

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON RULES OF PROCEDURE AND IMMUNITIES

SECRETARIAT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Synopsis

4 June 2007

The Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities, meeting in Biel/Bienne (Switzerland) on 30 May 2007, with Mr Gross (Switzerland, SOC) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Follow-up to Recommendation 1763 (2006) on Institutional balance at the Council of Europe:** held an exchange of views with Ambassador Jean-Claude Joseph, Chairperson of the Working Group on institutional reform of the Committee of Ministers, Permanent Representative of Switzerland to the Council of Europe, and instructed its Chairperson to send a letter to the President of the Assembly containing proposals made by the Rules Committee with regard to the strengthening of the dialogue between the Assembly and the Committee of Ministers;
- **Improving the participation of members in Assembly plenary sessions and committee meetings** (*Rapporteur: Mr Gross, Switzerland, SOC*): approved a revised report, unanimously adopted a draft resolution with a view to presenting them at the October 2007 Assembly part-session;
- **Gender equality principles in the Parliamentary Assembly** (*Rapporteur: Mrs Mendonça, Portugal, SOC*): considered a revised draft report and decided to resume consideration of the issue with a view to adopting it at its next meeting;
- **Application and amendment of various provisions of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure** (*Rapporteur: Mr Jurgens, Netherlands, SOC*): considered a revised introductory memorandum and instructed its rapporteur to present a draft report at its next meeting;
- **Current questions of democracy – follow-up to Resolution 1547 (2007) and Recommendation 1791 (2007) on the situation of human rights and democracy in Europe:** heard presentations by Mr Kurt Nuspliger, "Staatschreiber" of the Canton of Bern, Professor at Bern University, and Dr. Beat Habegger, Senior Researcher, Center for Security Studies, ETH Zürich, and held an exchange of views;
- **Next meeting** Strasbourg, during the third part session of the Assembly (25 - 29 June 2007).

Mario Heinrich, Valérie Clamer

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
Director General in the Secretariat of the Assembly
Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly
Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly

Directors General
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Secretary of the Committee of Ministers
Director of Communication
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe