



SECRETARIAT

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10 October 2012

## To the members of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development

### Synopsis of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 1 – 4 October 2012

The Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, meeting in Strasbourg with Ms Liliane Maury Pasquier (Switzerland, SOC) in the Chair:

- on Monday 1 October 2012 at 2pm, as regards:

*Joint meeting with the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy and the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media*, with Mr Gvozden Srećko Flego (Croatia, SOC), Mr Pietro Marcenaro (Italy, SOC) and Ms Liliane Maury Pasquier (Switzerland, SOC) in the chair,

- *The North-South Centre and the Arab countries in transition*: held an exchange of views with the participation of:

- Ms Gabriella Battaini-Dragoni, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe;
- Ms Deborah Bergamini (Italy, EPP/CD), Chairperson of the Executive Committee of the North-South Centre;
- Ambassador Luis Filipe Castro Mendes, Permanent Representative of Portugal to the Council of Europe, Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers' Rapporteur Group "Education, Culture, Sport, Youth and Environment" (GR-C);

- took note of the intention of the three chairpersons to submit a proposal for follow up action to the Bureau of the Parliamentary Assembly, probably in the form of a draft declaration on "The North-South Centre and the Arab countries in transition".

- on Tuesday, 2 October 2012 at 8.30 a.m., as regards:

- *The activities of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in 2011-2012* (Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Marton Braun, Hungary, EPP/CD): considered and approved a draft opinion, including three amendments;

- *Intercountry adoption: ensuring that the best interests of the child are upheld* (Rapporteur: Ms Marlene Rupprecht, Germany, SOC): considered a revised draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution with a view to the presentation of the report at the November 2012 Standing Committee meeting in Andorra;

- *Composition of Sub-Committees*: approved the following changes in the composition of its Sub-Committees:

- *Sub-Committee on Social and Economic Rights*:

- Mr Ioannis Dradasakis (Greece, UEL) becomes an alternate to Mr Dimitrios Papadimoulis;
- Mr Danny Pieters (Belgium, NR) becomes an alternate to Mr Stefaan Vercamer;

- **Sub-Committee on Environment and Energy:**
  - Mr Miltiadis Varvitsiotis (Greece, EPP/CD) becomes an alternate to Mr Dimitrios Papadimoulis;
  - Mr Danny Pieters (Belgium, NR) becomes an alternate to M. Guy Coëme;
  - Ms Estelle Grelier (France, SOC) becomes a member and Ms Danielle Auroi becomes her alternate;
  
- **Sub-Committee on Public Health:**
  - Mr Miltiadis Varvitsiotis (Greece, EPP/CD) becomes a member and Ms Eleni Rapti becomes an alternate;
  - Ms Cindy Franssen (Belgium, EPP/CD) becomes a member and Mr Guy Coëme stays as alternate;
  - Mr Gérard Bapt (France, SOC) becomes an alternate to Mr Jean-Louis Lorrain;
  
- **Draft motions for a resolution/recommendation with a view to approval by the Committee for tabling:** approved the following texts for tabling:
  - ✓ Child poverty: a cause of continuing human rights violations and a barrier to children's full development
  - ✓ Protection of the right to bargain collectively
  - ✓ Children's right to physical integrity
  
- **Appointment of rapporteurs:**

*For report :*

  - . Preventing natural disasters: Mr Cezar Florin Preda (Romania, EPP/CD);
  - . Reporting suspected sexual violence against children: legislative and political measures required to protect victims and professionals: Mr Agustín Conde (Spain, EPP/CD);
  - . Optimum care for women with breast cancer: Mrs Stella Kyriakides (Cyprus, EPP/CD);

*For opinion :*

  - . Addressing age discrimination on the labour market: Mr Margus Hanson (Estonia, ALDE);
  - . Refugees and the fight against AIDS: Mr Miltiadis Varviotsis (Greece, EPP/CD);

and heard from the appointees a declaration on the absence of a conflict of interests, with the exception of Mr Preda and Mr Conde who were nominated in their absence, subject to a declaration on the absence of a conflict of interests at the next meeting;
  
- **Texts transmitted to the Committee for information:** took note of the following text to be taken into account in the preparation of the report on "Towards a Council of Europe Convention to combat trafficking in organs, tissues and cells of human origin":
  - . Motion for a resolution on *"The European economic crisis and the increasing illegal organ trade"*
  
- **World Forum for Democracy:** took note of the preparations for the Forum (representing the Committee, Mr Hancock (United Kingdom, ALDE), Mr Kürkçü (Turkey, UEL) and Mr Volontè (Italy EPP/CD) );
  
- **on Wednesday, 3 October 2012, at 2 p.m., as regards:**
  
- **9<sup>th</sup> meeting of the PACE network of contact parliamentarians to stop sexual violence against Children:**

held an exchange of views on the theme "Fighting against sexual violence: empowering children" with the participation of:

  - Ms Gorana Hitrec, President of the Coordination of Associations for Children (Croatia) and
  - Ms Dusica Popadić, Director of the Incest Trauma Center in Belgrade (Serbia);

heard a statement by Mr Keith Whimore, President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe;

- **on Thursday, 4 October 2012 at 2 p.m., as regards:**
- ***Towards a Council of Europe Convention to combat trafficking in organs, tissues and cells of human origin*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Bernard Marquet, Monaco, ALDE*): considered an introductory memorandum;
- ***Food security*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Bernard Marquet, Monaco, ALDE*): considered an introductory memorandum;
- ***Sub-Committee on Public Health***: heard a report by the Earl of Dundee, Sub-Committee Chairperson, on its meeting in Strasbourg on 2 October 2012 and approved its decisions;
- ***Sub-Committee on Social and Economic Rights***: heard a report by Ms Carina Ohlsson, Sub-Committee Chairperson, on its meeting in Strasbourg on 2 October 2012 and approved its decisions;
- ***Sub-Committee on Environment and Energy***: heard a report by Mr Stefan Schennach, Sub-Committee Chairperson, on its meeting in Strasbourg on 4 October 2012 and approved its decisions;
- ***Representation of the committee***: appointed its representatives to external events as follows:
  - 3rd meeting of the Committee of the Parties (“Lanzarote Committee”) to the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse, Strasbourg, 15-16 October 2012 : Mr Valeriu Ghilechi (Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD);
  - UNICRI (United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute) International conference on “Environmental Crime: Current and Emerging Threats”, Rome, 29-30 October 2012: Mr Bernard Marquet (Monaco, ALDE);
  - Conference “The Political and Socio-Economical Empowerment of Women Based on Women’s Stories”, Istanbul, 4-6 November 2012, co-organised by the North-South Centre in partnership with the Parliamentary Assembly and the Grand National Assembly of Turkey: Ms Maryvonne Blondin (France, SOC);
  - International workshop on citizens’ consultation on the right to the protection of health, Strasbourg, 8-9 November 2012: Earl of Dundee (United Kingdom, EDG) and Mr Dobbin (United Kingdom, SOC) (*at no cost to the Assembly*);
  - World Conference on Climate Change, Doha (Qatar), 26 November - 7 December 2012: Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Environment and Energy (participation limited to the last three days of the Conference);
  - Meeting of the Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO), Strasbourg, 4-7 December 2012: Mr Jordi Xuclà i Costa (Spain, ALDE) and noted the wish of Mr Jean-Louis Lorrain (France, EPP/CD) to attend (*at no cost to the Assembly*);
- ***Composition of Sub-Committees***: approved the following changes in the composition of its Sub-Committees:
- ***Sub-Committee on Environment and Energy***:
  - Mr Serhiy Sobolev (Ukraine, EPP/CD) becomes an alternate to Mr Mykola Shershun;
  - Mr Tomáš Úlehla (Czech Republic, EDG) becomes an alternate to Ms Kateřina Konečná;
- ***Sub-Committee on Public Health***:
  - Mr Tomáš Úlehla (Czech Republic, EDG) becomes an alternate to Ms Daniela Filipiova;
- Joint Declaration on the occasion of the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty, Conference on “**Building Europe through Human Rights: Acting Together against Extreme Poverty**”, Strasbourg, 17 October 2012: considered and approved the joint declaration;

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**The Sub-Committee on Public Health**, meeting in Strasbourg on Tuesday, 2 October 2012, with the Earl of Dundee (United Kingdom, EDG) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Sub-Committee work programme:** held an exchange of views and approved its work programme;
- **Strengthening of relations with the World Health Organisation (WHO):** held an exchange of views and authorised its Bureau to meet with WHO representatives, together with the Chairperson of the Plenary Committee before the end of the year;
- **Other business:** heard a presentation from Ms Mehri Gafar-Zada, from the Social Cohesion and Integration Division of the Council of Europe, on the International workshop on citizens' consultation on the right to the protection of health;
- **Next meeting:** took note of the proposal put forward by the Chairperson to hold its next meeting during the 1<sup>st</sup> part-session 2013 of the Assembly in January.

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**The Sub-Committee on Social and Economic Rights**, meeting in Strasbourg on Tuesday, 2 October 2012, with Ms Ohlsson (Sweden, SOC), in the Chair, as regards:

- **Sub-Committee work programme:** took note of the revised work programme;
- **2<sup>nd</sup> Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Social Cohesion "Building a secure future for all"**, Istanbul, 11-12 October 2012: held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Thorsten Afflerbach, Head of the Social Cohesion and Integration Division of the Directorate General of Democracy of the Council of Europe, with a view to preparing a contribution by the Parliamentary Assembly;
- **Next meeting:** took note of the proposal put forward by the Chairperson to hold its next meeting during the 1<sup>st</sup> part-session 2013 of the Assembly in January.

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**The Sub-Committee on Environment and Energy**, meeting in Strasbourg on 4 October 2012, with Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC), in the Chair, as regards:

- elected Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) Chairperson by acclamation;
- elected Mr Fernand Boden (Luxembourg, EPP/CD) Vice-Chairperson by acclamation;
- **The 2nd edition of the Manual on human rights and the environment prepared by the Council of Europe:** heard a presentation by Ms Merete Bjerregaard, Human Rights Law and Policy Division of the Council of Europe, and held an exchange of views;
- **Preparations for the World Conference on Climate Change**, Doha (Qatar), 26 November – 7 December 2012: held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Reinhard Mechler, Head of the Disasters and Development Group of the Risk and Vulnerability Programme International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA), and considered information documents;
- **Sub-Committee work programme:** took note of the revised work programme;
- **Next meeting:** left it to its Chairperson to convene the next meeting.

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- **Date and place of next meetings**

**Plenary committee:**

- Monday, 19 and Tuesday, 20 November 2012, Moscow, Russian Federation;
- First part-session 2013 of the Assembly, 21-25 January 2013, Strasbourg;

- Monday, 25 March 2013, Paris (Council of Europe office) *(date to be confirmed)*;
- Second part-session 2013 of the Assembly, 22-26 April 2013, Strasbourg;
- Monday, 3 June 2013, Paris (Council of Europe office) *(date to be confirmed)*;
- Third part-session 2013 of the Assembly, 24-28 June 2013, Strasbourg;
- Monday, 9 September 2013, Paris (Council of Europe office) *(date to be confirmed)*;
- Fourth part-session 2013 of the Assembly, 30 September – 4 October 2013, Strasbourg;
- Friday, 22 November 2013, Paris (Council of Europe office) *(date to be confirmed)*.

***PACE network of contact parliamentarians to stop sexual violence against children:***

- Tuesday, 20 November 2012, Moscow, Russian Federation;
- First part-session 2013 of the Assembly, 21-25 January 2013, Strasbourg *(date to be confirmed)*.

Tanja Kleinsorge, Aiste Ramanauskaite, Maren Lambrecht-Feigl, Ayşegül Elveriş, Jannick Devaux

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cc: Secretary General of the Assembly  
 Director General, Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly  
 Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly  
 Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations  
 Secretary General of the Congress  
 Secretary to the Committee of Ministers  
 Directors General  
 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