



SECRETARIAT

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29 June 2012

## To the members of the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)

### Synopsis of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 26, 27 and 28 June 2012

The Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), meeting in Strasbourg on 26, 27 and 28 June 2012, first with Ms Lise Christoffersen (Norway, SOC), first Vice-Chair, and then with Mr Andres Herkel (Estonia, EPP/CD), Chair, in the Chair:

- on Tuesday 26 June 2012 at 2 p.m.:
  - held an **exchange of views with Mr Thorbjørn Jagland**, Secretary General of the Council of Europe; and, as regards:
    - **Hungary: motion to open a monitoring procedure** (co-rapporteurs: Ms Jana Fischerová, Czech Republic, EDG, and Ms Kerstin Lundgren, Sweden, ALDE): held an exchange of views with Mr Gianni Buquicchio, President, and Mr Thomas Markert, Director, of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission) and decided to ask the Venice Commission for an opinion on the amendments to the laws on the judiciary that are currently being discussed in the Hungarian parliament;
    - **Bosnia and Herzegovina** (co-rapporteurs: Ms Karin S. Woldseth, Norway, EDG, and Mr Egidijus Vareikis, Lithuania, EPP/CD): heard an oral report by Ms Woldseth by the co-rapporteurs' fact-finding visit to Sarajevo, Mostar and Banja Luka (3-7 June 2012) and held an exchange of views;
- on Wednesday 27 June 2012 at 2 p.m., as regards:
  - **Montenegro** (co-rapporteurs: Mr Jean-Charles Gardetto, Monaco, EPP/CD, and Ms Nursuna Memecan, Turkey, ALDE): took position on the amendments to the draft resolution on the honouring of obligations and commitments by Montenegro;
  - **Post-monitoring dialogue with "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"** (rapporteur: Mr Robert Walter, United Kingdom, EDG): considered an information note by the rapporteur on his fact-finding visits to Skopje and other municipalities (25-28 September 2011 and 7-10 May 2012) and held an exchange of views;
  - **Ukraine** (co-rapporteurs: Ms Mailis Reps, Estonia, ALDE, and Ms Marietta de Pourbaix-Lundin, Sweden, EPP/CD): considered an information note by the co-rapporteurs on their fact-finding visits to Kyiv (26-30 March 2012) and to Kyiv and Kharkiv (14-18 May 2012) and decided to declassify it;

- **Russian Federation** (co-rapporteurs: Mr György Frunda, Romania, EPP/CD, and Mr Andreas Gross, Switzerland, SOC): considered the comments by the delegation of the Russian Federation to the Parliamentary Assembly on the preliminary draft report on the honouring of obligations and commitments by the Russian Federation, held an exchange of views and decided to request the opinion of the Venice Commission on the Federal Law on the amendments to the Law on the Freedom of Assembly adopted on 9 June 2012;
- **Post-monitoring dialogue with Turkey** (rapporteur: Ms Josette Durrieu, France, SOC): postponed this item to a future meeting, due to lack of time;
- **on Thursday 28 June 2012 at 2 p.m.**, as regards:
  - **The progress of the Assembly's monitoring procedure (June 2011 – May 2012)** (rapporteur: Mr Andres Herkel, Estonia, EPP/CD): took position on the amendments to the draft resolution;
  - **Azerbaijan** (co-rapporteurs: Mr Pedro Agramunt Font de Mora, Spain, EPP/CD, and Mr Joseph Debono Grech, Malta, SOC): heard an oral report by Mr Agramunt on the co-rapporteurs' fact-finding visit to Baku and Guba (11-15 June 2012) and held an exchange of views;
  - **Authorisation of fact-finding visits**: authorised fact-finding visits to Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Russian Federation, Turkey and Ukraine;
  - **Next meetings**:  
decided to hold its next meetings as follows:
    - Paris (Council of Europe office), 4 September 2012
    - Strasbourg, during the 4<sup>th</sup> part-session of the Assembly (1-5 October 2012)

Caroline Ravaud, Agnieszka Nachilo, Bas Klein, Sylvie Affholder

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cc. *Secretary General of the Assembly*  
*Director General, 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*