



TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES FOR WOMEN AND MEN

Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly
Synopsis No. 2010/02
31 March 2010

The Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, meeting in Paris on 25 March 2010, with Mr Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD), in the Chair:

As regards:

- *Cooperation with the Council of Europe Steering Committee on Equality between Women and Men (CDEG)*: held an exchange of views with Ms Iphigénie Katsaridou, Chairperson of the CDEG, and decided to constitute an ad hoc Sub-Committee of six members of the Committee to take part in the 7th Council of Europe Conference on Ministers responsible for Equality between Women and Men, Baku, 24-25 May 2010, with a view to an exchange of view between the parliamentarians and the Ministers on 25 May 2010, subject to authorisation by the Bureau;
- *Implementation of Recommendation 1847 (2008) and Resolution 1635 (2008) on Combating violence against women: towards a Council of Europe convention*: heard a statement by Mr Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD) on the 4th meeting of the Ad Hoc Committee on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (CAHVIO) (Strasbourg, 22-24 February 2010) and by Ms Quintanilla Barba (Spain, EPP/CD) on the International Women's Day conference, European Parliament, (Brussels, 16 March 2010), held an exchange of views, and decided on the future action to be taken, including the sending of follow-up letters by the Chairperson of the Committee to the Chairpersons of the national delegations to the Assembly of those countries which are also members of the European Union;
- *Implementation of Recommendation 1895 (2010) and Resolution 1702 (2010) on Action against trafficking in human beings: promoting the Council of Europe convention*: heard a statement by the Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Trafficking in Human Beings, Ms Err (Luxembourg, SOC), on the implementation of the adopted texts, held an exchange of views, and decided on the future action to be taken, including the sending of follow-up letters by the Chairperson of the Committee to the Chairpersons of the national delegations to the Assembly and the organisation of a parliamentary conference at the end of 2010 (funds permitting);
- *Combating sexist stereotypes in the media* (rapporteur: Ms Stump, Switzerland, SOC): considered a preliminary draft report in the absence of the rapporteur;
- *The real situation of rural women in Europe* (rapporteur: Ms Quintanilla Barba, Spain, EPP/CD): prepared the hearing to be held in Paris on 26 March 2010 and heard a statement by the rapporteur;

cc Secretary General of the Assembly
Director General and Director of the Assembly
All staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly
Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly

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

- *Appointment of rapporteurs*: appointed the following rapporteurs for report:
 - ✓ Ms Err (Luxembourg, SOC) on *Fighting the global backlash against women's human rights*;
 - ✓ Ms Gautier (France, EPP/CD) on *More women in economic and social decision-making bodies*.

The Committee also appointed the following rapporteurs for opinion:

- ✓ Ms De Pourbaix–Lundin (Sweden, EPP/CD) on *Measures to improve the democratic character of elections in Council of Europe member states*;
 - ✓ Mr Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD) on *The impact of the Lisbon Treaty on the Council of Europe*;
 - ✓ Ms Ferić-Vac (Croatia, SOC) on *Combating poverty*.
- *Appointment of representatives to meetings organised by other bodies*:
 - ✓ Ms Čurdová (Czech Republic, SOC), to take part in the 43rd meeting of the Steering Committee for Equality between Women and Men (CDEG), Strasbourg, 21-23 April 2010.

- *Statements from representatives at meetings organised by other bodies*: heard a statement by Mr Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD) on the IPU conference on the occasion of the meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW): "The Role of Parliaments in Enforcing Women's Rights, 15 Years after Beijing", 2 March 2010, New York;

- *Decent pensions for women* (rapporteur: Ms Čurdová, Czech Republic, SOC): held an exchange of views with:

- ✓ Dr Vit Samek, consultant expert, Czech Republic;
- ✓ Dr Jay Ginn, consultant expert, United Kingdom.

Resuming its meeting on 26 March 2010, with Ms Ferić-Vac (Croatia, SOC), Vice-Chairperson, in the Chair:

as regards:

- *Women and the economic and financial crisis* (rapporteur: Ms Memecan, Turkey, ADLE): in the absence of the rapporteurs, considered a draft report and unanimously adopted the draft resolution and the draft recommendation, with a view to presenting the report to the Assembly at the April part-session 2010;

- *Discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity*: re-appointed Ms Memecan (Turkey, ADLE) rapporteur for opinion and adopted its opinion (without amendments) to the draft texts to be adopted;

- *Replies from the Committee of Ministers*: considered the reply of the Committee of Ministers to the Recommendation on:

- "Femicides"
- "The rights of today's girls – the rights of tomorrow's women"
- "Sexual violence against women in armed conflict"

- *Date and place of the next meetings of the Committee*:

- **Strasbourg**, during the 2010 2nd part-session of the Assembly (26-30 April);
- **Paris** (Council of Europe office), Thursday, 27 May 2010;
- **Strasbourg**, during the 2010 3rd part-session of the Assembly (21-25 June);
- **Paris** (Council of Europe office), Friday, 10 September 2010 (to be confirmed);
- **Strasbourg**, during the 2010 4th part-session of the Assembly (4-8 October);

- **Paris** (Council of Europe office), Thursday and Friday, 2-3 December 2010 (to be confirmed).
- *The real situation of rural women in Europe* (rapporteur: Ms Quintanilla Barba, Spain, EPP/CD): held a hearing with the participation of:
- Ms Merja Siltanen, President for Europe of the Associated Country Women of the World (ACWW);
 - Ms Rachida Tahri, Advisor to the Ministry of Social Development, Family and Solidarity of the Kingdom of Morocco;
 - Ms Mária Kadlečíková, Assistant Director-General and Regional Representative for Europe and Central Asia of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO);
 - Ms Brigitte Scherb, President of the German Association of rural women (“Deutscher LandFrauenverband”);
 - Ms Elena Vasilieva, Deputy Head of the region of Tomsk Representative office in Moscow (Russian Federation).

The Sub-Committee on Trafficking in Human Beings, meeting in Paris on 25 March 2010 with first Ms Quintanilla Barba (Spain, EPP/CD), Vice-Chairperson, and then Ms Err (Luxembourg, SOC) in the Chair:

as regards:

- *Election of the Chairperson of the Sub-Committee*: elected Ms Err (Luxembourg, SOC) Chairperson by acclamation;
- *Implementation of Resolution 1702 (2010) and Recommendation 1895 (2010) on “Action against trafficking in human beings: promoting the Council of Europe convention”*: held an exchange of views on the implementation of the adopted texts, and decided what future action to propose to the Plenary Committee;
- *Its next meeting*: left it to the Chairperson to decide on the date and place of the next meeting.

Tanja Kleinsorge, Sylvie Affholder, Jannick Devaux