



SECRETARIAT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

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

Synopsis AS/MIG/2010/CB/03

30 April 2010

The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population, meeting in Strasbourg, on 27 and 29 April 2010, with Mr Greenway (United Kingdom, EDG) in the Chair,

- **ON TUESDAY, 27 APRIL, FROM 2 TO 3 PM, as regards:**
 - ***The impact of the global economic crisis on migration in Europe*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Agramunt, Spain, EPP/CD*): took note that no amendments were tabled to the draft resolution and to the draft recommendation;
 - ***Human rights implications for voluntary return policies and programme for irregular migrants*** (*Rapporteur: Mrs Türköne, Turkey, EPP/CD*): in the absence of the rapporteur, heard a statement by its Chair, decided to change the title of the report to “Voluntary return programmes: an effective, humane and cost effective mechanism for returning irregular migrants” and to consider the report for approval at its next meeting in Paris, on 18 May 2010;
 - ***Preventing harm to refugees and migrants in extradition and expulsion cases: Rule 39 indications by the European Court of Human Rights*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Darchiavshvili, Georgia, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the rapporteur on the programme of the hearing organised by the Sub-Committee on Refugees on 28 April 2010;
 - ***The demographic future of Europe and migration*** (*Rapporteur: Ms Hajibayli, Azerbaijan, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the rapporteur on the hearing held in Paris on 31 March 2010 and decided to request its Chair to ask the Bureau to extend the validity of the reference until 31 December 2010;
 - ***Unaccompanied minors in Europe: issues of arrival, stay and return*** (*Rapporteur: Ms Reps, Estonia, ALDE*): heard a statement by the rapporteur, decided to request its Chair to ask the Bureau to extend the validity of the reference until 31 December 2010 ;
- **ON THURSDAY, 29 APRIL, FROM 8.30 TO 10 AM, as regards:**
 - ***Case of Labsi v. Slovakia***: was informed about a joint declaration issued by its Chair and the Chair of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights on the decision taken by the Slovak authorities to extradite Mustapha Labsi to Algeria on 19 April 2010, ignoring a binding interim measure ordered by the European Court of Human Rights that this applicant should not be extradited to Algeria;
 - ***Migrants and refugees: a continuing challenge for the Council of Europe*** (*Rapporteur: Ms Fiala, Switzerland, ALDE*): heard a statement by its Chair and by the rapporteur on their meeting with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on 28 April and approved the proposed amendments to the draft recommendation;

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

- **Exchange of views with members of the CDMG:** held an exchange of views on the future of migration activities in the Council of Europe with a delegation from the CDMG composed of Mr Michel VILLAN (Belgium), Chair of the CDMG, Mr Michel HAGOS (Sweden), Mr Chris HEDGES (United Kingdom), Ms Nassia IOANNOU (Greece) and Mr Erik MOSLI (Norway);
- **Roma asylum seekers in Council of Europe Member States** (*Rapporteur: Mr Pupovac, Croatia, SOC*): heard a statement by the rapporteur and held an exchange of views on the basis of a memorandum;
- **Asylum and gender-based persecution** (*Rapporteur: Mr Zernovski, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, ALDE*): heard a statement by the rapporteur on his fact-finding visit in Geneva, on 9 April 2010, to meet international organisations, and authorised him to carry out a fact-finding visit to Brussels, in the framework of the preparation of the report, subject to the availability of funds;
- **The humanitarian consequences of the war between Georgia and Russia: implementation of Resolutions 1648 (2009) and 1664 (2009)** (*Rapporteur: Ms Jonker, Netherlands, EPP/CD*): heard from the rapporteur her plans for a fact-finding visit to Georgia, including the regions of South Ossetia and Abkhazia, in the second or the third week of June;
- **Work programme:**
 - Appointment of a rapporteur:
Demographic winter and the future of Europe: decided to postpone this item to the next Committee meeting in Paris, on 18 May 2010;
 - Representation of the Committee at various events:
Conference on linguistic integration of adult migrants (Council of Europe, Strasbourg, 24-25 June 2010): appointed Ms Strik, Netherlands, SOC, at no cost to the Assembly;
- **Replies from the Committee of Ministers to texts adopted by the Assembly presented by the Committee:** took note of the reply to Recommendation 1850 (2008) on “Europe’s « boat-people » : mixed migration flows by sea into Southern Europe”;
- **ON THURSDAY, 29 APRIL, FROM 2.30 TO 3 PM, as regards:**
 - **Migrants and refugees: a continuing challenge for the Council of Europe** (*Rapporteur: Ms Fiala, Switzerland, ALDE*): took position on the amendments tabled to the draft recommendation;
 - **Next meetings:** decided to hold its next meetings as follows:
 - Plenary Committee:
 - Paris, 18 May 2010
 - Strasbourg, during the Third part-session 2010 (21-25 June 2010)
 - “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, 16-17 September 2010 (to be confirmed and subject to authorisation by the Bureau)
 - Strasbourg, during the Fourth part-session 2010 (4-8 October 2010)
 - Paris, 7-8 December 2010 (to be confirmed)
 - Sub-Committee on Migration:
 - Lisbon (Portugal), 31 May – 1 June 2010 – participation in the Conference on Human rights and migration (to be confirmed and subject to authorisation by the Bureau).

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The Sub-Committee on Refugees, meeting in Strasbourg on 28 April 2010, from 2 to 3 pm, with Ms Fiala (Switzerland, ALDE) in the Chair, *as regards*:

– **Election of the Vice-Chair**: elected Ms Hajibayli (Azerbaijan, EPP/CD) Vice-Chairperson by acclamation;

– **Hearing on “Preventing harm to refugees and migrants in extradition and expulsion cases: Rule 39 indications by the European Court of Human Rights”** (Rapporteur: Mr Darchiavshvili, Georgia, EPP/CD): took part in the hearing, with the participation of:

- Ms Liselot EGMOND, Deputy Government Agent (Netherlands)
- Ms Elisabet FURA, Judge, European Court of Human Rights (Sweden)
- Ms Catherine MEREDITH, Barrister (UK), AIRE Centre, specialising in human rights and refugee law
- Mr Stan NAISMITH, Deputy Section Register, Registry of the European Court of Human Rights

– **Next meeting**: left it to its Chair to convene the next meeting.

Mark Neville, Ivi Odrats, Carl Ekström