



SECRETARIAT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

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

Synopsis AS/MIG/2009/CB/09

15 December 2009

The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population, meeting in Paris, on 9 December 2009, with Mrs Jonker (Netherlands, EPP/CD) in the Chair, *as regards*:

- **Detention of asylum seekers and irregular migrants in Europe** (*Rapporteur: Mrs Mendonça, Portugal, SOC*): in the absence of the rapporteur, heard a statement by its Chair, approved the draft report unanimously and adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation, as amended;
- **Solving property issues of refugees and displaced persons** (*Rapporteur: Mr Poulsen, Denmark, ALDE*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur, approved the draft report unanimously and adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation, as amended;
- **Human rights implications for voluntary return policies and programme for irregular migrants** (*Rapporteur: Mrs Türköne, Turkey, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the rapporteur on her fact-finding visit to the United Kingdom (25-26 November 2009), authorised her to carry out a fact-finding visit to Calais (France) and requested its Chair to ask the Bureau to extend the validity of the reference until 30 June 2010;
- **Cooperation with the UNHCR**: heard a presentation by Mr Olivier BEER, UNHCR Representative to the European Institutions in Strasbourg;
- **Work programme:**
 - Appointment of rapporteurs:
 - Preventing harm to refugees and migrants in extradition and expulsion cases: Rule 39 indications by the European Court of Human Rights: appointed Mr Darchiashvili (Georgia, EPP/CD)
 - The impact of the global economic crisis on migration in Europe: appointed Mr Agramunt (Spain, EPP/CD)
 - Population transfer as a human rights violation (for opinion): appointed Mr Türkeş, (Turkey, EDG);
 - Representation of the Committee at various events: appointed:
 - COP15 Climate change conference Copenhagen 2009 – conference on “Climate Change and Migration: Transformations or Humanitarian Crises” (in the framework of “Development and climate days”) – Copenhagen, 12 December 2009: appointed Mrs Acketoft (Sweden, ALDE) – *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

- **Ad Hoc Committees of the Bureau:**
 - a. **Ad Hoc Committee of the Bureau to take part in the Forum on early warning in conflict prevention** (Strasbourg, 24-25 September 2009): heard a statement by Mr Lindblad (Sweden, EPP/CD);
 - b. **Ad Hoc Committee to take part in the Forum for the Future of Democracy** (Kiev, 21-23 October 2009): heard a statement Mr Lindblad (Sweden, EPP/CD);
 - d. **Ad Hoc Committee to take part in the Joint parliamentary meeting on “Building a citizens’ Europe”** (Brussels, 16-17 November 2009): heard a statement Mr Lindblad (Sweden, EPP/CD);
 - e. **Ad Hoc Committee to take part in a conference organised jointly by the PACE and the IPU on the theme of “Migration and violence against women”** (Paris, 10-11 December 2009): heard a presentation by the Mr Zernovski (“The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, ALDE) and appointed Mr Huss (Luxembourg, SOC) member of the *Ad Hoc* Committee;

- **Replies from the Committee of Ministers to texts adopted by the Assembly presented by the Committee:** took note of the following replies:
 - Assessment of transit and procession centres as a response to mixed flows of migrants and asylum seekers – Reply to Recommendation 1808 (2007)
 - Environmentally induced migration and displacement: a 21st century challenge – Reply to Recommendation 1862 (2009);

- **Other business:**
 - held an exchange of views on the recent referendum in Switzerland concerning the construction of minarets and the recent decision of the European Court of Human Rights on the display of crucifixes in public schools in Italy;
 - decided to invite the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to a future meeting of the Committee;
 - held an exchange of views on holding a joint conference with the UN, including UNHCR, on *Migration and refugees: a permanent challenge*;

- **Next meetings:** decided to hold its next meetings as follows:
 - Strasbourg, during the 1st part of the session 2010 (25-29 January 2010)
 - Paris, 23-24 March 2010 (to be confirmed).

Mark Neville, Ivi Odrats, Carl Ekström