

To Members of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and Members of the Committee on the honouring of obligations and commitments by member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)

Secretariat of the Assembly

Synopsis No 2003/120

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The Joint Working Party (JWP) to implement Resolution 1272 (2002) on Political Prisoners in Azerbaijan (of the Committee on the honouring of obligations and commitments by member States of the Council of Europe and the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights) **meeting on Friday 26 September 2003 in Strasbourg with Mr Clerfayt in the Chair:**

- Heard a statement on the information visit of the co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee for Azerbaijan (14-18 July 2003) and on the visit of the Ad Hoc Committee for the observation of the presidential election in Azerbaijan (15-16 September 2003) by MM Martínez-Casañ and Gross; considered the last presidential pardon decree of 26 August 2003 and took note of the decision of the Azerbaijani authorities to start new trials for 2 pilot cases still in prison and 3 alleged political prisoners;
- Upon the personal invitation of his President, held an exchange of views with Mr Eldar Zeynalov, Director of the Human Rights Centre of Azerbaijan;
- Held an exchange of views on the strategy to be adopted for the next fact-finding mission;
- Paid tribute to his outgoing Chairman;
- Next meeting: Baku, at a date to be determined.

David Čupina, Raphaëlle Mathey

cc: Secrétaire Général de l'Assemblée
Directeurs et tous les agents du Secrétariat de l'Assemblée
Secrétaires des Délégations Nationales de l'Assemblée
Secrétaires des Groupes Politiques de l'Assemblée

Directeurs Généraux
Directeur de Cabinet du Secrétaire Général du Conseil de l'Europe
Secrétaire du Comité des Ministres
Directeur de la communication et de la recherche
Représentations Permanentes auprès du Conseil de l'Europe