



AS/EGA/synopsis (2011) 07
10 October 2011

Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men

Synopsis N° 2011/7

The Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, meeting in Strasbourg from 3 to 6 October 2011, with Mr Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD) in the Chair,

as regards:

- **Request for Partner for Democracy status with the Parliamentary Assembly submitted by the Palestinian National Council** (Ms Hägg, Sweden, SOC): considered and approved a draft opinion to the report tabled by the Political Affairs Committee;
- **The impact of the Lisbon Treaty on the Council of Europe**: (Rapporteur: Mr Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD): considered and approved a draft opinion to the report tabled by the Political Affairs Committee;
- **Prenatal sex selection** (Rapporteur: Ms Stump, Switzerland, SOC): took position on the amendments which had been tabled to the draft resolution and the draft recommendation and asked its Chairperson to propose that the amendments which it approved unanimously should be declared as adopted by the Assembly, in compliance with Rule 33.10 of the Rules of Procedure;
- **Violent and extreme pornography** (Rapporteur: Mr Stuligrosz, Poland, EPP/CD): in the absence of the rapporteur, asked its Chairperson to represent the rapporteur for the plenary debate; unanimously approved the amendment which had been tabled to the draft resolution and asked its Chairperson to propose that it should be declared as adopted by the Assembly, in compliance with Rule 33.10 of the Rules of Procedure;

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
Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe for Organisational Development and Reform
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

- **Psychological violence** (Rapporteur: Ms Kovács, Serbia, EPP/CD): considered and approved a draft report and unanimously adopted a preliminary draft resolution, in view of a debate to be held during the meeting of the Standing Committee in Edinburgh on 25 November 2011;
- **European norms concerning the enforcement and supervision of restraining orders in case of gender-based violence** (Rapporteur: Ms Myller, Finland, SOC): held an exchange of views, decided to change the title of the report to 'Protection orders for victims of domestic violence', and unanimously adopted a preliminary draft resolution, in view of a debate to be held during the meeting of the Standing Committee in Edinburgh on 25 November 2011;
- **Granting of participatory status to the international non-governmental organisation Andante** (Rapporteur: Ms Gafarova, Azerbaijan, EDG): in the absence of the rapporteur, approved a draft opinion to the report tabled by the Committee on Culture, Science and Education, in view of a debate to be held during the meeting of the Standing Committee in Edinburgh on 25 November 2011;
- **The Declaration of Principles on Equality and activities of the Council of Europe** (Rapporteur: Ms Err, Luxembourg, SOC): approved a draft opinion to the report tabled by the Committee on Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, in view of a debate to be held during the meeting of the Standing Committee in Edinburgh on 25 November 2011;
- **Meeting of the PACE Network of contact parliamentarians committed to combating violence against women:**
 - held an exchange of views with Ms Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, on the reform of the Council of Europe in the area of gender equality and planned activities to promote the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence;
 - held a hearing on Stalking, with the participation of Ms Alexis Bowater, Chief Executive of the Network for Surviving Stalking, United Kingdom, and Ms Johanna Nelles, Co-Secretary of the Ad Hoc Committee on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (CAHVIO);
- **Muslim women: for equal opportunities** (Rapporteur: Ms Ferić-Vac, Croatia, SOC): heard a statement by the Rapporteur and held a hearing with the participation of Dr Sara Silvestri, London City University and Cambridge University (United Kingdom); and Mr Stephanos Stavros, Executive Secretary of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI);
- **Fighting the global backlash against women's human rights** (Rapporteur: Ms Err, Luxembourg, SOC): held an exchange of views on the basis of a preliminary draft report;
- **Promoting the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence** (Rapporteur: Mr Mendes Bota, Portugal, EPP/CD) : held an exchange of views on the basis of a memorandum ;
- **Appointment of representatives:** appointed:
 - Mr Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD), Ms Hägg (Sweden, SOC) and Ms Err (Luxembourg, SOC) to sit in the ad hoc committee of the Bureau to take part in the Conference on The role of women in the democratic changes in the South of the Mediterranean, organised by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, Rome, 24 – 25 October 2011;
 - Ms Ferić-Vac (Croatia, SOC) and Ms Dervoz (Bosnia and Herzegovina, NR) to take part in the Regional seminar to promote the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence, Sarajevo, 24 – 25 October 2011;
 - Ms Stavrositu (Romania, EPP/CD) to take part in the International Conference on Current trends of development of national gender mechanisms in European countries, organised by the Ukrainian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, Kyiv, 25 – 26 October 2011;
 - Mr Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD) to take part in the Council of Europe Conference on 'Effective ways to Prevent and to Combat Violence against women and domestic violence', Bratislava, 29 November 2011 ;

- **Appointment of rapporteurs for report:** appointed:
 - Ms Saïdi (Belgium, SOC) as Rapporteur on Gender equality and the status of women in the Council of Europe southern neighbourhood and heard from her a declaration of absence of conflict of interest; and
 - in his absence, Mr Rigoni (Italy, ALDE) as Rapporteur on Parental leave as a way to foster gender equality, subject to receiving from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interest;
- **Request to the Bureau to authorise a meeting of the Committee in Azerbaijan in 2011:** following an exchange of views, decided to withdraw this request, pending a change in circumstances;
- **Membership of sub-committees:** took note that Ms Myller (Finland, SOC) and Ms Manzone-Saquet (Monaco, NR) would join the sub-committee on violence against women as full members, with Mr Gardetto (Monaco, EPP/CD) as Ms Manzone-Saquet's alternate;
- **Members' participation in external events:** heard a statement by Ms Saïdi (Belgium, SOC) on her participation in the 6th Meeting of the Committee of the Parties of the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, Strasbourg, 26 September 2011;
- **Place and date of its next meetings:** decided to hold its next meetings as follows:
 - Paris, Council of Europe Office, 8 December 2011;
 - Strasbourg, during the 2012 1st part session of the Assembly (23-27 January 2012).

Sonia Sirtori, Giorgio Loddo, Elodie Fischer