



SECRETARIAT

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29 November 2012

To the members of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons

Synopsis of the meeting held in Geneva on 26 and 27 November 2012

The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons, meeting in Geneva, with Mr Giacomo Santini (Italy, EPP/CD) in the Chair,

- on **Monday 26 November 2012**, as regards:
 - **Effective and fair returns of irregular migrants and failed asylum seekers** (*Rapporteur: Ms Anne-Mari Viroleinen, Finland, EPP/CD*): held a hearing;
 - **Migration challenges in Switzerland**: held an exchange of views with Ambassador Eduard Gnesa, Special Ambassador for International Cooperation in Migration, Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (DEZA);
- on **Tuesday 27 November 2012**, as regards:
 - **Held an exchange of views with** Ms Marcia V.J. Kran, Director of the Research and Right to Development Division, OHCHR, and a statement was heard by Ms Pia Oberoi, Migration Adviser, OHCHR on behalf of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Migrants;
 - **The situation of migrants in domestic service in Europe**: held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Martin Oelz, ILO (International Labour Organization) speaking about Convention 189 and Recommendation 201 on “decent work for domestic workers”;
 - **Trafficking of migrant workers for forced labour** (*Rapporteur: Ms Annette Groth, Germany, UEL*): in the absence of the Rapporteur, approved a draft report and adopted unanimously a draft resolution and a draft recommendation;
 - **The war between Georgia and Russia: the humanitarian situation in the war-affected areas** (*Rapporteur: Ms Tina Acketoft, Sweden, ALDE*): approved a draft report and adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation, and decided to change the title to “Georgia and Russia: the humanitarian situation in the conflict and war-affected areas”;
 - **Integration of migrants: is Europe failing?** (*Rapporteur: Ms Pelin Gündeş Bakir, Turkey, EDG*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur on the fact-finding mission to Brussels on 12-13 September 2012 and held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr André Castella of the Swiss Ministry of Integration;
 - **The European response to the humanitarian crisis in Syria** (*Rapporteur: Mr Giacomo Santini, Italy, EPP/CD*): held an exchange of views on the follow up with the participation of the Vice Governor of the Council of Europe Development Bank, Mr Apolonio Ruiz Ligeró;

- **Unaccompanied migrant children: what rights at 18?** (*Rapporteur: Ms Mailis Reps, Estonia, ALDE*): held an exchange of views;
 - **FRONTEX: the need to improve its human rights role and capabilities** (*Rapporteur: Mr Mikael Cederbratt, Sweden, EPP/CD*); in the absence of the rapporteur, decided to defer consideration of a revised memorandum;
 - **The arrival of mixed migratory flows to Italian coastal areas** (*Rapporteur: Mr Christopher Chope, United Kingdom, EDG*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur on a fact-finding mission to Italy (9-11 October 2012);
 - **Management of mixed migration and asylum challenges beyond the European Union's Eastern border** (*Rapporteur: Mr Andrea Rigoni, Italy, ALDE*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur on a fact-finding mission to Turkey (16-19 October 2012);
 - **Ad hoc Sub-Committee on large-scale arrival of irregular migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees on Europe's Southern Shores** : took note of the information on the fact-finding mission to Athens (Greece) and to the Greek-Turkish border, scheduled for 14-16 January 2013 (subject to approval by the Bureau);
 - **Training for Parliamentarians on visiting places of detention where irregular migrants and asylum seekers are held**: took note of the draft programme and the updated draft guidelines;
 - **Refugees and the fight against AIDS** (*Rapporteur: Ms Doris Fiala, Switzerland, ALDE*): in the absence of the rapporteur, took note of the outline for the report;
 - **Work programme**: approved the priorities of the Committee for 2013;
 - **Resettlement of refugees: an efficient tool for greater solidarity in Europe**: appointed Mr Eric Voruz (Switzerland, SOC) as rapporteur;
 - **Conference on "Intercultural Cities: making diversity work for cities" in Dublin, Ireland, 6 to 8 February 2013**: appointed Ms Mailis Reps (Estonia, ALDE) to represent the Committee;
 - **Day of General Discussion on "the Rights of all Children" in the context of International Migration, United Nations, Geneva, 28 September 2012**: heard a statement by Ms Mailis Reps (Estonia, ALDE);
 - **Replies from the Committee of Ministers to texts adopted by the Assembly presented by the Committee:**
 - Recommendation 1967 (2011) on The large-scale arrival of irregular migrants, asylum seekers and refugees on Europe's southern shores,
 - Recommendation 1969 (2011) on Unaccompanied children in Europe: issues of arrival, stay and return,
 - Recommendation 1973 (2011) on Asylum seekers and refugees: sharing responsibilities in Europe,
 - Recommendation 1974 (2011) on The interception and rescue at sea of asylum seekers, refugees and irregular migrants,
 - Recommendation 1985 (2011) on Undocumented migrant children in an irregular situation: a real cause for concern
- decided to defer this point and to invite the Chair of the group of rapporteurs of the Committee of Ministers to participate in an exchange of views with the Committee during its next meeting;

– **Next meetings**

- **Strasbourg**, 4-5 December 2012, Training of parliamentarians on visiting places of detention
- **Greece**, 14-16 January 2012, Ad Hoc Sub Committee on large-scale arrival of irregular migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees on Europe's Southern Shores (subject to the authorisation of the Bureau)
- **Strasbourg**, during the 1st part-session 2013 (21-25 January 2013)
- **Paris**, 26-27 March 2013 (tbc)
- **Strasbourg**, during the 2nd part-session 2013 (22-26 April)
- **Paris**, 4 June 2013 (tbc)
- **Strasbourg**, during the 3rd part-session 2013 (24-28 June)
- **Paris**, 10 September 2013 (tbc)
- **Strasbourg**, during the 4th part-session 2013 (30 September – 4 October)
- **Paris**, 28-29 November 2013 (tbc)

Mark Neville, Agnès Nollinger, Olga Kostenko, Sebastian Rietz

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
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights
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