



AS/SOC (2016) CB 05

27 June 2016

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

Synopsis of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 21 and 23 June 2016

The Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, meeting in Strasbourg:

- **Tuesday, 21 June 2016, at 9 am** with Ms Stella Kyriakides (Cyprus, EPP/CD), Chairperson, in the chair, as regards:
 - decided to treat the item on “Human rights and ethical issues related to surrogacy” *in camera* at the meeting scheduled for Wednesday 22 June 2016;
 - **Election of the 2nd Vice-Chairperson:** elected Mr Ögmundur Jónasson (Iceland, UEL) 2nd Vice-Chairperson by acclamation;
 - **The exploration and exploitation of non-conventional hydrocarbons in Europe** (*Rapporteur: Mr Geraint Davies, United Kingdom, SOC*): considered a preliminary draft report;
 - **Committee’s work programme**
 - *Considered and approved the following three motions for resolutions for tabling on behalf of the Committee:*
 - Stress at work
 - Sustainable urban development fostering social inclusion
 - Climate change and implementation of the Paris Agreement
 - **World Forum for Democracy, Strasbourg, 7-9 November 2016:** appointed Mr Mikayel Melkumyan (Armenia, EC) as an additional member to the *ad hoc* Committee of the Bureau, adding him to the list of members appointed on 2 June 2016 - Mr Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ALDE), Ms Milica Marković (Bosnia and Herzegovina, SOC) and Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) - and took note of the information provided on the Forum;
 - **Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize:** heard a report by the Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on its meeting in Strasbourg on Monday 20 June 2016, and agreed to present the Sub-Committee’s request to meet on Friday 8 July 2016 in Girona (Spain) on the occasion of the Presentation ceremony of the 2016 Europe Prize to the Bureau for authorisation;
 - **Sub-Committee on Environment and Energy:** heard a report by the Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on its meeting in Strasbourg on Monday 20 June 2016, and agreed to present the Sub-Committee’s request to meet on 29 September 2016 in Lviv (Ukraine) to the Bureau for authorisation;
 - **Sub-Committee on the European Social Charter:** heard a report by the Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on its meeting in Strasbourg on Tuesday 21 June 2016, including information on the upcoming parliamentary seminar on social rights, to take place in Paris on Friday 28 October 2016;

- **Tuesday, 21 June 2016, at 2 pm** with Ms Stella Kyriakides (Cyprus, EPP/CD), Chairperson, in the chair, as regards:
 - **Meetings in Florence:** thanked the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre for its invitation to hold a Committee meeting and a meeting of the Network of Contact Parliamentarians to stop sexual violence against children in Florence at the end of the year, and agreed to ask the Bureau for the necessary authorisation;
 - **Fighting the over-sexualisation of children** (*Rapporteur: Mr Valeriu Ghiletschi, Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD*): took position on 4 amendments tabled and held an exchange of views with Ms Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography;
 - **Human rights and ethical issues related to surrogacy** (*Rapporteur: Ms Petra De Sutter, Belgium, SOC*): decided to suspend work on the report until the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs has transmitted its opinion on the general question concerning procedures for the adoption/ rejection of reports in committees and plenary session to the Bureau of the Assembly, cancelled the Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, 22 June 2016, and voted not to request a prolongation of the reference until the end of the year;
- **Thursday, 23 June 2016, at 8.30 am** with Ms Stella Kyriakides (Cyprus, EPP/CD), Chairperson, in the chair, as regards:
 - **The concern about fiscal, social justice and public trust in our democratic system / Effectively combating the adverse consequences of dirty money** (*Rapporteur: Mr Stefan Schennach, Austria, SOC*): considered an introductory memorandum, changed the title to “The need for fiscal and social justice, and public trust in our democratic, financial and tax system”, and held a hearing with the participation of Mr Boudewijn Van Looij, Tax Policy Analyst, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD);
 - **Declaration of absence of conflict of interest:** heard a declaration of absence of conflict of interest from Ms Liliane Maury Pasquier (Switzerland, SOC), rapporteur for “Detention of Palestinian minors in Israeli Prisons”, who had been appointed in her absence at the previous meeting in Paris;
- **Thursday, 23 June 2016, at 2 pm** with Ms Stella Kyriakides (Cyprus, EPP/CD), Chairperson, in the chair, as regards:
 - **Road safety in Europe as a public health priority** (*Rapporteur: Ms Naira Karapetyan, Armenia, EPP/CD*): noted that no amendments had been tabled to the report;
 - **Committee’s work programme**
 - *appointed rapporteurs as follows:*
 - The provision of elderly and palliative care in Europe (*for report*): decided to postpone this item to its next meeting to consider the possibility of merging the motion for a resolution with the report on “A European social commitment guaranteeing the rights of the elderly and their comprehensive care”;
 - Universal access to maternal healthcare (*for report*): Ms Liliane Maury Pasquier (Switzerland, SOC) in her absence;
 - Protecting children and young people affected by armed conflicts (*for report*): Ms Sevinj Fataliyeva (Azerbaijan, EC);
 - An urgent call for increased solidarity: the right to work, the right to strike (*for report*): decided to merge this with “Developments in the social functioning of trade unions” and confirmed Mr Ógmundur Jónasson (Iceland, UEL) as Rapporteur for the merged report,
 - Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) and its implications for social rights, public health and sustainable development (*subject to Bureau and Assembly decision*): Mr Geraint Davies (United Kingdom, SOC);

- Jurisdictional immunity of international organisations and rights of their staff (*for opinion*): Ms Naira Karapatyen (Armenia, EPP/CD);

and heard declarations on the absence of a conflict of interests from all members present, noting that Ms Maury Pasquier (Switzerland, SOC) would make her declaration at a next meeting;

- **Declaration of absence of conflict of interest:** heard a declaration of absence of conflict of interest from Ms Sevinj Fataliyeva (Azerbaijan, EC), General Rapporteur on Children of the Parliamentary Assembly, who had been re-appointed in her absence at the previous meeting in Paris;

- *appointed Committee representatives to external events as follows (subject to the availability of funds):*

- 1st meeting of the Ad hoc Committee for the Rights of the Child (CAHENF), Strasbourg, 28-29 September 2016: Ms Sevinj Fataliyeva (Azerbaijan, EC), in her capacity as General Rapporteur on Children of the Parliamentary Assembly;
- Seminar on "Parliaments and Technology Assessment Capabilities" hosted by the Austrian Parliament and organised by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Vienna, Austria, 20 October 2016: Mr Ögmundur Jónasson (Iceland, UEL);
- 13th Ministerial Session of the European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement (EUR-OPA) "From Advocacy to Action: building more disaster resilient societies in Europe and the Mediterranean region", Lisbon (Portugal), 26 October 2016: Mr Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ALDE);

- *Reports from committee representatives to external events: heard statements as follows:*

.Ms Sevinj Fataliyeva (Azerbaijan, EC), General Rapporteur on Children of the Parliamentary Assembly, who took part in the High-level Inaugural Conference for the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2016-2021), Sofia (Bulgaria), 5-6 April 2016;

.Mr Ögmundur Jónasson (Iceland, UEL), who took part in the 2016 Annual session of the Parliamentary Conference on the WTO: *What future for the WTO?* 13-14 June 2016, Geneva, Switzerland;

- **Changes in the Sub-Committees:** approved the following changes:

- **Sub-Committee on the European Social Charter**

Ms Vasiliki Katrivanou (Greece, UEL) has left the Greek delegation and the committee and therefore the Sub-Committee on the European Social Charter

- **Sub-Committee on Public Health**

Ms Milica Marcović (Bosnia and Herzegovina, SOC) becomes a full member
Ms Christiana Erotokritou (Cyprus, SOC) becomes a full member

- **Sub-Committee on Environment and Energy**

Ms Christiana Erotokritou (Cyprus, SOC) becomes a full member
Mr Krzysztof Sitarski (Poland, EC) becomes a full member

- **Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize**

Mr Georgios Kyritsis (Greece, UEL) becomes a full member

- **Any other business:**

- decided to treat the item on "Human rights and ethical issues related to surrogacy" in camera at the meeting scheduled for 21 September 2016 in Paris;

- took note of the international conference to be held in Wilton Park on 9- 11 November 2016 on “Protecting Children from Violence: Next Steps for Effective Strategies”, co-organised by the Parliamentary Assembly, the Children’s Rights Division (DGII) of the Council of Europe, and Wilton Park;
 - was informed by the Chairperson of the request she had addressed to the President of the Assembly to organise a breast-cancer awareness event during the October part session, including a stand in the foyer of the Hemicycle;
 - at the request of Lord Foulkes, in the framework of the preparation of his report on “A European social commitment guaranteeing the rights of the elderly and their comprehensive care”, watched a video which shared the viewpoint of the WHO Director of the Department of Ageing and Life Course on this issue, and was informed by the Rapporteur on the relevant meeting of the INGO Conference he had attended the same morning, as well as of the countries he had chosen for the upcoming fact-finding visits authorised by the Committee on 2 June 2016 (Denmark and Romania);
- **Date and place of next meetings:**
- Plenary committee:**
- Wednesday, 21 September 2016, Paris (Council of Europe Office);
 - Fourth part-session 2016 of the Assembly, 10-14 October 2016, Strasbourg;
 - Wednesday 30 November and Thursday 1 December 2016, UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre, Florence, Italy;
- Network of Contact Parliamentarians to stop sexual violence against children:**
- Thursday 1 December 2016, UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre, Florence, Italy.

The Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize, meeting in Strasbourg on 20 June 2016 with Mr Jean-Claude Frécon (France, SOC), Chairperson, in the Chair:

- considered proposals on the modernisation of the Europe Prize, including the possible creation of a new “Neighbourhood Prize” upon the proposal of the President of the Parliamentary Assembly;
- decided to proceed to the vote on these proposals at the next meeting of the Sub-Committee;
- heard a report of the Chairperson on his participation in the General Assembly of the Association of Towns Awarded the Europe Prize, held in Klaipeda (Lithuania) on 2-4 June 2016.

The Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize, meeting in Strasbourg on 23 June 2016 with Mr Jean-Claude Frécon (France, SOC), Chairperson, in the Chair:

- Award ceremony for the European diplomas: participated in awarding European diplomas to a dozen cities from different countries;
- **Date and place of the next meeting:** Friday 8 July 2016, Girona (Spain), Presentation ceremony of the 2016 Europe Prize.

The Sub-Committee on Environment and Energy, meeting in Strasbourg on 20 June 2016, with Mr Serhii Kiral (Ukraine, EC), Chairperson, in the Chair:

- took note of the revised work programme of the Sub-Committee in 2016;
- **Date and place of the next meeting:** decided to hold its next meeting as follows: 29 September 2016, Lviv (Ukraine);

The Sub-Committee on the European Social Charter, meeting in Strasbourg on 21 June 2016, with Mr Tuur Elzinga (Netherlands, UEL), Chairperson, in the Chair:

- heard a statement by the Chairperson on the state of implementation of the European Social Charter and relevant Sub-Committee action suggested for 2016, including a series of bilateral meetings of the Chairperson with national delegations to address possible obstacles to full ratification and implementation of the Charter;
- decided to go ahead with organising the next parliamentary seminar aimed at promoting implementation of the European Social Charter, to be held on 28 October 2016 in Paris, to address the specific issues of child labour and corporal punishment (identified by the 2015 conclusions of the European Committee of Social Rights (ECSR) as the areas where the most frequent violations were observed in member States), and noted that invitations to delegations concerned would be sent out after the summer-break;
- **Date and place of the next meeting:** decided to hold its next meetings as follows: during the October 2016 part-session (*date to be confirmed*);

Tanja Kleinsorge, Maren Lambrecht-Feigl, Raul Mallaina, Alina Beliaeva, Sylvie Elter

cc: Secretary General of the Assembly
Director General, Director 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