

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON MIGRATION, REFUGEES AND DEMOGRAPHY

SECRETARIAT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Synopsis No. 2003/41

1 April 2003

The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Demography, meeting in Strasbourg on 31 March and 1 April 2003 with Mr Iwiński (Poland, SOC) in the Chair:

as regards:

- *Activities of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) 1998-2002* (Rapporteur: Mr Wilkinson, United Kingdom, EDG): approved a draft report and adopted a preliminary draft recommendation;
- *Colonisation by Turkish settlers of the occupied part of Cyprus* (Rapporteur: Mr Laakso, Finland, UEL): approved a draft report and adopted a preliminary draft recommendation as amended;
- *The humanitarian situation in Iraq*: heard presentations by Mrs Moreau from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Mr Zimmermann from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC);
- *Appointment of Rapporteurs:*
 - Mr Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu (Turkey, EDG): Persons unaccounted for as a result of armed conflicts or internal violence in the Balkans (Doc. 9589);
 - Mr Iwiński (Poland, SOC): A European migration observatory (Doc. 9648);
 - Mr Branger (France, EDG): Clandestine migration from the South of the Mediterranean into Europe (Order No. 563 (2000));
 - Mrs Torrado (Spain, SOC): Protection and assistance for separated children seeking asylum (Doc. 9697);
 - Mr Einarsson (Sweden, UEL): Forced returns of Roma from the former Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including Kosovo, to Serbia and Montenegro from Council of Europe member States (Doc. 9727);

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cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
Director General in the Secretariat of the Assembly
Directors and all 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 of the Council of Europe
Director of Communication and Research
Secretary of the Committee of Ministers
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

- *Links between activities of the Committee and activities of National Parliaments*: heard a statement by the Chair and held an exchange of views;
- *Internal Displacement in Europe* (Rapporteur: Mrs Stoitsits, Austria, SOC): in the absence of the rapporteur took note of the preliminary draft report and was invited to submit comments before the next meeting;
- *Rights of Elderly Migrants* (Rapporteur: Mr Nessa, Italy, EPP): considered a memorandum;
- *The plight of the deported Meskhetian population* (Rapporteur: Mrs Vermot-Mangold, Switzerland, SOC): considered an outline for a report and authorised the rapporteur to visit Russia and Georgia;
- *The situation in Chechnya* (Rapporteur: Mr Iwiński, Poland, SOC): held an exchange of views on the implementation of Order No. 584 (2003) on the evaluation of the prospects for a political solution of the conflict in the Chechen Republic on the basis of a note prepared by the Secretariat, and instructed the Secretariat to investigate the possible organisation, in cooperation with the State Duma, of a Round Table on the humanitarian issues and reconstruction;
- *Links between Europeans living abroad and their countries origin* (Rapporteur: Mrs Bušić, Croatia, EPP): considered a memorandum and took note of a preliminary draft programme for the hearing on the subject to be held in Budapest on 5 May 2003;
- *Joint meeting with the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee*: took note of preliminary draft programmes for the Hearing on the policies for integration of immigrants in Council of Europe member States and the Hearing on Europe's population in 2020 – challenges to social and migration policies to be held in Budapest on 6 May 2003;
- *Priorities and work programme 2003*: took note of the revised priorities and work programme prepared by the Secretariat;
- *Representation of the Committee at various events*:
 - a. *heard the following reports*:
 - Meeting of the Specialist Group on Roma / Gypsies (MG-S-ROM), Strasbourg, 24-25 March 2003: Mr Tkáč (Slovakia, EDG);
 - Meeting of the European Committee on Migration (CDMG), Strasbourg, 25-27 March 2003: Mrs Bušić (Croatia, EPP);
 - b. *appointed the following representatives*:
 - Mr Laakso (Finland, UEL) for the Conference on "Culture in Common – Living Cultures in the Cypriot Communities", Berlin, 22-24 May 2003;
 - Mr Assis Miranda (Portugal, SOC), Mr Vera Jardim (Portugal, SOC), Mr Vieira (Portugal, EPP) and Mr Anacoreta Correia (Portugal, NR) for the Third Council meeting of the Inter-European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (IEPPFD), Lisbon, 26-27 May 2003;
 - Mr Laakso (Finland, UEL), Mrs Zwerver (Netherlands, SOC), Mrs Bušić (Croatia, EPP) and Mrs Vermot-Mangold (Switzerland, SOC) for the Seminar on "Youth and Conflict Resolution", in the framework of the Democratic Leadership Programme (DLP), Round Table, Strasbourg, 2 April 2003, 3 pm (room 3);
- *Replies from the Committee of Ministers*: took note of the reply to Recommendation 1544 (2001) on the *Propiska* system applied to migrants, asylum seekers and refugees in Council of Europe member states: effects and remedies (Doc. 9723);

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– *Next meetings:*

- St. George's Bay (Malta), 10-11 April 2003, *Sub-Committee on Migration* (in the framework of the Conference on "Migration in the Mediterranean: Prospects for the future")
- Budapest, 5-6 May 2003 , Plenary Committee, Hearing on the links between Europeans living abroad and their countries of origin, and Joint meeting with the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee: Hearing on the policies for the integration of immigrants in Council of Europe member States and Hearing on Europe's population 2020 – challenges to social and migration policies
- Strasbourg, during the 3rd part of the session 2003 (23-27 June 2003)
- Brussels, 6 or 7 October 2003, European Parliament Hearing on the consequences of Enlargement for the Schengen Agreement (*subject to confirmation and authorisation by the Bureau*)
- Istanbul, 11-12 September 2003, *Sub-Committee on Refugees* (*subject to confirmation and authorisation by the Bureau*)
- Strasbourg, during the 4th part of the session 2003 (29 September – 3 October 2003)
- Cyprus, 20-22 October 2003 (*subject to authorisation by the Bureau*)
- Paris or Brussels*, 4-5 or 9-10 December 2003 (*subject to confirmation and *authorisation by the Bureau*).

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