



SECRETARIAT

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3 June 2019

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

Synopsis of the meeting held in Zurich on 28 and 29 May 2019

The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons, meeting in Zurich on 28-29 May 2019, with Ms Doris Fiala (Switzerland, ALDE) and Mr Killion Munyama (Poland, EPP/CD) in the Chair:

- on Tuesday, 28 May 2019 at 2.30 p.m., as regards:
 - **Visit of the Asylum Centre in Zürich-Oerlikon (Messe Halle 9):** visited the asylum centre and heard presentations by Mr Claudio Martelli, Head of Zurich Asylum Region, and Mr Raphael Golta, City councillor, Head of the Department of Social Affairs of the city of Zurich;
- on Wednesday, 29 May 2019 at 9 a.m., as regards:
 - **Welcome address by Mr Dieter Kläy, Speaker of the Parliament of the Canton of Zurich:** heard a welcome address;
 - **Situation and integration of migrants and refugees in Switzerland:** held an exchange of views with the participation of:
 - Mr Stefan Däpp, Chief of staff, State Secretariat for Migration (SEM);
 - Mr Claudio Martelli, Head of Zurich Asylum Region;
 - Ms Christin Achermann, Professor in Migration, Law and Society, University of Neuchâtel;
 - Mr Beat von Wattenwyl, Head of Protection, Swiss Refugee Council;
 - **Parliamentary Campaign to End Immigration Detention of Children:** heard statements by the General Rapporteur, Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez (Switzerland, SOC) on the parliamentary visit to the migration centres of Traiskirchen and Zinnergasse, held on 6 May in Vienna (Austria) and on the forthcoming visit to Cyprus on 14 June 2019; held an exchange of views with Ms Valentina Darbellay, Head of Advocacy, Terre des Hommes, Switzerland and heard a presentation of the report on "Immigration Detention of Children in Switzerland";
 - **Stop violence and exploitation of migrant children (Rapporteur: Ms Rósa Björk Brynjólfssdóttir, Iceland, UEL):** approved a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation; agreed to change the title of the report as follows: "Stop violence against, and exploitation of, migrant children";
- on Wednesday, 29 May 2019 at 1.30 p.m., as regards:
 - **Visit of the historic Town Hall:** visited the Rathaus;
- on Wednesday, 29 May 2019 at 2.30 p.m., as regards:
 - **Pushback action by member States (Rapporteur: Ms Tineke Strik, Netherlands, SOC):** approved a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation; agreed to change

the title of the report as follows: “Pushback policies and practice in Council of Europe member States”;

- **Violence and discrimination against religious minorities in refugee camps across Europe** (*Rapporteur: Mr Egidijus Vareikis, Lithuania, EPP/CD*): considered an introductory memorandum and held an exchange of views with the participation of Ms Anja Klug, Head of Office at UNHCR Office for Switzerland and Liechtenstein;
- **Unaccompanied and separated migrant children: the need for effective guardianship** (*Rapporteur: Ms Sahiba Gafarova, Azerbaijan, EC*): considered an introductory memorandum and authorised a fact-finding mission for the rapporteur to Greece, subject to the availability of financial resources;
- **Parliamentary Network on Diaspora Policies and Sub-Committee on Diasporas**: heard a statement by Mr Paulo Pisco, Vice-Chair of the Sub-Committee, on the meeting of the Sub-Committee to be held in Istanbul (Turkey) on 10 June, and on the conference of the Network in Istanbul on 10 June 2019;
- **Sub-Committee on Integration**: heard a statement by Mr Domagoj Hajduković, Vice-Chair of the Sub-committee on Integration, on the joint meeting with the Sub-Committee on Diasporas to be held in Istanbul on 10 June;
- **Appointment of rapporteur for report:**
 - **For a European policy on diasporas** (*Doc. 14815*): appointed Mr Paulo Pisco (Portugal, SOC) and heard from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interest;
- **Consideration of the replies by the Committee of Ministers**: postponed the consideration of the replies from the Committee of Ministers to Recommendation 2136 (2018), Recommendation 2137 (2018) and Recommendation 2141 (2018) until the next meeting;
- **Representation of the Committee at various events:**

Seminar on “unaccompanied minors: how to protect the most vulnerable effectively”, 19-20 June 2019, Council of Europe and Lieu d'Europe, Strasbourg: appointed Ms Rósa Björk Brynjólfssdóttir (Iceland, UEL), subject to the availability of financial resources;
- **Next meetings**: took note of the forthcoming meetings as follows:

Plenary Committee:

- **Strasbourg**, during the 3rd part-session 2019 (24-28 June)
- **Paris**, 6 September 2019 (tbc)
- **Strasbourg**, during the 4th part-session 2019 (30 September-4 October)
- **Paris**, 2 December 2019 (tbc)

Sub-Committee on Diasporas:

- **Istanbul (Turkey)**, 10 June 2019

Sub-Committee on Integration:

- **Istanbul (Turkey)**, 10 June 2019

Penelope Denu, Olga Kostenko, Angela Garabagiu

cc: Secretary General of the Assembly
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Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations
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