

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

SECRETARIAT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Synopsis No. 2007/CB/MIG 03

23 April 2007

The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population, meeting in Strasbourg, on 16, 17 and 19 April 2007, with Mr Çavuşoğlu (Turkey, EDG) in the Chair,

As regards:

- **A new response to migratory flows:** appointed Mrs Jonker (Netherlands, EPP/CD) Rapporteur, considered a preliminary draft report and decided to modify the title as follows: *Transit and processing centres as a response to mixed flows of migrants and asylum seekers*;
- **State of human rights and democracy in Europe** (Rapporteur for opinion: Mr van Thijn, Netherlands, SOC): considered its draft opinion and approved 7 proposals for amendments to the draft Recommendation and to the draft Resolution proposed by the Rapporteur;
- **Regularisation programmes for irregular migrants** (Rapporteur: Mr Greenway, United Kingdom, EDG): heard a statement by the Rapporteur on his fact-finding visit to Madrid on 19 March 2007, held an exchange of views with Mr Postavnin, Deputy Head of the Migration Services of the Russian Federation, and decided to return to this issue at its next meeting;
- **Migration and mobility in the Eurasian region – prospects for the future** (Rapporteur: Mr Özal, Turkey, EPP/CD): heard a statement by Mr Postavnin and decided to return to this issue at a future meeting;
- **Situation of longstanding refugees and displaced persons in South-East Europe** (Rapporteur: Mr Dendias, Greece, EPP/CD): heard a statement by the Rapporteur on his fact-finding visit to Croatia and Bosnia and Herzegovina (12-14 and 15-16 March 2007), considered a preliminary draft report and held an exchange of views with Mr Udo Janz, Deputy Director, Bureau for Europe, UNHCR;
- **Missing persons in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia from the conflicts over the Nagorno-Karabakh, Abkhazia and South Ossetia regions** (Rapporteur, Mr Platvoet, Netherlands, UEL): approved an amendment to the draft Resolution proposed by the Rapporteur;
- **Unexpected large scale arrival of migrants and asylum seekers in Europe** (Rapporteur: Mr Østergaard, Denmark, ALDE): took note of three documents prepared by the rapporteur: an outline for the report, a list of questions for the authorities of states receiving mass arrivals and guidelines for carrying out a visit, and decided to return to this issue at its next meeting;
- **Activities and orientations of the Council of Europe Development Bank** (Rapporteur: Mr Propoković, Serbia, EPP/CD): heard a statement by the Rapporteur and decided to return to this issue at its next meeting;

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

- **First Euro-Asian / Euro-Mediterranean parliamentary forum on migration**, organised by the Sub-Committee on Migration and the Parliament of Turkey (Antalya, 11-12 June 2007): heard a presentation of the programme of the Forum by its Chair;
- **Council of Europe Forum on the future of democracy, on the theme “Power and empowerment – the interdependence of democracy and Human Rights”** (Stockholm/Sigtuna, 13-15 June 2007): appointed the following delegation as part of the *Ad Hoc* Committee of the Bureau: Mrs Cliveti (Romania, SOC), Mr Kyprianou (Cyprus, UEL) and Mr Preda (Romania, EPP/CD);
- **Activities of the International Organization for Migration (IOM)** (*Rapporteur: Mrs Hajiyeva, Azerbaijan, EPP/CD*): considered a preliminary draft report and decided to return to the issue in June;
- **Sub-Committees:**
 - Sub-Committee on Migration: appointed Mr Cilevičs (Latvia, SOC) as a member;
 - Sub-Committee on Refugees: appointed Mrs Jonker (Netherlands, EPP/CD) as a member;
- **Work programme:**
 - Appointment of Rapporteurs:
 - . *Activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)*: appointed Mr Hancock (United Kingdom, ALDE);
 - . *The OECD and the world economy (for opinion)*: appointed Mr Keskin (Germany, UEL)
 - Representation of the Committee at various events:
 - Statements:
 - . *Conference « Towards a Euro-Mediterranean Region Full of Chances : Euro Med Free Trade Area 2010 and a common Migration Strategy »* (Tunis, 18-19 March 2007): heard a statement by its Chair;
 - . heard a statement by its Chair on his *visit to Kazakhstan (4-6 April 2007)* ;
 - Appointments:
 - *Seminar on the Intercultural dialogue and migration - migrants: actors and vectors of dialogue*, organised by the North-South Centre (Lisbon, 21-22 May 2007) : interested member(s) of the Portuguese delegation, without cost to the Assembly;
 - *8th Colloquy of EKIR (Protestant Church in the Rheinland), CEPPLÉ (Association of Protestant Churches) and ERF (Reformed Church)* (Lisbon, 13-16 September 2007): Mrs Vermot-Mangold (Switzerland, SOC) and interested member(s) of the Portuguese delegation, without cost to the Assembly.
- **Replies from the Committee of Ministers to texts adopted by the Assembly presented by the Committee:** took note of the replies to the following recommendations:
 - *Rec. 1748 (2006)* - Working migration from the countries of Eastern and Central Europe: present state and perspectives
 - *Rec. 1749 (2006)* - Demographic challenges for social cohesion
 - *Rec. 1757 (2006)* - Migration, refugees and population in the context of the Third Summit of Heads of State and Government of Member States of the Council of Europe

– **Next meetings:** decided to hold its next meetings as follows:

Plenary Committee:

- Athens, 10-11 May 2007
- Strasbourg, during the 3rd part of the Session 2007 (25-29 June 2007)
- Strasbourg, during the 4th part of the Session 2007 (1-5 October 2007)
- Paris, 14 December 2007

Sub-Committee on Migration:

- Antalya (Turkey), 11-12 June 2007

Sub-Committee on Refugees:

- Belgrade (Serbia), 29-30 October 2007 – participation in the meeting on the situation of Roma IDPs in Serbia, organised by DGIII (to be confirmed and subject to authorisation by the Bureau)

Halvor Lervik, Mark Neville, Dana Karanjac Olga Kostenko