

**TO MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AFFAIRS AND HUMAN RIGHTS
AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE HONOURING OF OBLIGATIONS AND
COMMITMENTS BY MEMBER STATES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE**

***Ad hoc* sub-committees of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe on implementation of Resolution 1272 (2002) on political prisoners in Azerbaijan**

Secretariat of the Assembly

Synopsis N° 2002/057

29 April 2002

The *ad hoc* sub-committees, meeting on 24 and 25 April 2002 with Mr Clerfayt, the oldest member present, in the Chair:

- took note of their common terms of reference to promote the implementation of Resolution 1272 (2002) on political prisoners in Azerbaijan;
- agreed to form a joint working party to comply with these terms of reference;

The joint working party:

- elected as its Chairman Mr Clerfayt (Belgium, LDR)
- took note with satisfaction of the Presidential Pardon of 13 March 2002 in respect of 89 prisoners in Azerbaijan;
- took note of the invitation of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to the independent experts, MM. Trechsel and Alkema, to resume their task and of the intentions of, respectively, the co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee, the monitoring group GT-SUIVI.AGO and the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe to make fact-finding visits to Azerbaijan;
- agreed to assess the present situation in respect of political prisoners and presumed political prisoners, by inviting the independent experts, the Chair of the monitoring group GT-SUIVI.AGO and the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe for an exchange of views at its next meeting;
- decided that, following this exchange of views, it would invite the Azerbaijani parliamentary delegation to discuss implementation of Resolution 1272;
- agreed to meet again during the June 2002 part-session.

Egbert Ausems, Danielle Coin, David Čupina, Raphaëlle Mathey