



SECRETARIAT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

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

Synopsis AS/MIG/2009/CB/03

30 April 2009

The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population, meeting in Strasbourg, on 27 and 28 April 2009:

• **ON 27 APRIL 2009, AT 2.00 PM**, with Mr Agramunt (Spain, EPP/CD), then Mrs Jonker (Netherlands, EPP/CD) in the chair, *as regards*:

– **Humanitarian consequences of the war between Georgia and Russia: follow-up to be given to Resolution 1648 (2009)** (*Rapporteur: Mrs Jonker, Netherlands, EPP/CD*): took position on the amendments proposed by the rapporteur on behalf of the Committee:

– **Migrants and refugees: a continuing challenge for the Council of Europe** (*Rapporteur: Mrs Fiala, Switzerland, ALDE*): heard a statement by the rapporteur on her fact-finding visit to Strasbourg, on 23-24 March 2009;

• **ON 28 APRIL 2009, AT 8.30 AM**, with Mrs Jonker (Netherlands, EPP/CD) in the chair, *as regards*:

– **Relations with Parliaments of Mediterranean countries**: heard presentations by delegations from Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia and held an exchange of views;

– **Unaccompanied minors in Europe: issues of arrival, stay and return** (*Rapporteur: Mrs Reps, Estonia, ALDE*): heard a statement by the rapporteur on her fact-finding visit to the Netherlands, on 25 March 2009, and held an exchange of views with Mrs de Boer-Buquicchio, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe;

– **Protecting the human rights of long-term displaced persons in Europe** (*Rapporteur: Mr Greenway, United Kingdom, EDG*): heard a statement by the rapporteur, considered a draft memorandum and requested its chair to ask the President of the Assembly to invite Mr Walter Kälin, Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons, to make an intervention during the June 2009 part-session of the Assembly;

– **Readmission agreements: a mechanism for returning irregular migrants** (*Rapporteur: Mrs Strik, Netherlands, SOC*): heard a statement by the rapporteur and took note of the draft programme of the hearing scheduled in Paris, on 27 May 2009;

– **Human rights implications for voluntary return policies and programme for irregular migrants**: (*Rapporteur: Mrs Türköne, Turkey, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the rapporteur and authorised her to carry out a fact-finding visit to the Czech Republic and to the United Kingdom, subject to the availability of funds;

– **Solving property issues of refugees and displaced persons** (*Rapporteur: Mr Poulsen, Denmark, ALDE*): heard a statement by the rapporteur, took note that he would like to have the assistance of an expert in the preparation of his report and authorised him to carry out a fact-finding visit to Bosnia and Herzegovina, subject to the availability of funds;

cc: Secretary General and secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly
Observers to the Assembly
Secretary General of the Congress
Directors General
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Director of Communication
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

- **Improving the quality and consistency of asylum decisions in the Council of Europe Member States** (*Rapporteur: Mr Cilevičs, Latvia, SOC*): heard a statement by the rapporteur ;
- **The protection of Camp Ashraf residents**: took note of a statement issued by its Chair and decided not to draft a report on this item;
- **Work programme**
 - **Appointment of rapporteurs:**
 - The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the global economy 2009 (for opinion): appointed Mr Agramunt (Spain, EPP/CD) ;
 - **Representation of the Committee at various events:**

Appointments:

 - 57th Meeting of the CDMG (Strasbourg, 28-29 May 2009): appointed Mrs Fiala (Switzerland, ALDE) – subject to the availability of funds;
 - Forum for the Future of Democracy (Kiev, 21-23 October 2009) – *Ad Hoc* Committee of the Bureau: appointed Mrs Curtis-Thomas (United Kingdom, SOC), Mr Diaz Tejera, Spain, SOC), Mr Greenway, (United Kingdom, EDG), Mr Hancock (United Kingdom, ALDE) and Mrs Reps (Estonia, ALDE), as members of the *Ad Hoc* Committee ;
 - **ON 28 APRIL 2009, AT 2.00 PM**, with Mr Henderson (United Kingdom, SOC), then Mrs Jonker (Netherlands, EPP/CD) in the chair, *as regards*:
 - **Humanitarian consequences of the war between Georgia and Russia: follow-up to be given to Resolution 1648 (2009)** (*Rapporteur: Mrs Jonker, Netherlands, EPP/CD*): took position on the amendments to the draft resolution and to the draft recommendation;
 - **Relations with UNHCR**: heard a statement by Mr Beer, Representative of UNHCR to the European Institutions in Strasbourg ;
 - **Next meetings**: decided to hold its next meetings as follows:

Plenary Committee

- Paris, 27 May 2009
- Strasbourg, during the 3rd part of the session 2009 (22-26 June 2009)
- Strasbourg, during the 4th part of the session 2009 (28 September-2 October 2009)
- Brussels, 2-3 November 2009 (*to be confirmed and subject to authorisation by the Bureau*)
- Paris, 9-10 December 2009 (*to be confirmed*)

Sub-Committee on Migration

- Malta, October 2009 (*to be confirmed and subject to authorisation by the Bureau*)

Mark Neville, Ivi Odrats, Carl Ekström, Catherine Meredith