



# Parliamentary Assembly Assemblée parlementaire

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

SECRETARIAT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

### Synopsis No. 2004/094

14 September 2004

**The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population**, meeting in Paris on 13 September 2004, with first Mrs de Zulueta (Italy, SOC) and then Mr Wilkinson (United Kingdom, EDG) in the Chair:

As regards:

- *Terrorist attack in Beslan*: held a minute's silence in memory of the victims;
- *The humanitarian situation of the Chechen displaced population* (Rapporteur: Mr Iwiński, Poland, SOC): heard a statement by the Rapporteur on his fact-finding visit in the region (28-31 August 2004), approved a draft report, and adopted a draft resolution as amended;
- *Asylum seekers and irregular migrants in Turkey* (Rapporteur: Mr Aliyev, Azerbaijan, SOC): considered a preliminary draft report;
- *Integration difficulties of immigrants as a potential threat to the fundamental values of the Council of Europe* (Rapporteur: Mr Branger, France, EPP/CD): considered a preliminary draft report and decided to modify the title of the report as follows: "*Migration and integration: a challenge and opportunity for Europe*";
- *Accelerated asylum procedures in Council of Europe member states* (Rapporteur: Mr Agramunt Font de Mora, Spain, EPP/CD): considered a revised memorandum;
- *Human rights of irregular migrants* (Rapporteur: Mr van Thijn, Netherlands, SOC): considered an outline for a report, and authorised the Rapporteur's visit to Geneva in order to meet representatives of the IOM and the ILO;
- *Policy of return for failed asylum seekers in the Netherlands* (Rapporteur: Mrs Zapfl-Helbling, Switzerland, EPP/CD): heard a statement by the Rapporteur;
- *Priorities and work programme 2004*: held an exchange of views;
- *Appointment of rapporteurs*: appointed:
  - The follow-up to Recommendation 1570 (2002) on the situation of refugees and displaced persons in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia: Mr Cilevičs (Latvia, SOC)
  - Integration of migrant women in Europe (**for opinion**): Mrs Stoisits (Austria, SOC)
  - The situation of migrant workers in temporary employment agencies: Mr Skarphéðinsson (Iceland, SOC)

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

- *Representation of the Committee to various events:*
  - Seminar on the Situation of separated minors in Europe organised by the Commissioner for Human Rights (Strasbourg, 24 June 2004): heard a statement by the Chairman of the Committee
- *Appointment of representatives:* appointed:
  - 48<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the European Committee on Migration (CDMG) (Strasbourg, 24-26 November 2004): Mr Iwiński (Poland, SOC) and Mr Kvakkestad (Norway, EDG);
  - Meeting of the European Population Committee (CAHP) (Strasbourg, 1-3 December 2004): Mr Tkáč (Slovakia, EDG) and Mr Popa (Romania, SOC); as well as Mr Kirilov (Bulgaria, SOC) (*with no costs for the Parliamentary Assembly*).
- *Replies from the Committee of Ministers:* took note of the replies to the following Recommendations:
  - Recommendation 1624 (2003) – Common policy on migration and asylum
  - Recommendation 1631 (2003) – Internal displacement in Europe
  - Recommendation 1633 (2003) – Forced returns of Roma from the former Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, including Kosovo, to Serbia and Montenegro from the Council of Europe member states
- *Dates and places of the next meetings:* decided to hold its meeting as follows:

*Plenary Committee:*

- Strasbourg, during the 4<sup>th</sup> Part-Session 2004 (4-8 October 2004)
- Geneva, 4-5 November 2004
- Paris, 6-7 December 2004

*Sub-Committee on Migration:*

- Istanbul, 30 September – 1 October 2004: Regional Conference on "Migrants in transit countries: sharing responsibility for management and protection" organised by the CDMG

*Sub-Committee on Population:*

- Bratislava, 23-24 September 2004: Parliamentary Seminar on Demographic challenges for social cohesion with specific focus on central and eastern Europe to prepare the European Conference on Population 2005 (in cooperation with the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee)
- Strasbourg, 18-19 October 2004: Meeting of the Sub-Committee on Population (and of the Sub-Committee on Health) in the framework of the International Parliamentary Conference on Population and Development organised by the Inter-European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (IEPPFD)

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