



SECRETARIAT

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19 September 2012

## To the members of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons

### Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on 14 September 2012

The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons, meeting in Paris, with Mr Giacomo Santini (Italy, EPP/CD) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Debate under urgent procedure:** decided to request that a debate under urgent procedure on the “European response to the humanitarian crisis in Syria” be held during the fourth part-session in October 2012;
- **For more democratic elections** (*Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Giacomo Santini, Italy, EPP/CD*): considered and approved a draft opinion;
- **Status of chairpersons of political groups in Assembly committees:** held an exchange of views on the basis of the letter of Mr Diaz Tejera, Rapporteur on “the status of chairpersons of political groups in Assembly committees”, and asked the Chair to inform the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs on the position taken by the Committee;
- **Management of mixed migration and asylum challenges beyond the European Union’s Eastern border** (*Rapporteur: Mr Andrea Rigoni, Italy, ALDE*): took note of the report of the Rapporteur on his fact-finding visit to Ukraine (4-6 July 2012);
- **FRONTEX and human rights implications of Europe’s border security** (*Rapporteur: Mr Mikael Cederbratt, Sweden, EPP/CD*): approved the declassification of the memorandum, and agreed a change of title to “Frontex: the need to improve its human rights role and capabilities”;
- **Missing persons from Europe’s conflicts: the long road to finding humanitarian answers** (*Rapporteur: Mr Jim Sheridan, United Kingdom, SOC*): considered a memorandum and held an exchange of views; authorised the Rapporteur to carry out a fact-finding visit to Geneva, in the framework of the preparation of his report and received from the Rapporteur a statement of non-conflict of interest.
- **Detention of unaccompanied and accompanied children:** held a round table with the participation of :
  - ✓ Ms Marie Derain, Children’s Commissioner, Deputy to the Ombudsman, Vice-President of the college responsible for defending and promoting the rights of the child, France;
  - ✓ Ms Krista Zongolowicz, Country Director, Danish Refugee Council, Ukraine;
  - ✓ Mr Jeroen Van Hove, Coordinator for the Global Campaign to End Immigration Detention of Children, International Detention Coalition (IDC); and
  - ✓ Mr Olivier Beer, Representative, UNHCR to the European Institutions;

- **The war between Georgia and Russia: the humanitarian situation in the war-affected areas** (*Rapporteur: Ms Tina Acketoft, Sweden, ALDE*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur;
- **Trafficking of migrant workers for forced labour: time for a closer look** (*Rapporteur: Ms Annette Groth, Germany, UEL*): considered a memorandum, agreed a change of title to “Trafficking of migrant workers for forced labour” and held an exchange of views on the basis of statements by:
  - ✓ Mr Knut Brattvik, Former Senior Officer, Interpol, Police Superintendent, National Police of Norway;
  - ✓ Ms Joanne van der Leun, Professor, Leiden University, Leiden Law School, Criminology, Netherlands;
- **Outline for the guidelines for Parliamentarians on visiting places of detention of irregular migrants and asylum seekers**: held an exchange of views on the basis of a statement by Ms Annette Groth (Germany, UEL), Vice-Chairperson of the Sub Committee on Detention and took note of the Outline for the guidelines;
- **Roma migrants in Europe - Follow-up** (*Rapporteur: Ms Annette Groth, Germany, UEL*): held an exchange of views on the basis of a statement by the rapporteur;
- **Alternatives to Europe’s sub-standard IDP collective centres** (*Rapporteur: Mr René Rouquet, France, SOC*): considered an outline for a report, and authorised the rapporteur to carry out a fact-finding visit to the Russian Federation and Azerbaijan, as well as to meet with representatives of the Council of Europe Development Bank in Paris;
- **Integration of migrants: is Europe failing?** (*Rapporteur: Ms Pelin Gündeş Bakir, Turkey, EDG*): in the absence of the Rapporteur, agreed *ex post facto* to her fact-finding visit to Brussels (12-13 September 2012);
- **Effective and fair returns of irregular migrants and failed asylum seekers** (*Rapporteur: Ms Anne-Mari Virolainen, Finland, EPP/CD*): held an exchange of views on the basis of a statement by the rapporteur and noted her intention to carry out a visit to a detention centre in Finland;
- **Appointment of rapporteurs:**
  - *The right to work for refugees*: Mr Christopher Chope (United Kingdom, EDG)
  - *Migrants: a benefit or a burden for our society*: Ms Athina Kyriakidou (Cyprus, SOC). Heard a declaration of absence of conflict of interest from the rapporteur.
- **Representation of the Committee:**
  - appointed Mr Christopher Chope (United Kingdom, EDG) to participate in the Joint Colloquium of Council of Europe/UNHCR on “the Right to work for refugees”, Strasbourg, 27 September 2012 (subject to the availability of funds);
  - appointed Ms Mailis Reps (Estonia, ALDE) to participate in the Day of General Discussion on “the Rights of all Children” in the context of International Migration, United Nations, Geneva, 28 September 2012 (subject to the availability of funds).
- **Representation of the Committee - statements:**
  - *Showing of film “Mare Chiuso”* in the framework of the Mostra del Cinema, Lido di Venezia, 31 August 2012: heard a statement by Mr Giacomo Santini (Italy, EPP/CD)
- **Other business:** heard a statement by Mr Eric Voruz (Switzerland, SOC) on *Résidents des camps Ashraf et Liberty*.

– **Next meetings:**

- Strasbourg, during the Assembly's 4<sup>th</sup> part-session of 2012 (1-5 October)
- Geneva, 26-27 November 2012 (to be confirmed)
- Strasbourg, 4-5 December 2012, Training of parliamentarians on visiting places of detention
- Strasbourg, during the 1st part-session 2013 (21-25 January 2013)

Mark Neville, Agnès Nollinger, Olga Kostenko, Sebastian Rietz

cc: Secretary General of the Assembly  
Director General, Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly  
Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly  
Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations  
Secretary General of the Congress  
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers  
Directors General  
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe  
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights  
Director of Communication  
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

