



SECRETARIAT

AS/Mig (2017) CB 02
20 March 2017

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

Synopsis of the meeting held in Baku (Azerbaijan) on 15 and 16 March 2017

The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons, meeting in the Parliament (Milli Mejlis) of Azerbaijan in Baku, with Ms Sahiba Gafarova (Azerbaijan, EC) in the Chair,

- on Wednesday, 15 March 2017 at 9.30 a.m., as regards:
 - **Exchange of views with the authorities of Azerbaijan:** heard welcome addresses by Mr Valeh Alasgarov, Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of Azerbaijan and Mr Samad Seyidov (Azerbaijan, EC), Chairperson of the PACE Delegation of Azerbaijan and held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Mikayil Jabbarov, Minister of Education, Mr Khalaf Khalafov, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ms Hijran Huseynova, Chairperson of the State Committee for Family, Women and Children affairs and Mr Parviz Musayev, Deputy Chief of the State Migration Service;
 - **Internal displacement in the South Caucasus:** held a hearing with the participation of Mr Furio De Angelis, representative of the UNHCR in Azerbaijan, Ms Dragana Filipović, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Azerbaijan, and Ms Amanda Paul, Senior Policy Analyst, Turkey and the Eurasia Region, European Policy Centre (EPC);
 - **Field visit:** visited a settlement built for IDPs in the Mushvigabad District of Baku and held an exchange of views with Mr Ali Hasanov, Deputy Prime Minister, Chairperson of the State Committee on Refugees and Internally Displaced Persons Affairs;
- on Thursday, 16 March 2017 at 9.30 a.m., as regards:
 - **Possible ways to improve the emergency refugee situations funding** (Rapporteur: Mr Cezar Florin Preda, Romania, EPP/CD): considered and approved a draft report and adopted unanimously a draft resolution;
 - **Migration as an opportunity for European development** (Rapporteur: Mr Andrea Rigoni, Italy, ALDE): considered a preliminary draft report;
 - **Human rights implications of the European response to transit migration across the Mediterranean** (Rapporteur: Mr Miltiadis Varvitsiotis, Greece, EPP/CD): considered an introductory memorandum and authorised the rapporteur to carry out fact-finding visits to Greece, Italy and Turkey;
 - **Migrants as an easy target for trafficking and exploitation:** took note that a motion for a resolution was currently being prepared;
 - **Migration debate (28 June 2017):** heard a communication by the Chairperson of the Committee;

- **Follow-up to Resolution 2108 (2016) on “Human rights of refugees and migrants – the situation in the Western Balkans”** (Rapporteur: Ms Tineke Strik, Netherlands, SOC): in the absence of the rapporteur, held an exchange of views with Ms Ksenija Korenjak Kramar (Slovenia, ALDE), Chairperson of the PACE Delegation of Slovenia and Mr Zsolt Csenger-Zalán (Hungary, EPP/CD) and agreed to come back to the question of a new asylum law in Hungary at its next meeting;
- **Parliamentary Campaign to end immigration detention of children**: heard a communication by the Chairperson of the Committee on the future visit to Centre Bäregg for unaccompanied minors (24 March 2017, Bern, Switzerland) and the pilot training course for parliamentarians on visiting/monitoring places where children were deprived of liberty as a result of migration (11-12 April 2017, Strasbourg);
- **Joint meeting of the Sub-Committee on Co-operation with non-European countries of origin and transit and the Sub-Committee on Integration (Lisbon, 11-12 September 2017)**: heard a communication by Mr Andrea Rigoni (Italy, ALDE), Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Co-operation with non-European countries of origin and transit on the launching of the Parliamentary Network on Diaspora Policies in Lisbon on 11-12 September 2017;
- **Václav Havel Prize**: took note of the call for nominations for the 2017 Václav Havel Prize, and that the deadline for applications was 30 April 2017;
- **Appointments of rapporteurs for reports:**
 - Recently arrived refugees and migrants at risk of radicalisation**: appointed Ms Sahiba Gafarova (Azerbaijan, EC) and heard from her a declaration of absence of conflict of interest;
 - Family reunification in the Council of Europe member States**: appointed Ms Ulla Sandbæk (Denmark, UEL) and heard from her a declaration of absence of conflict of interest;
 - Integration, empowerment and protection of migrant children through compulsory education**: appointed Ms Petra De Sutter (Belgium, SOC) in her absence, subject to a declaration of absence of conflict of interest at the next meeting;
 - Labour migration from Eastern Europe and its impact on socio-demographic processes in these countries**: postponed the appointment of a rapporteur until the next meeting;
- **Appointment of a rapporteur for opinion:**
 - Migration from a gender perspective: Empowering women as key actors for integration**: appointed Ms Eva-Lena Jansson (Sweden, SOC) in her absence, subject to a declaration of absence of conflict of interest at the next meeting;
- **Representation of the Committee at various events:**

Conference on “Protecting Stateless Persons from Arbitrary Detention” organised by the European Network on Statelessness (ENS), 4-5 May 2017, European Youth Centre, Budapest: appointed Mr Manlio Di Stefano (Italy, NR), subject to the availability of financial resources of the Assembly;
- **Composition of the Sub-Committees**: approved the following changes:
 - Sub-Committee on Integration**
 - Mr Xavier García Albiol (Spain, EPP/CD) to become a titular member
 - Mr Domagoj Hajduković (Croatia, SOC) to become a titular member
 - Sub-Committee on Co-operation with non-European countries of origin and transit**
 - Ms Nellija Kleinberga (Latvia, ALDE) to become a titular member

– **Other business:**

- authorised Mr Duarte Marques (Portugal, EPP/CD), rapporteur on “A comprehensive humanitarian and political response to the migration crisis in Europe” to carry out fact-finding visits to Hungary and Morocco (the latter, subject to the authorisation of the Bureau);
- took note of the proposal of Ms Ulla Sandbæk (Denmark, UEL) to organise a parliamentary visit to a detention centre in Denmark, in the framework of the Parliamentary Project Support Programme;
- took note of the proposal by the Delegation of Turkey to hold a meeting/conference in Turkey, subject to receiving an official invitation and the authorisation of the Bureau;

- **on Thursday, 16 March 2017 at 3.00 p.m.**, as regards:

- **Statement by Mr Ogtay Asadov, Speaker of the Parliament of Azerbaijan:** heard a statement and held an exchange of views;

– **Next meetings:**

- **Strasbourg**, during the 2nd part-session 2017 (24-28 April)
- **Paris**, 2 June 2017
- **Strasbourg**, during the 3rd part-session 2017 (26-30 June)
- **Paris**, 20 September 2017
- **Strasbourg**, during the 4th part-session 2017 (9-13 October)
- **Paris**, 8 December 2017

Parliamentary Campaign to end immigration detention of children:

- **Bern**, 24 March 2017, Visit to Centre Bäregg,
- **Strasbourg**, 11-12 April 2017, Training Seminar on “Monitoring places where children are deprived of their liberty as a result of immigration procedures”

Sub-Committee on Co-operation with non-European countries of origin and transit and Sub-Committee on Integration:

- **Lisbon**, 11-12 September 2017, joint meeting

The **Sub-Committee on Integration**, meeting in Baku on 16 March 2017 after the meeting of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons, with Ms Sahiba Gafarova (Azerbaijan, EC) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Election of a Chairperson:** re-elected Ms Tineke Strik (Netherlands, SOC) by acclamation;
- **Election of a Vice-Chairperson:** postponed the election of a Vice-Chairperson until the next meeting;
- **Next meeting:** left it to its Chairperson to convene the next meeting.

The **Sub-Committee on Refugee and Migrant Children and Young People**, meeting in Baku on 16 March 2017 after the meeting of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons, with first Ms Sahiba Gafarova (Azerbaijan, EC) and then Mr Manlio Di Stefano (Italy, NR) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Election of a Chairperson:** elected Mr Manlio Di Stefano (Italy, NR) by acclamation;
- **Election of a Vice-Chairperson:** postponed the election of a Vice-Chairperson until the next meeting;
- **Next meeting:** left it to its Chairperson to convene the next meeting.

Agnieszka Nachilo, Penelope Denu, Rüdiger Dossow, Olga Kostenko

cc: Secretary General of the Assembly
Director General, Director 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