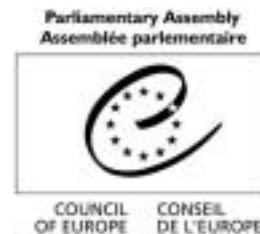


Parliamentary Assembly Assemblée parlementaire



FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE POLITICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly

Synopsis N° 2004 / 66

26 May 2004

The Political Affairs Committee, meeting in Paris on 25 May 2004, first with Mr Margelov (Russia, EDG), then with Mr Ateş (Turkey, SOC) in the chair:

- heard a statement by Mr Schwimmer, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, concerning his recent activities, followed by an exchange of views;

As regards:

- *Strengthening of democratic institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina* (Mr Kirilov, Bulgaria, SOC): unanimously adopted a draft Resolution with a view of presenting it to the Assembly during its June 2004 part-session;

- *Situation in the Chechen Republic* (Rapporteur: Mr Gross, Switzerland, SOC): heard a statement by Mr Ali Isaev, First Vice-Chairman and Minister of Finance, Government of the Chechen Republic, followed by an exchange of views, discussed the recent events in the Chechen Republic, took note of the Rapporteur's readiness to visit Moscow and the Northern Caucasus (31 May – 5 June 2004) and did not support a proposal to hold a debate under urgent procedure on this issue during June 2004 part-session;

- *Presence of the Council of Europe in Northern Ireland* (Rapporteur: Mr Ouzký, Czech Republic, EDG): took note of a memorandum prepared by the Rapporteur following his visit to London and Belfast (19-22 April 2004), and expressed its wish that the Rapporteur should visit Dublin before presenting a draft report for the Committee's adoption at its next meeting;

- *Conflict dealt with by the Minsk Conference of the OSCE* (Rapporteur: The Rt. Hon. Terry Davis, United Kingdom, SOC): heard a statement by the Rapporteur followed by an exchange of views and took note of his intention to present a written report at a forthcoming meeting;

- *114th Session of the Committee of Ministers* (Strasbourg, 12-13 May 2004): heard a statement by Ambassador Landman, out-going Chair of the Committee of Ministers, on the Dutch Chairmanship, and took note of the Conclusion of the Netherlands' Chairmanship, Priorities of the Norwegian Chairmanship and the Communiqué adopted at the 114th Session;

cc Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly
Director General and staff of the Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly
Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly
Special Guests and Observers to the Assembly
Directors General
Secretary of the Committee of Ministers
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General
Director of Communication and Research
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

- *Situation in Iraq*: decided to propose to the Bureau to hold a debate under urgent procedure during the June 2004 part-session;
- *IPU meeting of Speakers of Parliaments of the Neighbouring Countries of Iraq (Amman, 12-13 May 2004)*: heard a statement by Mr Gross (Switzerland, SOC), who had been nominated by the Bureau to participate in this meeting;

Date and places of next meetings:

- . 21-25 June 2004 – 3rd part-session
- . 14 September 2004 in Paris

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The Sub-Committee on Relations with Non-Member Countries (of the Political Affairs Committee), meeting in Paris on 25 May 2004 under the chairmanship of Mr Severin (Romania, SOC):

- *Relations with the United Nations*: heard a statement by Ambassador Åberg, Rapporteur of the Ministers' Deputies on the United Nations, on the state of preparation in the Ministers' Deputies of the draft Resolution of the United Nations General Assembly on *Co-operation between the United Nations and the Council of Europe*, invited its Chairman to transmit in writing the comments made by members concerning that draft Resolution to Ambassador Åberg and prepared its visit to the United Nations on the occasion of the 59th General Assembly debate on that issue;
- *Strengthening of the United Nations*: held an exchange of views on the follow-up to Resolution 1373 and Recommendation 1659 on the *Strengthening of the United Nations*;
- *Inter-Parliamentary Forum on Transatlantic Dialogue* (London, 19 April 2004) held an exchange of views on the follow-up including the possibility of encounters in North America;
- *Future work*: held an exchange of views on the scope of the Sub-Committee's activities and its future work and was informed in this context of a letter its Chairman had sent to the President of the Assembly.

Date and place of the next meeting:

- .21-25 June 2004 – 3rd part-session (to be confirmed)

Barış Perin, Marja Ruotanen, Rüdiger Dossow