



**Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe**  
**Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights**

**Joint Working Party (JWP) to implement Resolution 1272 (2002) on Political Prisoners in Azerbaijan**

Secretariat of the Assembly

Synopsis N° 2003/009  
27 January 2003

**The Joint Working Party, meeting on Wednesday 14 January 2003 with Mr Clerfayt in the Chair:**

- *Recent events related to political prisoners in Azerbaijan:* was informed of the recent publication of a Presidential Pardon Decree on 28 October 2002, considered the recent developments regarding new trials of political prisoners;
- *Work of the Secretary General's independent experts mandated to examine the remaining cases in the list of 716 alleged political prisoners referred to them in 2001 (2<sup>nd</sup> mandate):* considered a note prepared by the Monitoring Department (Directorate of Strategic Planning) with regard to the list of 716 political prisoners;
- *Participation of Azeri representatives in the work of the JWP:* decided to reconsider the possibility to invite representatives from the Azerbaijani Delegation to the JWP in order to continue the discussion of the follow up of Resolution 1272 after the forthcoming visit of the JWP in Azerbaijan;
- *Preparation of a fact-finding mission to Azerbaijan at the beginning of 2003:* authorised the JWP to carry a fact-finding visit to Azerbaijan in February 2003;
- Next meeting: in Strasbourg, on 28 January 2003;

**Caroline Ravaud, Raphaëlle Mathey**

cc: Secretary General of the Assembly  
Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly  
Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly  
Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly

Directors General  
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe  
Secretary of the Committee of Ministers  
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe  
Director of Communication and Research