



THE SECRETARIAT

AS/Mig (2020) CB 07

10 November 2020

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

Synopsis of the meeting held by videoconference on Friday 6 November 2020

The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons, meeting by videoconference on 6 November 2020 from 2 pm to 5.00 pm, with Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez (Switzerland, SOC) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Impact of labour migration on left-behind children** (*Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Olesksii Goncharenko, Ukraine, EC/DA*): approved the opinion;
- **Effective guardianship for unaccompanied and separated migrant children** (*Rapporteur: Ms Rósa Björk Brynjólfssdóttir, Iceland, UEL*): heard Ms Sibel Arslan (Switzerland, SOC), rapporteur for opinion of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development and took position on amendments to the draft resolution and the draft recommendation;
- **Rights and obligations of NGOs assisting refugees and migrants in Europe** (*Rapporteur: Mr Domagoj Hadduković, Croatia, SOC*): took position on amendments to the draft resolution and the draft recommendation;
- **Pushbacks on land and sea**: having verified the quorum, approved the draft motion;
- **New EU pact on migration and asylum**: having verified the quorum, approved the draft motion;
- **Humanitarian consequences of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan**: held an exchange of views and took note that the Chair would request, as a follow up to the current affairs debate (October 2020 Standing Committee) on *Armed conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan, failure of peaceful conflict resolution and a risk to regional stability*, reference for a report on the Humanitarian consequences of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan;
- **Role of parliaments in implementing the United Nations global compacts for migrants and refugees** (*Rapporteur: Mr Nicos Tornaritis, Cyprus, EPP/CD*): considered a preliminary draft report and held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Andreas Wissner, Representative, UNCHR Representation to the European Institutions in Strasbourg;
- **Humanitarian action for refugees and migrants in countries in North Africa and the Middle East** (*Rapporteur: Lord Alexander Dundee, United Kingdom, EC/DA*): heard Mr Alexander Tyler, UNHCR Senior External Engagement Coordinator for the Middle East and North Africa in Amman, Jordan; considered a preliminary draft report and a preliminary draft resolution
- **Safe third countries for asylum seekers** (*Rapporteur: Ms Stephanie Krisper, Austria, ALDE*): considered a draft outline;

- **Gender mainstreaming of migration policies** (*Rapporteur: Ms Rósa Björk Brynjólfssdóttir, Iceland, UEL*): considered an introductory memorandum;
- **Work programme:**
 - **Videoconference on voluntary relocation of vulnerable refugees, United Kingdom Parliament:** date: 4 December 2020; Committee members were invited by Lord Alexander Dundee (United Kingdom, EC/DA) to attend;
 - **Videoconference on missing child refugees, Grand National Assembly of Turkey:** date: 24 November 2020 in the morning; Committee members were invited by Ms Serap Yaşar (Turkey, NR) to attend;
- **Ad hoc Sub-Committee to carry out a fact-finding visit to Lesbos (Greece):** approved as follows the composition of the ad hoc Sub-Committee, noting that among the two Socialist candidates (*Ms Luise Amtsberg (Germany) and Mr Fourat Ben Chika (Belgium)*), only one could take part, and that *Mr Sokratis Famellos (Greece, UEL)* could take part in the visit as a member of the Greek host delegation. Also took note that if the dates of the visit change and current members are unable to travel, it might be necessary to reconsider the list and include other members who have put their names forward:

| Countries | Name | Political Group |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------|
| Switzerland / Suisse | Mr Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ (Chair) | SOC |
| Germany / Allemagne | Ms Luise AMTSBERG | SOC |
| Belgium / Belgique | Mr Fourat BEN CHIKHA | SOC |
| Iceland / Islande | Ms Rosa Bjork BRYNJOLFSDOTTIR | UEL |
| Greece / Grèce | Me Sokratis FAMELLOS | UEL |
| France / France | Mr Fabien GOUTTEFARDE | ALDE |
| Austria/ Autriche | Mr Eduard KOCK | EPP/CD |
| Cyprus / Chypre | Mr Nicos TORNARITIS | EPP/CD |

- **Other business:**
 - None
- **Next meeting:** took note of the date of the forthcoming meeting:
 - **Videoconference:** 2 December 2020 (10:00 am – 12:30 pm and 2:30 pm – 5:00 pm)

Mark Neville, Rüdiger Dossow, Olga Kostenko, Angela Garabagiu

cc: *Secretary General of the Assembly*
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