



SECRETARIAT

AS/Mig (2017) CB 03

28 April 2017

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

Synopsis of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 24, 25 and 27 April 2017

The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons, meeting in Strasbourg, with Ms Sahiba Gafarova (Azerbaijan, EC) in the Chair,

- on Monday, 24 April 2017 at 2.00 p.m., as regards:
 - **Migration from a gender perspective: Empowering women as key actors for integration: (for opinion)** following Ms Eva-Lena Jansson's (Sweden, SOC) appointment on 16 March 2017, heard from her a declaration of absence of conflict of interest;
 - **Round table on "The role of non-governmental organisations as promoters of positive practices in care and accommodation for refugee and migrant minors" in the framework of the Parliamentary Campaign to End Immigration Detention of Children:** heard a statement by Ms Doris Fiala (Switzerland, ALDE), General Rapporteur on Ending immigration detention of children on the following events organised in the framework of the Campaign: parliamentary visit to Bäregg Centre, Switzerland (24 March 2017) and pilot training course for MPs held in Strasbourg on 11-12 April 2017; held a round table with the participation of Ms Ivana Milanovic-Djukic, Child Protection Programme Manager, Danish Refugee Council, Serbia, Ms Kristina Marku, Child Protection Coordinator, "Hope for Children" CRC Policy Centre, Cyprus and Ms Kalliopi Gkliva, Project Manager, Refugee Emergency Relief Programme, SOS Children's Villages Greece;
- on Tuesday, 25 April 2017 at 8.30 a.m., as regards:
 - **Protecting refugee women from gender-based violence** (Rapporteur for opinion: Ms Petra De Sutter, Belgium, SOC): considered and approved an opinion, including seven amendments;
 - **Integration of refugees in times of critical pressure: learning from recent experience and examples of best practice** (Rapporteur: Ms Susanna Huovinen, Finland, SOC): heard a statement by the rapporteur on her fact-finding visit to Lisbon (21-22 February 2017), approved a draft report and adopted unanimously a draft resolution as amended;
 - **Human rights implications of the European response to transit migration across the Mediterranean** (Rapporteur: Mr Miltiadis Varvitsiotis, Greece, EPP/CD): heard a statement by the rapporteur on his fact-finding visit to Greece (29-30 March 2017), held an exchange of views with Mr José Mendes Bota, First Counsellor, EU Delegation to the Council of Europe and considered a preliminary draft report;

- **Integration, empowerment and protection of migrant children through compulsory education:** following Ms Petra De Sutter's (Belgium, SOC) appointment on 16 March 2017, heard from her a declaration of absence of conflict of interest;
 - **on Thursday, 27 April 2017 at 8.30 a.m.,** as regards:
 - **Possible ways to improve the funding of emergency refugee situations** (Rapporteur: Mr Cezar Florin Preda, Romania, EPP/CD): took position on two amendments tabled to the draft resolution;
 - **Migration as an opportunity for European development** (Rapporteur: Mr Andrea Rigoni, Italy, ALDE): approved a draft report and adopted unanimously a draft resolution and a draft recommendation;
 - **Activities of the Special Representative of the Secretary General on migration and refugees:** held an exchange of views with Ambassador Tomáš Boček, Special Representative of the Secretary General on migration and refugees;
 - **Humanitarian consequences of the war in Ukraine** (Rapporteur: Mr Egidijus Vareikis, Lithuania, EPP/CD): heard a statement by the rapporteur on his fact-finding visits to Poland (23-24 March 2017) and Ukraine (5-7 April 2017);
 - **Recent developments in migration issues: new asylum law in Hungary:** heard a statement by Mr Zsolt Csenger-Zalán (Hungary, EPP/CD) and held an exchange of views with Ms Marja Ruotanen, Director, Directorate of Human Dignity and Equality, Council of Europe;
 - **on Thursday, 27 April 2017 at 2.00 p.m.,** as regards:
 - **A comprehensive humanitarian and political response to the migration and refugee crisis in Europe** (Rapporteur: Mr Duarte Marques, Portugal, EPP/CD): heard a statement by the rapporteur and considered a preliminary draft report;
 - **Promotion of child-friendly age assessment practices for unaccompanied minors** (Rapporteur: Ms Doris Fiala, Switzerland, ALDE): heard a statement by the rapporteur and considered an introductory memorandum;
 - **Addressing the humanitarian needs of internally displaced persons: recent lessons and future challenges in Europe** (Rapporteur: Mr Killion Munyama, Poland, EPP/CD): heard a statement by the rapporteur and considered an introductory memorandum;
 - **“Charter of Equal Participation in Political and Public Life” for migrants:** held an exchange of views on the Lyon Declaration adopted at the Colloquy held in Lyon on 11 October 2016 on “Challenges of immigration” organised by the European Association of Former Members of Parliament of the Member States of the Council of Europe with the participation of Mr Uwe Holtz, Honorary President of FP-AP and Ms Ilona Graenitz, Vice-President of FP-AP and agreed to prepare a motion for a resolution on this topic;
 - **Migration debate (28 June 2017):** heard a communication by the Chairperson of the Committee;
 - **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;
 - **Appointment of a rapporteur for report:**
- Labour migration from Eastern Europe and its impact on socio-demographic processes in these countries:** postponed the appointment of a rapporteur to the next meeting;

– **Representation of the Committee at various events:**

28th Annual Session of the Crans Montana Forum, Barcelona, 5-8 July 2017: appointed Mr Andrea Rigoni (Italy, ALDE), at no cost to the Assembly;

– **Composition of the Sub-Committees:** approved the following changes:

Sub-Committee on Integration

- Ms Sylvie Goy-Chavent (France, EPP/CD) to become a titular member
- Ms Boriána Åberg (Sweden, EPP/CD) to become a titular member
- Ms Eva-Lena Jansson (Sweden, SOC) to become an alternate member
- Mr Francesco Verducci (Italy, SOC) to become a titular member

– **Other business:**

The situation of migrants and refugees in Jordan: heard a statement by Ms Marram Alheisah, member of the PACE Delegation of Jordan (Partner for Democracy) and held an exchange of views;

– **Next meetings:**

Plenary:

- **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

Other:

- **Lisbon**, 7-8 September 2017, joint meeting of the Sub-Committee on Co-operation with non-European countries of origin and transit and the Sub-Committee on Integration

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