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SECRETARIAT

3 November 2011 Synopsis AS/Jur SC Crime No 2011/02

To the Members of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

Synopsis of the meeting held in Belgrade, Serbia on 28 October 2011

The **Sub-Committee on Crime Problems and the Fight against Terrorism** (of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights), meeting in Belgrade, Serbia, on 28 October 2011, with Mr Jean-Charles Gardetto (Monaco, EPP/CD), in the Chair, as regards:

- The protection of witnesses as a cornerstone for justice and reconciliation in the Balkans: held a discussion on the subject with the following experts:
- Mr Christian Bauer, Specialised Officer, Project Manager Witness Protection, Europol, The Hague, Netherlands
- Mr Miro Jukić, Head of Witness Protection Department, Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Croatia
- Ms Nastaša Kandić, Executive Director, Humanitarian Law Centre, Belgrade
- Professor Jim Murdoch, School of Law, University of Glasgow, United Kingdom
- Mr Vladimir Vukčević, War Crimes Prosecutor, Belgrade, Serbia

and concluded that witness protection, as an important issue not only for war crimes in the Balkans region but also for the fight against organised crime throughout Europe, warranted continued attention by the Parliamentary Assembly;

- Combating the abuse of pre-trial detention and promoting other preventive measures: heard a presentation by Professor Jim Murdoch and held an exchange of views ;
- Next meeting: left it to the Chairperson to convene the next meeting.

Günter Schirmer, Roland Klages

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