



Political Affairs Committee

FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
POLITICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE
Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly

AS/PoI/CB (2010) 04

2 June 2010

The Political Affairs Committee, meeting in Paris on 1 June 2010, with Mr von Sydow (Sweden, SOC) and Mr Lipiński (Poland, EPP/CD) in the Chair:

as regards:

- **The situation in Kosovo¹ and the role of the Council of Europe** (*Rapporteur: Mr von Sydow, Sweden, SOC*): considered and approved a report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation, with a view to a debate at the next part-session (21-25 June 2010);
- **2010 debate on the state of democracy in Europe:**
 - . **Extra-institutional actors in the democratic system** (*Rapporteur: Mr Daems, Belgium, ALDE*): in the absence of the Rapporteur, considered and approved a report, agreed the rapporteur's proposal to change the title of the report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution, with a view to a debate at the next part-session (21-25 June 2010);
 - . **The political consequences of the economic crisis** (*Rapporteur: Mr Zingeris, Lithuania, EPP/CD*): considered and approved a report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution, with a view to a debate at the next part-session (21-25 June 2010);
 - . **Democracy in Europe: crisis and perspectives** (*Rapporteur: Mr Gross, Suisse, SOC*): considered and approved a report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation, with a view to a debate at the next part-session (21-25 June 2010);
- **Islam, Islamism and Islamophobia in Europe** (*Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Hancock, United Kingdom, ALDE*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur on his draft opinion and proposed amendments, decided to postpone their approval to allow the Rapporteur to identify, together with the Rapporteur for report, possible compromise solutions;
- **Legal remedies for human rights violations in the North-Caucasus Region** (*Rapporteur for opinion: Mrs Brasseur, Luxembourg, ALDE*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur and held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Marty, Rapporteur of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and decided to adopt the draft opinion on the first day of the next part-session;

¹ All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

This document is available on the Parliamentary Assembly Extranet website (restricted area for PACE Members)
<http://assembly.coe.int/extranet>

- **Situation in the Middle East:** heard a statement by Mr de Puig, Chair of the sub-committee on the Middle East, held an exchange of views with Mr Al-Salhi and Mr Assaf, members of the Palestinian Legislative Council, and decided to request that a debate under urgent procedure be held during the next part-session (21-25 June 2010) on *Flare-up of tension in the Middle East*;
- **Iran's nuclear programme: the need for an effective international response** (*Rapporteur: Mr Iwiński, Poland, SOC*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur on his forthcoming visits to Vienna (3-4 June 2010) and Moscow (15-17 June 2010) and held an exchange of views;
- **Situation in Belarus** (*Rapporteur: Mrs Hurskainen, Finland, SOC*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur on the timing of her visit to Belarus, following the authorisation given by the Bureau on 21 May 2010;
- **The need for a Code of good practice in the field of funding of electoral campaigns** (*Rapporteur: Mr Harutyunyan, Armenia, EDG*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur and decided to consult the Venice Commission on this matter ;
- **Request from the Parliament of Morocco for partner for democracy status within the Parliamentary Assembly:** heard a statement by the Chairman on the procedure to be followed for examining this request; decided to postpone the appointment of a Rapporteur to the next part-session and agreed on a timetable for this report;
- **Future work:**
 - a) Reference for report: appointed
 - Mr Markov (Russian Federation, EDG) as Rapporteur on *Increasing drug traffic from Afghanistan as a threat to European Security* and heard from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interest;
 - b) Reference for information
 - took note of a reference for information on *Council of Europe's common approach to solving the human rights situation in Burma/Myanmar* and held an exchange of views;
 - c) Authorisations by the Committee
 - authorised Mrs Lundgren (Sweden, ALDE) to carry-out a fact-finding visit to Brussels in the framework of her report on *The impact of the Lisbon Treaty on the Council of Europe* (9-10 June 2010);
- **120th session of the Committee of Ministers (11 May 2010, Strasbourg):** took note of the Conclusions of the Swiss Chairmanship and of the Priorities of the Chairmanship of "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia".
- **Next meetings**
 - . 3rd Assembly part-session 2010 (21-25 June 2010);
 - . accepted an invitation to meet in Belgrade on 7-8 September 2010, subject to authorisation by the Bureau.

Despina Chatzivassiliou, João Ary, Pavel Chevtchenko, Sonia Sirtori

- cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
Director General, Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly
Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly
Observers to the Assembly
Secretary General of the Congress
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Directors General
Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe for Organisation Developments and Reform
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