



SECRETARIAT

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14 November 2012

## To the members of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

### Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on 12 November 2012

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, meeting in Paris on 12 November 2012 with Mr Christopher Chope (*United Kingdom, EDG*) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Ensuring the viability of the Strasbourg Court: structural deficiencies in States Parties** (*Rapporteur: Mr Serhij Kivalov, Ukraine, EDG*): considered a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation;
- **Access to nationality** (*Rapporteur: Mr Boriss Cilevičs, Latvia, SOC*): considered an introductory memorandum and held a hearing with the participation of:

Professor René de Groot, Professor of Comparative Law and International Private Law, Maastricht University, The Netherlands,  
Ms Inge Sturkenboom, Protection Officer (Statelessness), UNHCR Bureau for Europe, Brussels, Belgium,  
Ms Ivanka Kostic, Representative of the European Network on Statelessness, Executive Director, Praxis, Belgrade, Serbia;

- **Replies from the Committee of Ministers to recommendations emanating from the Committee:** took note of the replies to the following recommendations: “Guaranteeing the authority and effectiveness of the European Convention on Human Rights” and “Combatting all forms of discrimination based on religion”;
- **Appointment of rapporteurs :**
  - i. *Refusing impunity for the killers of Sergei Magnitsky*: appointed Mr Andreas Gross (Switzerland, SOC);
  - ii. *Measures to prevent abusive use of the Convention on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons (ETS no. 112)* (Bureau decision): appointed Mr Renato Farina (Italy, EPP/CD);
  - iii. *Corruption as a threat to the Rule of Law* (Bureau decision – report in the framework of the debate on “the situation of human rights in Europe”, June 2013 – part-session): appointed Ms Mailis Reps (Estonia, ALDE);
  - iv. *The European Convention on Nationality: application and solution proposals* (re-appointment following the departure of Ms Elsa Papadimitriou, Greece, EPP/CD, from the Assembly): appointed Mr Boriss Cilevičs, (Latvia, SOC) and agreed to inform the Bureau of its decision to merge this reference with that concerning “Access to nationality” (rapporteur: also Mr. Cilevičs);
  - v. *Child friendly justice* (opinion) (Rapporteur for the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development: Mr Stefan Schennach, Austria, SOC): appointed Ms Kristien Van Vaerenbergh (Belgium, NI);

– **Other business**

- . Took note of the current work programme;
- . *Access to information and national security* (Rapporteur M. Arcadio Diaz Tejera, (Spain, SOC): agreed to the request of the Rapporteur to seize the Venice Commission for an update of its 2007 opinion on democratic oversight of secret services for the purposes of his current report;

– **Next meetings**

*Plenary Committee:*

- . Paris, 11 December 2012, 9am - 5.30pm (Council of Europe Office)
- . Strasbourg, during the Assembly's 1st part session of 2013 (21-25 January 2013)

Andrew Drzemczewski, Günter Schirmer, Agnieszka Szklanna

cc: Secretary General of the Assembly  
Director General, Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly  
Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly  
Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations  
Secretary General of the Congress  
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers  
Directors General  
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe  
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights  
Director of Communication  
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe