

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

SECRETARIAT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Synopsis No. 2003/118

30 September 2003

The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population, meeting in Strasbourg on 26, 29 and 30 September 2003, with first Mr Iwiński (Poland, SOC) and then Mrs de Zulueta (Italy, SOC) and Mrs Bušić (Croatia, EPP/CD) in the Chair:

As regards:

- *Name of the Committee and Sub-Committee on Population*: took note of the change of the name of the Committee and consequently of the Sub-Committee;
- *Common policy on migration and asylum* (Rapporteur: Mr Hancock, United Kingdom, LDR): took position on the amendments;
- *Policies for the integration of immigrants in Council of Europe member states* (Rapporteur: Mrs Zwerver, Netherlands, SOC): took note that there were no amendments;
- *Internal displacement in Europe* (Rapporteur: Mrs Stoitsits, Austria, SOC): adopted a preliminary draft recommendation, as amended, and approved a draft report;
- *Forced returns of Roma from the former Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including Kosovo, to Serbia and Montenegro from Council of Europe member States* (Rapporteur: Mr Einarsson, Sweden, UEL): held an exchange of views with Mr Erich BERTSCHI, Deputy Head of Section of the Division of Asylum Procedures, Federal Office for Refugees, Switzerland and Mr Volker SCHÜRMANN, Federal Ministry of the Interior, Germany, and considered a preliminary draft report;
- *Access to assistance and protection for asylum seekers at European seaports and coastal areas* (Rapporteur: Mr Danieli, Italy, LDR): in the absence of the Rapporteur, took note of a draft report;
- *Links between Europeans living abroad and their countries origin* (Rapporteur: Mrs Bušić, Croatia, EPP/CD): held an exchange of views with Mrs Joëlle GARRIAUD-MAYLAM, 1st Vice-Chair of the High Council for French Expatriates, United Kingdom, the Channel Islands and Republic of Ireland and Mr Andy SUNDBERG, Chairman, American Citizens Abroad, and considered a preliminary draft report;
- *Situation of refugees and displaced persons in the Russian Federation and other CIS countries* (Rapporteur: Mr Iwiński, Poland, SOC): took note of a memorandum;

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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

- *The plight of the deported Meskhetian population* (Rapporteur: Mrs Vermot-Mangold, Switzerland, SOC): held an exchange of views with Mrs Pascale MOREAU, Senior Liaison Officer, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and Mr Süleyman BARBAKADZE, Chairman, VATAN, and considered a memorandum;
- *Persons unaccounted for as a result of armed conflicts or internal violence in the Balkans* (Rapporteur: Mr Çavuşoğlu, Turkey, EDG): heard an account of the Rapporteur on his visit to the ICRC's Headquarters in Geneva (24 September 2003), considered fact sheets and authorised its Rapporteur to attend a conference organised by the ICRC in Geneva (2-6 December 2003) for the preparation of his report;
- *The situation in Chechnya* (Rapporteur: Mr Iwiński, Poland, SOC): held an exchange of views on the holding of a Round Table on humanitarian aid, assistance to displaced persons and on reconstruction prospects in the Chechen Republic and heard a statement by Mrs Pascale MOREAU, Senior Liaison Officer, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), on the displaced people in Ingushetia;
- *External relation of the Parliamentary Assembly*: held an exchange of views;
- *Situation of refugees and migrants in Turkey*: heard an oral report by Mr Branger on the meeting of the Sub-Committee on Refugees (Istanbul, 18-19 September 2003);
- *Public Seminar on "the Schengen convention: the development of the Schengen information system (SIS II) and data protection: which strategy for the future?" (Brussels, 6 October 2003)*: took note of the draft programme;
- *First Euro-Mediterranean parliamentary forum on migration (Limassol, 20-22 October 2003)*: held an exchange of views on the draft programme;
- *Priorities and work programme 2003*: took note of the revised work programme
- *Composition of the sub-Committees*: took note of the modifications;
- *Representation of the Committee at various events*:
 - a. heard the following reports:
 - Hearing on Education of refugees and displaced persons in Europe, organised by the Committee on Culture, Science and Education, Budapest, 9-10 September 2003: Mr Dačić (Serbia and Montenegro, SOC)
 - Conference "Foreigners' integration and participation in European cities", jointly organised by the city of Stuttgart and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe (CLRAE), Stuttgart, 15-16 September 2003: Mrs Zwerver (Netherlands, SOC)
 - b. appointed the following representatives:
 - Mr Iwiński (Poland, SOC) and the Ukrainian members and alternates of the Committee for the 4th Regional Conference on "Migration policies on the eve of the EU enlargement: what challenges for future co-operation within the East European region", Kiev, 9-10 October 2003
 - took note that Mrs Zwerver (Netherlands, SOC) had been invited to the Forum 2003 - "Social cohesion or public security: how should Europe respond to collective feelings of insecurity?", organised by the Council of Europe's Social Cohesion Development Division, Strasbourg, 23-24 October 2003 (without any expenses for the Parliamentary Assembly)
 - Mr Einarsson (Sweden, UEL) for the Meeting of the Specialist Group on Roma / Gypsies (MG-S-ROM), Heidelberg, 23-24 end November 2003 (subject to availability of funds)

- Mr Tkáč (Slovakia, EDG) and Mr Popa (Romania, SOC) for the 6th meeting of the European Population Committee (CAHP), Strasbourg, 1-3 December 2003 (subject to availability of funds)
 - Mr Iwiński (Poland, SOC) or Mr Einarsson (Sweden, UEL) for the 46th Meeting of the European Committee on Migration (CDMG), Rotterdam, 8-10 December 2003
- *Appointment of rapporteurs*: decided to postpone this point to the next meeting;
- *European inter-Parliamentary Network on Migration and Refugees*: was informed by the Chair on the development of relations with Committees of National Parliaments working with a view to establish an electronic information system between interested Committees;
- *Activities of the Committee of Ministers*: took note of replies to:
- Recommendation 1564 (2002) – State of the world population
 - Recommendation 1577 (2002) – Creation of a charter of intent on clandestine migration
 - Recommendation 1587 (2002) – Residence, legal status and freedom of movement of migrant workers in Europe: lessons from the case of Portugal
 - Recommendation 1596 (2003) – Situation of young migrants in Europe
- *Migration Policies of Mexico*: accepted an invitation by the Mexican Parliament to hold a meeting of the plenary Committee in Mexico in spring 2004 (subject to authorisation by the Bureau);
- *Next meetings*:
- Brussels, 6 October 2003, Public Seminar on "The Schengen convention: the development of the Schengen information system (SIS II) and data protection: which strategy for the future?"
 - Cyprus, 20-22 October 2003
 - Strasbourg, 4 December 2003, Sub-Committee on Population (to be confirmed)
 - Paris, 5 December 2003 (to be confirmed)
 - Paris, 19 January 2004, European Day: asylum, migration and refugees (to be confirmed)

Halvor LERVIK, Agnieszka NACHILO, Catherine ENTZMINGER