



TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AFFAIRS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly

Synopsis No 2002/074
20 June 2002

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, meeting in Saratov (Russian Federation) on 13-14 June 2002 with Mr Lintner (Germany, EPP/CD) in the Chair, as regards:

- *Exchange of views with the authorities of the Saratov Region*: held an exchange of views with Mr Ayatskov, Governor of the Saratov Region, Mr Kirienko, Representative of the Russian Federation in the Region, Mr Lando, Ombudsman of the Saratov Region, Mr Abdulatipov, Deputy for the Saratov Region in the Council of the Federation, and Mr Grigoriev, Dean of the Saratov Law Faculty;
- *Federal Republic of Yugoslavia's request for membership of the Council of Europe* (Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Lippelt, Germany, LDR): heard a report by the Rapporteur on his visit to Kosovo and Serbia from 26 to 30 May 2002 and considered a preliminary draft opinion;
- *Protection of minorities in Belgium* (Rapporteur: Mrs Nabholz-Haidegger, Switzerland, LDR): had a discussion on the organisation of a hearing to place on Tuesday 25 June 2002;
- *Right to association for members of the professional staff of the armed forces* (Rapporteur: Mrs van Ardenne-van der Hoeven, Netherlands, EPP/CD): considered, amended and adopted a draft recommendation submitted by the Rapporteur;
- *Conflict in the Chechen Republic* (Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Bindig, Germany, SOC): heard a statement by the Rapporteur on the meeting of the Joint Working Group on Chechnya (JWG) held in Strasbourg on 23 April 2002;
- *Additional Protocol to the Criminal Law Convention on Corruption*: appointed Mr Piscitello (Italy, LDR) as Rapporteur;
- Appointment of representatives:
 - European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) (Strasbourg, 25-28 June 2002): Mr McNamara (United Kingdom, SOC)
 - 2nd Meeting of the Council for Democratic Elections (of the Venice Commission) (Venice, 3 July 2002): Mr Jurgens (Netherlands, LDR)
- *Next meetings*:
 - . Strasbourg, during the Assembly's June 2002 part-session
 - . Paris, Monday 2 September 2002 at 9 h 30
 - . Strasbourg, during the Assembly's September 2002 part-session

The Sub-Committee on Human Rights (of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights), meeting in Tokyo (Japan) on 27-28 May 2002 with Mrs Wohlwend (Liechtenstein, EPP/CD) in the Chair:

- held a seminar on "Justice and human rights in Council of Europe observer States: The abolition of the death penalty", in co-operation with the Diet members' League for the Abolition of the Death Penalty, with the participation of:
 - Mr Tamisuke Watanuki, Speaker of the House of Representatives of Japan
 - Mr Hiroyuki Kurata, President of the House of Councillors of Japan
 - Mr Shizuka Kamei, Chairperson of the Diet members' League for the Abolition of the Death Penalty
 - Mrs Mayumi Moriyama, Minister of Justice of Japan
 - Mr Hiroyuki Sonoda, Chairperson of the Committee of Legal Affairs of the House of Representatives
 - Mrs Maiko Tagusari, Representative of "Forum 90 Japan", NGO against the death penalty
 - Mr Serhiy Holovaty, Member of the Parliament of Ukraine
 - Mr Olivier Dupuis, member of the European Parliament, member of the Board of Directors of the NGO "Hands off Cain"
 - Mr Kevin McNamara, Member of the Parliament of the United Kingdom
 - Mr Sakae Menda, former death-row prisoner
 - Mrs A., mother of a death-row prisoner
 - Mr Mitsuhiro Wada, Chairperson of Amnesty International Japan
 - Mr Yuji Hara, Journalist
 - Sister Helen Prejean, author of «Dead man walking»
 - Mr Dai-Chul Chyung, member of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea
 - Mrs Karin Jaani, Ambassador of Estonia to the Russian Federation, former Member of Parliament
 - Mrs Takako Doi, Adviser of the Diet Members' League for the abolition of the death penalty
 - other members of the Diet Members' League for the abolition of the death penalty
- *Next meeting:*
 - . Strasbourg, during the Assembly's June 2002 part-session

Danielle Coin, Petr Sich, David Čupina

cc: Secretary General of the Assembly
 Directors and staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
 Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly
 Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly

Directors General
 Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General
 Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
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