

**FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
POLITICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly

AS/Pol/CB (2008) 01

25 January 2008

The Political Affairs Committee, meeting in Strasbourg from 21 to 24 January 2008, first with Mr Bender (Poland, EDG), oldest member present, and then Mr Lindblad (Sweden, EPP/CD) in the Chair:

elected by acclamation:

- .Mr Lindblad (Sweden, EPP/CD) Chair
- .Mr Wilshire (United Kingdom, EDG), 1st Vice-Chair
- .Mr von Sydow (Sweden, SOC), 2nd Vice-Chair
- .Mrs Ojuland (Estonia, ALDE) 3rd Vice-Chair

as regards:

- **Developments as regards the future status of Kosovo** (*Rapporteur: Lord Russell-Johnston, United Kingdom, ALDE*): approved an addendum to the explanatory memorandum; took position on the amendments which had been tabled to the draft resolution and draft recommendation and asked its Chair to propose that the amendments approved unanimously should be declared adopted by the Assembly, according to Rule 34.10;
- **Strengthening co-operation with the Maghreb countries** (*Rapporteur: Mrs Durrieu, France, SOC*): welcomed Mr Abdelaziz Ziari, President of the National People's Party of Algeria; approved an addendum to the explanatory memorandum; and took position on the amendments which had been tabled to the draft resolution;
- **The situation in the Republics of Central Asia** (*Rapporteur: Mr Mercan, Turkey, EPP/CD*): approved unanimously all the amendments which had been tabled to the draft resolution and asked its Chair to propose that they should be declared adopted by the Assembly, according to Rule 34.10
- **The Council of Europe and its Observer States – the current situation and a way forward** (*Rapporteur: Mr Wilshire, United Kingdom, EDG*): approved an addendum to the explanatory memorandum, took position on some of the amendments which had been tabled to the draft resolution and asked its Chair to propose that the amendments approved unanimously should be declared adopted by the Assembly, according to Rule 34.10;

cc Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly
 Director General and 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 of the Council of Europe
 Director of Communication
 Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

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- **Use of the provisional title “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” at the Council of Europe** (*Rapporteur: Mr Agramunt, Spain, EPP/CD*): following an exchange of views, turned down the request by the Chair of the delegation of the “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” to postpone the item which was technically not possible at that point, and approved an information report;

- **Situation in Belarus** (*Rapporteur: Mr Rigoni, Italy, ALDE*): was informed of the activities of the Slovak Chairmanship by Mr Stefan Rozkopal, Director of the Department of CIS and Balkan Peninsula of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Slovakia, considered a preliminary draft report presented by the Rapporteur and held an exchange of views on the situation in Belarus with the participation of:

- Mrs Natalia Andreichik, Chair of the Standing Committee for Legislation and State Administration of the Council of the Republic of Belarus
- Mr Alexander Arkhipov, Chairman of the Standing Committee for Legislation, Legal and Judicial Issues of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Belarus
- Mr Viktor Karneyenka, For Freedom!, opposition representative
- Mr Vinchuk Viachorka, BNF party, opposition representative

- **Situation in the Middle East:** held an exchange of views with the participation of:

- Mr Michael Eitan, member of the Knesset; and
- Mr Abdullah Abdullah, Chair of the Political Committee of the Palestinian Legislative Council;
- Mr Fuad Kokaly, member of the Palestinian Legislative Council

on the organisation of the Tripartite Forum, agreed with the proposal by Mr Pavlidis, Chair of the Sub-Committee on the Middle East, that it should be held on 9-10 June 2008, in Rhodes (Greece), subject to an authorisation by the Bureau, and asked the Sub-Committee to make proposals for the items to be put on the agenda of the Forum;

- **Exchange of views with the Observer delegations:** held an exchange of views with the delegations of Canada, Israel and Mexico on the outcome of the debate on *The Council of Europe and its Observer States – the current situation and a way forward*; and took note that proposals for its follow-up would be presented at a forthcoming meeting of the Committee;

- **Request by the Parliament of Kazakhstan for observer status with the Parliamentary Assembly** (*Rapporteur: Mr Iwiński, Poland, SOC*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur; decided to renew its request to the Bureau to authorise the Rapporteur’s fact-finding visit to the country and took note of his proposal to hold a hearing with representatives of Kazakhstan’s main political forces at a forthcoming meeting of the Committee;

- **Reconstitution of the Sub-Committees:**

- reconstituted its sub-Committees on the Middle East, on External Relations, and on Belarus as presented in the Appendix;
- renewed the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee for the organisation of a Round Table on the political situation in the Chechen Republic and the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on the Forum for the future of democracy with their previous composition;

- **The United Nations – Reform and the Council of Europe member States** (*Rapporteur: Mr Gross, Switzerland, SOC*): considered an introductory memorandum;

- **Information on the parliamentary elections in the Russian Federation (2 December 2007):** took note of the report by the ad hoc Committee of the Bureau on the Observation of the parliamentary elections in the Russian Federation of 2 December 2007 (Rapporteur: Mr van den Brande, Belgium, EPP/CD);

- **Forum on the future of democracy:** was informed that the next meeting of the Advisory Board would be held on 25 January at 10.30, regretted that it would coincide with the plenary sitting of the Assembly and appointed Mr Wilshire as its representative;

- **Changing the name of the Council of Europe:** further to the request by the Bureau, held an exchange of views on the motion and agreed to advise the Bureau not to give any follow up to this motion;

- **Future work**

a) **References to the Committee** – invited the Chairman to request the Bureau to modify reference 3385 on *Allegations of politically-motivated abuses of the criminal justice system in Council of Europe member states*, or at least refer it to the Committee for opinion;

b) **Appointment of Rapporteurs:** appointed:

- Mr Szabo (Hungary, SOC) as Rapporteur on *e-voting*;
- Mr Gross (Switzerland, SOC) as Rapporteur for the 2008 debate on *the State of Democracy*; and
- Mr MacShane (United Kingdom, SOC) as Rapporteur for opinion on *the funding of public service broadcasting*

and heard from all of them a declaration on the absence of conflicts of interest;

- heard a declaration on the absence of conflicts of interest by Mr Wodarg (Germany, SOC), who had been previously appointed as Rapporteur on *Private military and security firms and the erosion of the state monopoly on the use of force*;

c) **Appointment of representatives of the Committee:** reappointed:

- Mrs Durrieu (France, SOC) as representative at the Council for democratic elections, Venice Commission; and
- Mr Szabo (Hungary, SOC) as representative at the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)

d) **Reference for information:** was informed of *Threat to human rights from the situation in Zimbabwe*

e) **Future meetings**

- was informed by its Chair of an invitation by the Chair of the Serbian delegation to hold a meeting of the Committee in Belgrade in 2008 and decided to consider this invitation for 2009

- **Next meetings**

- . Paris, 12 March and 13 March (morning) 2008
- . Strasbourg, 2nd part-session 2008 (14-18 April 2008)
- . Stockholm, 15-16 May 2008

The Sub-Committee on Belarus of the Political Affairs Committee, meeting in Strasbourg on 22 January 2008, first with Mr Lindblad (Sweden, EPP/CD), Chairman of the Political Affairs Committee, and then Mrs Hurskainen (Finland, SOC) in the Chair:

- *elected* by acclamation Mrs Hurskainen (Finland, SOC) as Chair;
- *elected* by acclamation Mr Çavuşoğlu (Turkey, EDG) as Vice-Chair.
- ***Date and place of the next meeting***: left it to the Chair to convene its next meeting

The Sub-Committee on External Relations of the Political Affairs Committee, meeting in Strasbourg on 23 January 2008, first with Mr Wilshire (United Kingdom, EDG), oldest member present, and then Mr Iwinski (Poland, SOC) in the Chair:

- *re-elected* by acclamation Mr Iwiński (Poland, SOC) as Chair;
- *elected* by acclamation Mr Aligrudić (Serbia, EPP/CD) as Vice-Chair.
- ***Date and place of the next meeting***: left it to the Chair to convene its next meeting

The Sub-Committee on the Middle East of the Political Affairs Committee, meeting in Strasbourg on 23 January 2008, first with Lord Tomlinson (United Kingdom, SOC), oldest member present, and then Mr Pavlidis (Greece, EPP/CD) in the Chair:

- *elected* Mr Pavlidis (Greece, EPP/CD) as Chair;
- agreed to postpone the election of a Vice-Chair until its next meeting.
- ***Date and place of the next meeting***: left it to the Chair to convene its next meeting

Bariş Perin, Agnieszka Nachilo, Pavel Chevtchenko, Sonia Sirtori-Milner, Laurent Pfaadt

Sub-Committee on the Middle East / *Sous-commission sur le Proche-Orient*
28 seats / 28 sièges

LIST OF MEMBERS/LISTE DES MEMBRES

Chairperson / Présidente

Mr PAVLIDIS Aristotelis

Greece / Grèce

Mr PANGALOS

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-Président(e)

Members / Membres

1.	Mr	AGRAMUNT Pedro	Spain / Espagne
2.	Mr	ALIGRUDIC Milos	Serbia / Serbie
3.	Mr	AZZOLINI Claudio	Italy / Italie
4.	Mr	BERCEANU	Romania / Roumanie
5.	Mr	BIBERAJ	Albania / Albanie
6.	Mr	DAEMS	Belgium / Belgique
7.	Mrs	DURRIEU Josette	France
8.	Mr	ELZINGA	Netherlands / Pays-Bas
9.	Mr	FAHEY Frank	Ireland / Irlande
10.	Mme	FIALA	Switzerland / Suisse
11.	Mr	GARDETTO Jean-Charles	Monaco
12.	Mr	GRZYB Andrzej	Poland / Pologne
13.	Mr	HARUTYUNYAN Davit	Armenia/Arménie
14.	Mr	HÖRSTER Joachim	Germany / Allemagne
15.	Mr	JENSEN Mogens	Denmark / Danemark
16.	Mr	KAIKKONEN	Finland / Finlande
17.	Mrs	LUNDGREN	Sweden / Suède
18.	Mr	MARGELOV Mikhail	Russia / Russie
19.	Mrs	MIKHAILOVA Nadezhda	Bulgaria/Bulgarie
20.	Mr	MOTA AMARAL João Bosco	Portugal
21.	Mrs	NĚMCOVÁ Miroslava	Czech Republic / République tchèque
22.	Mrs	OJULAND	Estonia / Estonie
23.	Mr	POURGOURIDES Christos	Cyprus/Chypre
24.	Mr	SZABO Zoltan	Hungary / Hongrie
25.	Mr	TEKELIOĞLU Mehmet	Turkey/Turquie
26.	Lord	TOMLINSON	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
27.	NN	

Alternates / Remplaçants

Mrs ABURTO Maria

Mr ZACCHERA Marco

Mr TUDOSE Mihai

Mr van den BRANDE Luc

Mr ROCHEBLOINE François

Mr ten BROEKE

Mr BREEN Patrick

Mr REIMANN Maximilian

Mr WIŃSKI Tadeusz

Mr SCHMITT Ingo

Mr SLUTSKY Leonid

Mr VERA JARDIM José

Mr BARTOŠ Walter

Mr KYPRIANOU Andros

Mr AUSTIN John

Ex-officio : Mr Lindblad – Chair of the Political Affairs Committee

Sub-Committee on External Relations / *Sous-commission des relations extérieures*
28 seats / 28 sièges

LIST OF MEMBERS/LISTE DES MEMBRES

Chairperson / Présidente

Mr IWIŃSKI Tadeusz Poland / Pologne Mr LIPINSKI

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-Président(e)

1. Mr ALIGRUDIĆ Miloš Serbia / Serbie

Members / Membres

Alternates / Remplaçants

2. Mr ADONTS Avet	Armenia	
3. M. BADRE Denis	France	M. MIGNON Jean-Claude
4. Mr BIBERAJ Aleksandër	Albania / Albanie	
5. Mr BLOM Luuk	Netherlands / Pays-Bas	Mr WAALKENS Harm
6. Mr van den BRANDE Luc	Belgium / Belgique	Mr DAEMS
7. Mr BREEN Patrick	Ireland / Irlande	Mr FAHEY Frank
8. Ms ČURDOVÁ Anna	Czech Republic / République tchèque	Mrs KONECNA Katerina
9. Mr GARDETTO J-Charles	Monaco	Mr MARQUET Bernard
10. Mr GOERENS Charles	Luxembourg	
11. Mrs HURSKRAINEN	Finland / Finlande	
12. Mr JENSEN Michael Aastrup	Denmark / Danemark	
13. Mrs KELES Birgen	Turkey / Turquie	
14. Mr KOSACHEV Konstantin	Russian / Federation	Mr SLUTSKY Leonid
15. Mr LOUTFI Younal	Bulgaria / Bulgarie	
16. Mr OMELCHENKO	Ukraine	Mrs HERASYM'YUK
17. Mr POURGOURIDES Christos	Cyprus / Chypre	Mr KYPRIANOU Andros
18. Mr PUCHE Gabino	Spain / Espagne	
19. Mr RIGONI Andrea	Italy / Italie	Mr MARCENARO Pietro
20. Mr SEYIDOV Samad	Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan	
21. Mr SZABO Zoltan	Hungary / Hongrie	
22. Mr VERA JARDIM José	Portugal	Mr MOTA AMARAL João Bosco
23. Mr VON SYDOW Björn	Sweden / Suède	Mrs Carina OHLSSON
24. Mr VRETTOS Konstantinos	Greece / Grèce	Mr DENDIAS Nikolaos
25. Mr WILSHIRE David	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni	Mr MACSHANE Denis
26. Mr WODARG Wolfgang	Germany / Allemagne	Mr STEENBLOCK Rainer
27. Mrs WURM Gisela	Austria / Autriche	Mr NEUGEBAUER Fritz

Ex-officio : Mr Lindblad – Chair of the Political Affairs Committee

Waiting list:

Mr GROSS Andreas	Switzerland / Suisse	Mrs MAURY PASQUIER Liliane
Mr TUDOSE Mihai	Romania / Roumanie	Mr BERCEANU Radu Mircea

Sub-Committee on Belarus / *Sous-commission sur le Bélarus*
28 seats / 28 sièges

LIST OF MEMBERS / LISTE DES MEMBRES

Chairman / Président

Mrs HURSKAINEN Finland

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-Président/e

1. Mr CAVUSOGLU Mevlüt Turkey/ Turquie

Members / Membres

2. Mr EVANS Nigel United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
3. Mr FLAHAUT Belgium / Belgique
4. Mr GROSS Switzerland / Suisse
5. Mr HARUTYUNYAN Armenia / Arménie
6. Mr HERKEL Estonia / Estonie
7. Mr IVANOV Ivan Bulgaria / Bulgarie
8. Mr JENSEN Michael Aastrup Denmark / Danemark
9. Mr KOSACHEV Russian Federation
10. Mr LIPINSKI Dariusz Poland / Pologne
11. M. LONCLE François France
12. M. MEREUTA Mircea Romania / Roumanie
13. Mrs NEMCOVA Miroslava Czech Republic / République tchèque
14. Mr NEUGEBAUER Fritz Austria / Autriche
15. Mrs OHLSSON Carina Sweden
16. Mr PADILLA Julio Spain / Espagne
17. Mr PFLUG Johannes Germany / Allemagne
18. Mr TEN BROEKE Netherlands
19. Mrs VESAITE Birute Lithuania / Lituanie
20. Mr ZACCHERA Marco Italy / Italie
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Alternates / Remplaçants

Mr WILSHIRE
Mr VAN OVERMEIRE
Mme FIALA Doris

Mr KOLESNIKOV
Mr BENDER Ryszard
Mr POZZO di BORGIO Yves
Mr OPREA Mario-Ovidiu
Mrs KONEČNÁ Kateřina
Ms WURM Gisela

Mrs CORTAJARENA Elvira
Mr LINTNER Eduard
Mr WAALKENS Harm

Mr RIGONI Andrea

Ex-officio : Mr Lindblad – Chair of the Political Affairs Committee

Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on the Forum for the future of Democracy
Sous-Commission ad hoc sur le Forum pour l'avenir de la démocratie

28 seats / 28 sièges

LIST OF MEMBERS / LISTE DES MEMBRES

Chairperson / Présidente

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-Président(e)

Members / Membres

Mrs	BECK	Germany / Allemagne
Mrs	DURRIEU	France / France
Mr	EVANS	United Kingdom / Royaume Uni
Mr	GROSS	Switzerland / Suisse
Mr	IWINSKI	Poland / Pologne
Mr	KOLESNIKOV	Russia / Russie
Mr	MARCENARO	Italy / Italie
Mr	MARONI	Italy / Italie
Mr	MARTY	Switzerland / Suisse
Mr	MERCAN	Turkey / Turquie
Mrs	NAROCHNITSKAYA	Russia / Russie
Mrs	OHLSSON	Sweden / Suède
Mr	RIGONI	Italy / Italie
Mr	SEYIDOV	Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan
Mr	TEKELIOGLU	Turkey / Turquie
Mr	VAN DEN BRANDE	Belgium / Belgique
Mr	VERA JARDIM	Portugal
Mr	WILSHIRE	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
Mr	Spain / Espagne

Ex-officio : Mr Lindblad – Chair of the Political Affairs Committee

Synopsis 2008/01

24 janvier 2008
Liste membres CR

**AD HOC SUB-COMMITTEE FOR THE ORGANISATION OF THE
ROUND TABLE ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION
IN THE CHECHEN REPUBLIC**

**SOUS-COMMISSION AD HOC POUR L'ORGANISATION
D'UNE TABLE RONDE SUR LA SITUATION POLITIQUE EN
REPUBLIQUE TCHETCHENE**

LIST OF MEMBERS / LISTE DES MEMBRES

Chairperson / Président

Mr GROSS Switzerland / Suisse

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-Président

Mr KOSACHEV Russian Federation / Fédération Russie

Members / Membres

Mr van den BRANDE	Belgium / Belgique
Mr BRINCAT	Malta / Malte
Mr DZHABRAILOV	Russian Federation / Fédération Russie
Mr EVANS	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
Mr GOERENS	Luxembourg
Mr IWIŃSKI	Poland / Pologne
Mr KOLESNIKOV	Russian Federation / Fédération Russie
Mr SLUTSKY	Russian Federation / Fédération Russie
Mr WILSHIRE	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

Ex-officio : Mr Lindblad – Chair of the Political Affairs Committee