follows:
 - Strasbourg, during the 2nd part-session 2019 of the Assembly (8-12 April);
 - Belgrade, 5-6 June 2019;
 - Strasbourg, during the 3rd part-session 2019 of the Assembly (24-28 June);
 - Paris, 12 September 2019 (Council of Europe Office);
 - Strasbourg, during the 4th part-session 2019 of the Assembly (30 September - 4 October);
 - Paris, 4 December 2019 (Council of Europe Office).

The Sub-Committee on the Rights of Minorities, meeting in Paris on 7 March 2019 from 9 to 9.05 am, with Mr Boriss Cilevičs (Latvia, SOC), oldest member present in the Chair, as regards:

- **Election of the Bureau of the Sub-Committee**: elected by acclamation Mr Goran Beus Richembergh (Croatia, ALDE) as Chairperson, and postponed the election of the Vice-Chairperson to its next meeting;
- **Next meeting**: left it to its Chairperson to propose the date and place of the next meeting.

The Sub-Committee on Disability and Multiple and Intersectional Discrimination, meeting in Paris on 7 March 2019 from 9.05 to 9.10 am, with Mr Manuel Tornare (Switzerland, SOC), oldest member present, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Election of the Bureau of the Sub-Committee**: elected by acclamation Mr Olli-Poika Parviainen (Finland, SOC) as Chairperson, and postponed the election of the Vice-Chairperson to its next meeting;
- **Next meeting**: left it to its Chairperson to propose the date and place of the next meeting.

The Sub-Committee on Gender Equality, meeting in Paris on 7 March 2019 from 9.10 to 9.15 am, with Mr Manuel Tornare (Switzerland, SOC), oldest member present, then Ms Petra Bayr (Austria, SOC), Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Election of the Bureau of the Sub-Committee:** elected by acclamation Ms Petra Bayr (Austria, SOC) as Chairperson and, in the absence of candidates, postponed the election of the Vice-Chairperson to its next meeting;
- **Next meeting:** left it to its Chairperson to propose the date and place of the next meeting.

Sonia Sirtori, Sarah Burton, Giorgio Loddo

Copy to:

Secretary General of the Assembly
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