



AS/Pol/ER(2011) CB 02

19 May 2011

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## Political Affairs Committee

### **Sub-Committee on External Relations**

**The Sub-Committee on External Relations** of the Political Affairs Committee, meeting in St. Petersburg (Russian Federation) on 16 May 2011, with Mr Leonid Slutsky (Russian Federation, SOC) in the Chair:

- took part in a meeting co-organised jointly with:
  - . the permanent Commission on Political Issues and International Co-operation of the Inter-parliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA CIS), chaired by Mr Amzebek Zholshibekov (Kazakhstan), Chairperson,
  - . the permanent Commission on Political Issues and International Co-operation of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of the Collective Security Treaty (PA OCST), chaired by Mr Akhan Bizhanov (Kazakhstan), Chairperson,
  - . representatives of the General Committee on Political Issues and Security of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE PA), chaired by Mr Karl-Georg Wellmann (Germany), Chairperson,
  - . representatives of the permanent Commission on Defence and Security Issues of the Inter-parliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA CIS), chaired by Mr Viktor Voytenko (Russian Federation), Chairperson,
- heard statements by Mr Petros Efthymiou (Greece), President of the OSCE PA, and Mr Abdul Raouf Ibrahimi, Speaker of the *Wolesi Jirga* of the National Assembly of Afghanistan;
- participated in an exchange of views with members of the above-mentioned bodies on:
  - . ***Need to step up international co-operation to fight drug traffic*** (keynote speaker: Mr Oleg Safonov, Secretary of State, Deputy Director of the Federal Drug Control Service of the Russian Federation);
  - . ***Political transformations in the Arab world*** (keynote speakers: Mr Francis Agius (Malta), PACE, and Mr Karl-Georg Wellmann (Germany), OSCE PA);
  - . ***Arms control – the role of the OSCE*** (keynote speakers: Mr Karl-Georg Wellmann (Germany), OSCE PA, and Mr Vladimir Lityushkin (Russian Federation), IPA CIS);
- ***Date and place of the next meeting***: decided to hold a meeting, if possible, during the June part-session of the Assembly ( 20-24 June 2011) in Strasbourg.

Pavel Chevtchenko

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