



SECRETARIAT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON MIGRATION, REFUGEES AND POPULATION

Synopsis AS/MIG/2008/CB/07

28 November 2008

**The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population**, meeting in Geneva on 25-26 November 2008, with Mrs Jonker (Netherlands, EPP/CD) in the Chair,

as regards:

- **Seminar on Interaction between population decline in Europe, global population growth and migration:** participated in the Seminar organised in cooperation with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), with the participation of Mrs ZHAO Baige, Vice-Minister of Population and family Planning (China) and invited experts;
- **Seminar on Protracted displacement in Europe: perspectives and solutions:** participated in the Seminar, organised in cooperation with the Office of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary General on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), with the participation of Mr Walter KALIN, Special Representative, and invited experts;
- **Seminar on Rights of all migrant workers and members of their family:** participated in the Seminar organised in cooperation with the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), with the participation of an expert Committee on Migrant Workers;
- **Humanitarian consequences of the war between Georgia and Russia (Rapporteur: Mrs Jonker, Netherlands, EPP/CD):** heard a statement by its Chair on her fact-finding visit to Georgia (16-21 November 2008) and decided to consider the report for approval at its next meeting;
- **The need for international recognition and protection of environmentally induced migrants (Rapporteur: Mrs Acketoft (Sweden, ALDE):** considered a preliminary draft Resolution and draft Recommendation, decided to change the title to: *Environmentally induced migration and displacement: a 21<sup>st</sup> century challenge*, and decided to consider the report for approval at its next meeting;
- **Work programme:**

**Appointment of rapporteurs:**

- *Asylum and gender-based persecution (for report):* appointed Mr Zernovski (“the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, ALDE);
- *Migrant women: a particular risk of domestic violence (for opinion):* appointed Mrs Acketoft (Sweden, ALDE);
- *Ban of cluster munitions (for opinion):* appointed Mrs Curtis-Thomas (United Kingdom, SOC);

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly  
Director General in the Secretariat of the Assembly  
Directors and 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  
Directors General  
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe  
Director of Communication  
Secretary of the Committee of Ministers  
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

- *The challenges posed by climate change (for opinion)*: appointed Mr Choqe (United Kingdom, EDG);

### **Representation of the Committee at various events:**

#### Statements:

- *Ad Hoc Committee to participate in the Forum for the future of democracy (Madrid, 15-17 October 2008)*: heard a statement by Mr Iwiński (Poland, SOC), member of the Ad Hoc Committee;
- *Conference on "Ten years of guiding principles on internal displacement" (Oslo, 16-17 October 2008)*: heard a statement by its Chair;
- *Conference on Human rights in culturally diverse societies: challenges and perspectives (The Hague, 12-13 November 2008)*: heard a statement by its Chair;

– **Reply by the Committee of Ministers to texts adopted by the Assembly presented by the Committee:** took note of the reply to Recommendation 1802 (2007) on the Situation of longstanding refugees and displaced persons in South-Eastern Europe;

#### – **Next meetings:**

##### *Plenary Committee:*

- Canary Islands (Spain), 11-12 December 2008
- Strasbourg, during the 1<sup>st</sup> part of the session 2009 (26-30 January 2009)
- The Hague (Netherlands), 26-27 March 2009 (*to be confirmed and subject to the Bureau's authorisation*)
- Strasbourg, during the 2<sup>nd</sup> part of the session 2009 (27-30 April 2009)

##### *Sub-Committee on Refugees:*

- Strasbourg, 19-20 February 2008: participation in the French Red Cross Conference

Halvor Lervik, Mark Neville, Ivi Odrats, Carl Ekström