



SECRETARIAT

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28 January 2013

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 22, 23 and 24 January 2013

The Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), meeting in Strasbourg, on 22, 23, and 24 January 2013, with first Ms Josette Durrieu (France, SOC), the oldest member present, and then Mr Andres Herkel (Estonia, EPP/CD) in the Chair:

- on Tuesday 22 January 2013 at 8.30 a.m., as regards:
 - **Composition of the Committee's Bureau:**
 - re-elected Mr Andres Herkel (Estonia, EPP/CD) Chairperson
 - re-elected Ms Lise Christoffersen (Norway, SOC) 1st Vice-Chairperson
 - re-elected Mr Pieter Omtzigt (The Netherlands, EPP/CD) 2nd Vice-Chairperson
 - re-elected Mr Telmo Correia (Portugal, EDG) 3rd Vice-Chairperson
 - **Post-monitoring dialogue with Turkey** (*rapporteur: Ms Josette Durrieu, France, SOC*): heard an oral report by the rapporteur on her fact-finding visit to Turkey (5-10 November 2012); adopted a declaration on Turkey; considered a revised preliminary draft report and decided to transmit it to the Turkish authorities for comments, with a view to presenting the report at the April 2013 part-session;
 - **Post-monitoring dialogue with “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”** (*rapporteur: Mr Robert Walter, United Kingdom, EDG*): considered a preliminary draft report and decided to transmit it to the authorities of “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” for comments, with a view to presenting the report at the June 2013 part-session;
- on Tuesday 22 January 2013 at 2 p.m., as regards:
 - **Post-monitoring dialogue with Bulgaria** (*rapporteur: Mr Luca Volontè, Italy, EPP/CD*): took position on the amendments to the draft resolution on the post-monitoring dialogue with Bulgaria;
 - **Cooperation with the Committee of Ministers**: continued the discussion and decided to come back to this issue at a forthcoming meeting;

- **on Wednesday 23 January 2013 at 2 p.m.**, as regards:

- **Albania** (co-rapporteurs: *Mr Grigore Petrenco, Moldova, UEL, and ...*): appointed Mr Jonathan Evans (United Kingdom, EDG) co-rapporteur to replace Mr Tomáš Jirsa (Czech Republic, EDG);
- **Azerbaijan** (co-rapporteurs: *Mr Pedro Agramunt, Spain, EPP/CD, and Mr Joseph Debono Grech, Malta, SOC*): took position on the amendments to the draft resolution on the honouring of obligations and commitments by Azerbaijan;
- **Ukraine** (co-rapporteurs: *Ms Mailis Reps, Estonia, ALDE, and Ms Marietta de Pourbaix-Lundin, Sweden, EPP/C*): was informed on recent political developments;
- **Armenia** (co-rapporteurs: *Mr Axel Fischer, Germany, EPP/CD, and Mr John Prescott, United Kingdom, SOC*): held an exchange of views on the preparation of the 18 February 2013 presidential election;
- **Council for Democratic Elections (Venice Commission)**: appointed, for the year 2013, Ms Marietta de Pourbaix-Lundin (Sweden, EPP/CD) as representative and Mr Jordi Xuclà (Spain, ALDE) as substitute to the Council for Democratic Elections;

- **on Thursday 24 January 2013 at 2 p.m.**, as regards:

- **Republic of Moldova** (co-rapporteurs: *Ms Lise Christoffersen, Norway, SOC, and Mr Piotr Wach, Poland, EPP/CD*): considered a preliminary draft report on the honouring of obligations and commitments by the Republic of Moldova and decided to transmit it to the authorities of the Republic of Moldova for comments, with a view to presenting the report at the June 2013 part-session;
- **European Union Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy**: held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Štefan Füle, European Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy, and accepted Mr Füle's proposal to continue the exchange of views at its forthcoming meeting;
- **Montenegro** (co-rapporteurs: *Ms Nursuna Memecan, Turkey, ALDE, and Mr Kimmo Sasi, Finland, EPP/CD*): decided to come back to this issue at a forthcoming meeting;
- **Harmonisation of regulatory and para-regulatory provisions of monitoring and post-monitoring dialogue procedures**: heard a statement by Mr Pedro Agramunt, rapporteur of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs, held an exchange of views on the Committee's position and agreed that the Chair would draft a note with the suggestions of the Committee;
- **Current situation with regard to the consequences of the war between Georgia and Russia**: held an exchange of views on the preparation of an information note on developments with regard to the 2008 war between Georgia and Russia and the follow-up given to the Assembly resolutions on that subject and of the fact-finding visit to Moscow, Tbilisi, Tskhinvali and Sukhumi (*dates to be confirmed*);
- **Georgia** (co-rapporteurs: *Mr Boriss Cilevičs, Latvia, SOC, and Mr Michael Aastrup Jensen, Denmark, ALDE*): considered an information note by the co-rapporteurs on the fact-finding visit to Tbilisi and Kutaisi (5-7 December 2012), decided to declassify it and took note of the intention of the rapporteurs to return to Georgia in the near future to assess the latest political developments;
- **Russian Federation** (co-rapporteurs: *Mr Andreas Gross, Switzerland, SOC, and ...*): decided to postpone the appointment of a new co-rapporteur to its next meeting;
- **Authorisation of fact-finding visits**: authorised visits to Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Georgia;

– **Next meetings:**

decided to hold its next meetings as follows:

- **Paris** (Council of Europe Office), 20 March 2013
- **Strasbourg**, 22-26 April 2013 (during the Assembly part-session)
- **Tallinn, Estonia**, 23-24 May 2013
- **Strasbourg**, 24-28 June 2013 (during the Assembly part-session)

Caroline Ravaud, Agnieszka Nachilo, Bas Klein, Sylvie Affholder

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