

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

Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly

Synopsis No 2004/87
30 June 2004

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, meeting in Strasbourg on 22 June 2004 at 8 h 30 with Mr Lintner (Germany, EPP/CD) in the Chair, as regards:

- *The Council of Europe's contribution to the settlement of the situation in Iraq*: appointed Mr Pourgourides (Cyprus, EPP/CD) rapporteur for opinion;
- *Implementation of decisions of the European Court of Human Rights by Turkey* (Rapporteur: Mr Jurgens, Netherlands, SOC): took position on nine amendments presented to the draft resolution;
- *Monopolisation of the electronic media and possible abuse of power in Italy* (Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Ateş, Turkey, SOC): considered a report tabled by the Committee on Culture, Science and Education, considered and approved a draft opinion including five amendments;
- *Sub-Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights*: took note of the fact that the Sub-Committee had the previous evening adopted a report following hearings with the candidates presented by Luxembourg and Portugal, and that this report had been forwarded to the President of the Assembly;
- *Sub-Committee on Human Rights*: appointed Mr Sasi (Finland, EPP/CD) as a titular member and Mr Arsenyan (Armenia, LDR) as a titular member with Mr Rustamyan (Armenia, SOC) as his alternate, to the two vacant places on the Sub-Committee;

and resuming its meeting on 22 June 2004 at 14h, with Mr Lintner in the Chair, as regards:

- *The Council of Europe's contribution to the settlement of the situation in Iraq* (Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Pourgourides, Cyprus, EPP/CD): considered a report tabled by the Political Affairs Committee, considered and approved a draft opinion including four amendments;
- *Political prisoners in Europe*: decided to examine the Azerbaijani authorities' follow-up to Assembly Resolution 1359 (2004), prior to the autumn part-session, on the basis of a revised information note at its 6 September 2004 meeting;

- *Motion for a resolution on the principle of the rule of law*: instructed its Chair to write to the Bureau asking that it reconsider its decision to refer this motion to the Committee for information and instead to refer it for report;

and resuming its meeting on 24 June 2004 at 8 h 30, with Mr Lintner in the Chair, as regards:

- *European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT)*: held an exchange of views with Ms Silvia Casale, Chairperson of the CPT;
- *The circumstances surrounding the arrest and prosecution of leading Yukos executives*: (Rapporteur: Mrs Leutheusser-Schnarrenberger, Germany, LDR): considered an introductory memorandum presented by the Rapporteur and backed her request for support for making another attempt to meet with the detainees and other interlocutors in Moscow;
- *Sub-Committee on Penal Law and Criminology*: appointed Mrs Wohlwend (Liechtenstein, EPP/CD) as a member, and Mr Cortés Muñoz (Spain, EPP/CD) as a member with Mr Curiel Alonso (Spain, SOC) as his alternate;
- *Sub-Committee on Human Rights*: appointed Mrs Narochnitskaya (Russia, NR) as the alternate of Mr Fedorov (Russia, EDG);
- *The human rights situation in Kosovo* (Rapporteur: Mr Lloyd, United Kingdom, SOC): approved and declassified the minutes of the hearing held in Paris on 16 March 2004;
- *Appointment of Rapporteurs*:
 - o *Harmonisation of penal law in Europe - a civil imperative*: Mr Bartumeu Cassany (Andorra, SOC);
 - o *Legality of detentions by the United States in Guantánamo Bay*: Mr McNamara (United Kingdom, SOC);
 - o *The case of Igor Sutyagin*: Mr Pourgourides (Cyprus, EPP/CD);
- *Draft joint declaration with the International Parliamentary Union's Committee on the Protection of Human Rights of Parliamentarians, on disappeared parliamentarians in Belarus*: considered and approved a draft joint declaration
- *Next meetings*:
 - . Paris, Monday 6 September 2004 at 9 h 30 (Council of Europe Office),
 - . Strasbourg, during the Assembly's 4th part-session (4-8 October 2004).

The Sub-Committee on Human Rights (of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights), meeting in Strasbourg on 23 June 2004 with Mr Pourgourides (Cyprus, EPP/CD) in the Chair, as regards:

- *Situation of human rights in the Chechen Republic* (Rapporteur: Mr Bindig, Germany, SOC): held an exchange of views with representatives of NGOs who had recently visited the region (Tanya Lokshina (Moscow Helsinki Group), Lisa Musayeva (Memorial), Anna Neistat (Human Rights Watch), and Friederike Behr (Amnesty International));
- *Draft joint declaration with the International Parliamentary Union's Committee on the Protection of Human Rights of Parliamentarians in Belarus*: considered and approved a draft joint declaration;
- *Next meeting*:
 - . Barcelona (Spain), 2-3 July 2004 (on the occasion of the 1st Round Table of European Regional Ombudsmen).

The *ad hoc* Sub-Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights (of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights), meeting on 21 June 2004 in Strasbourg with Mr McNamara (United Kingdom, SOC) in the Chair:

- held interviews with the candidates to the European Court of Human Rights on behalf of Luxembourg and Portugal;
- adopted its recommendation to the Assembly concerning the candidates of this country.

Danielle Coin, Günter Schirmer, Valérie Clamer, David Milner

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