

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

Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly

Synopsis No 2003/106
24 September 2003

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, meeting in Edinburgh (Scotland, United Kingdom) on 17-18 September 2003 with Mr Lintner in the Chair, as regards:

- *Exchange of views with the Scottish authorities*: had an exchange of views with Mrs Elish Angiolini, QC, Solicitor General for Scotland, Mr Robert Brown, Convenor of the Scottish Parliament's Cross Party Group on Human Rights, Lord Reed, senior member of the Judiciary, and Mr Jim Wallace, Deputy First Minister of Scotland;
- *Candidates to the European Court of Human Rights* (Rapporteur: Mr McNamara, United Kingdom, SOC): considered, amended and adopted a draft recommendation and a draft resolution and asked its Chairperson to inform the President of the Assembly of its wish that the report be debated in plenary session;
- *Consequences of European union enlargement for freedom of movement between Council of Europe member states* (Rapporteur: Mr Shytko, Ukraine, SOC): considered, amended and adopted a draft recommendation ;
- *The Principality of Monaco's application for membership of the Council of Europe* (Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Manzella, Italy, SOC): considered a preliminary draft opinion of the Political Affairs Committee, heard a statement by the Chairperson on the discussion which took place in the Political Affairs Committee on 11 September 2003, and decided to come back to the matter at one of its forthcoming meetings;
- *Euthanasia* (Rapporteur for opinion: Mr McNamara): considered a report by the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee and considered, amended and approved an opinion;
- *Internet and the law* (Rapporteur: Mr Pourgourides, Cyprus, EPP): considered an introductory memorandum presented by the Rapporteur, and instructed him to prepare a preliminary draft report for its meeting on 3 November 2003;

- *Sub-Committee on Penal Law and Criminology* (Chairperson: Mr Bruce, United Kingdom, LDR): heard a statement by its Chairperson and decided to postpone discussion on the possible organisation of a colloquy on the harmonisation of criminal law in Europe until its next meeting during the September 2003 part-session;
- *Appointment of members to participate in conferences, meetings, seminars, etc.*
 - 25th Conference of the European Ministers of Justice (Sofia (Bulgaria), 9-10 October 2003): its Chairperson
 - 1st meeting of the drafting group on the reinforcement of the human rights protection mechanism (CDDH-GDR) (Strasbourg, 6-8 October 2003): Mr Bindig (Germany, SOC) (if he is available);
- *Situation of human rights in the Chechen Republic* (Rapporteur : Mr Bindig, Germany, SOC) : asked its Chairperson to inform the Bureau of the Assembly of its view that the presence of rapporteurs on the spot during the presidential elections would not seem appropriate given the present situation in the Chechen Republic;
- *Disappeared persons in Belarus* (Rapporteur : Mr Pourgourides, Cyprus, EPP): regretted the lack of cooperation shown by the authorities of Belarus with the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee, and asked the Sub-Committee to present an interim report as soon as possible;
- *Next meetings:*
 - . Strasbourg, during the Assembly's September 2003 part-session
 - . Paris, Monday 3 November 2003 at 9 h 30 (Council of Europe Office)
 - . Paris, Monday 15 December 2003 at 9 h 30 (French National Assembly)
 - . Paris, Friday 9 January 2004 at 9 h 30 (to be confirmed)

Danielle Coin, Günter Schirmer, David Čupina

cc: Secretary General and 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 of the Council of Europe
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Director of Communication and Research

Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe