



12 June 2007
Synopsis AS/Jur No 2007/05

To the Members of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

Synopsis of the meetings held in Paris on 7 and 8 June 2007

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, meeting in Paris on 8 June 2007 with Mr Dick Marty (Switzerland, ALDE), in the Chair, as regards:

- **Ratification by the Russian Federation of Protocol No 14 to the European Convention on Human Rights:** held an exchange of views with Mr Mars Kalmetiev and Mr Petr Shelishch, Vice-Chairpersons of the Committee on Civil, Criminal, Arbitration and Procedural Legislation of the State Duma of the Russian Federation;

and, continuing its meeting with Mr Erik Jurgens (Netherlands, SOC), 1st Vice-Chairperson, in the Chair:

- **Secret detentions and illegal transfers of detainees involving Council of Europe member states: Second report** (*Rapporteur: Mr Dick Marty, Switzerland, ALDE*):
 - considered and approved a report and adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation, with a view to presenting them at the June 2007 part-session
 - took note that delegations had the possibility of submitting a dissenting opinion, before 15 June 2007, to be reproduced as an addendum to the report;
 - **Promotion by Council of Europe member states of an international moratorium on the death penalty** (*Rapporteur: Mr Pietro Marcenaro, Italy, SOC*): considered and approved a report and adopted a draft resolution, with a view to presenting them at the June 2007 part-session;
 - **Sub-Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights** (*Chairperson: Mrs Marie-Louise Bemelmans-Videc, Netherlands, EPP/CD*): heard a report by the Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on the meeting held in Paris on 7 June 2007;
 - **Legal recognition of same-sex partnerships in Europe and Freedom of assembly and expression for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered persons in member states** (*Rapporteur: Mr. Andreas Gross, Switzerland, SOC*): considered an introductory memorandum, authorised the Rapporteur to carry out fact-finding visits to Latvia and Poland before the end of the year and decided to ask the Bureau to extend the validity of the reference until the end of 2007;
- (with Mr. Boris Cilevics (Latvia, SOC) in the Chair:)
- **Principle of the rule of law** (*Rapporteur: Mr Erik Jurgens, Netherlands, SOC*): considered and approved a report and adopted a draft resolution, with a view to presenting them at the Standing Committee in Bratislava in November 2007;

- **Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights – stock-taking and perspectives** (*Rapporteur: Mr. Jean-Charles Gardetto, Monaco, EPP/CD*): considered a supplementary introductory memorandum;
- **Appointment of rapporteurs:**
 - *Blasphemy, religious insults and hate speech against persons on grounds of their religion* (for opinion): Mr Jaume Bartumeu Cassany (Andorra, SOC)
 - *Combating anti-Semitism in Europe* (for opinion): Mrs Renate Wohlwend (Liechtenstein, EPP/CD)
 - *Legal remedies for human rights violations in the North-Caucasus Region*: Mr Dick Marty (Switzerland, ALDE) (replacing Mr Paschal Mooney, Ireland, ALDE);
- **Sub-committees:** appointed the following members:
 - *Sub-Committee on Human Rights*: Mr Milos Jevtić (Serbia, SOC)
 - *Sub-Committee on Crime Problems and the Fight against Terrorism*: Mr Jaakko Laakso (Finland, UEL)
 - *Sub-Committee on Rights of Minorities*: Mr Jaakko Laakso (Finland, UEL) as alternate member for Mr Kimmo Sasi;
- **Next meetings:**
 - Strasbourg, during the 3rd part-session of 2007 (25-29 June)
 - Paris, Tuesday 11 September 2007 at 9 h (Council of Europe Office)
 - Strasbourg, during the 4th part-session of 2007 (1-5 October)
 - Paris, Monday 12 November 2007 at 9 h (Council of Europe Office)

The Sub-Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights (of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights), meeting in Paris on 7 June 2007 with Mrs Marie-Louise Bemelmans-Videc (Netherlands, EPP/CE) in the Chair, as regards:

- **List of candidates in respect of Cyprus:** held interviews with the candidates to the European Court of Human Rights on behalf of Cyprus and decided to recommend that the Bureau ask the Cypriot government to submit a new list of candidates;
- **Next meetings:**
 - Paris, Monday 10 September 2007 (15 h – 19 h) (Council of Europe Office) (*to be confirmed*)
 - Paris, Tuesday 11 September 2007 (15 h -19 h) (Council of Europe Office) (*to be confirmed*)
 - Paris, Wednesday 12 September (9 h – 12 h) (Council of Europe Office) (*to be confirmed*)
 - Paris, Monday 17 September 2007 (9 h - 18 h) (Council of Europe Office) (*to be confirmed*)
 - Paris, Tuesday 18 September 2007 (9 h - 18 h) (Council of Europe Office) (*to be confirmed*)

Andrew Drzemczewski, Günter Schirmer, Catherine Maffucci-Hugel, Isild Heurtin

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