



SECRETARIAT

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

Synopsis of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 24, 25 and 26 June 2014

The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons, meeting in Strasbourg, with Mr Thierry Mariani (France, EPP/CD) in the Chair,

- on Tuesday, 24 June 2014 at 8.30 a.m., as regards:
 - **The large-scale arrival of mixed migratory flows on Italian shores** (Rapporteur: Mr Christopher Chope, United Kingdom, EDG): took position on the amendments tabled to the draft resolution and to the draft recommendation;
 - **The “left-to-die” boat: actions and reactions** (Rapporteur: Ms Tineke Strik, Netherlands, SOC): took position on the amendments tabled to the draft resolution and to the draft recommendation;
 - **Exchange of views with the delegation of the Republic of Kyrgyzstan**: heard a statement by Mr Asylbek Jeenbekov, Speaker of the Parliament and discussed migration issues with regard to Kyrgyzstan;
 - **Democratic participation for migrant diaspora** (Rapporteur: Mr Andrea Rigoni, Italy, ALDE): in the absence of the rapporteur, decided to postpone his statement on the fact-finding visit to Turkey (18-19 June 2014) until its next meeting;
 - **The situation of IDPs and refugees in Ukraine**: heard a statement by Mr Jim Sheridan (United Kingdom, SOC), held a hearing with the participation of Ms Jutta Seidel, Senior Legal Associate, UNHCR Representation to the European Institutions in Strasbourg and Mr Mykola Podoliako, Head of the NGO “Union of the IDPs”, adopted a declaration on “the humanitarian situation in Ukraine” and approved a motion for a resolution on “the humanitarian situation in Ukraine” with a view to its tabling;
- on Wednesday, 25 June 2014 at 2 p.m., as regards:
 - **Integration of migrants in Europe: the need for a pro-active, long-term and global policy** (Rapporteur: Ms Marietta Karamanli, France, SOC): there was no amendment to the draft resolution;
 - **Incident in The Netherlands regarding Moroccan immigrants**: held an exchange of views with the participation of Ms Tineke Strik (Netherlands, SOC) and Ms Nezha El Ouafi, member of the partner for democracy delegation of Morocco to the Parliamentary Assembly;
 - **Follow-up to be given to the motion for a resolution on “Morocco: meeting new migration and asylum challenges”**: held an exchange of views, agreed to ask the Bureau not to give a follow up to this motion for a resolution and invited Ms Strik to draft on its basis a new motion which would include other northern African countries of transit with a view to tabling it;

- **Immigration detention of children** (Rapporteur: Ms Tinatin Bockuchava, Georgia, EPP/CD): in the absence of the rapporteur; took note of a memorandum and asked the members of the Committee to send their possible comments to the rapporteur;
- **World Forum for Democracy, Strasbourg, 3-5 November 2014**: following the decision taken at the Bureau's meeting in Baku to create an ad hoc committee, the following members expressed an interest in participating in this event: Mr Marcel Oberweis (Luxembourg, EPP/CD) and Ms Ivana Dobešová (Czech Republic, ALDE);

– **Work programme:**

Appointment of rapporteurs for report

Violence against migrants: appointed Mr Aleksandrs Sakovskis (Latvia, SOC) and heard from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interest;

Organised crime and migrants: appointed Mr Irakli Chikovani (Georgia, ALDE) and heard from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interest;

Appointment of a rapporteur for opinion

Educational and cultural networks of communities living abroad: appointed Mr Thierry Mariani (France, EPP/CD) and heard from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interest;

– **Representation of the Committee - statement:**

Working together to ensure the protection and reception of unaccompanied children in Europe, organised by the EU funded project "CONNECT": Identifying good practices in, and improving the connections between actors involved in the reception, protection and integration of unaccompanied children in Europe, 17 and 18 June 2014: heard a statement by Ms Daphné Dumery (Belgium, NR);

- **Evaluation of the implementation of the reform of the Parliamentary Assembly**: following the adoption of Resolution 2002 (2014), held an exchange of views on the revised mandate of the Committee which has been extended to deal with questions relating to population, demography, nationality and stateless persons;

• **on Thursday, 26 June 2014 at 2 p.m.**, as regards:

- **Mass arrivals of irregular migrants on Europe's southern shores**: held a hearing with the participation of Mr Niels Muižnieks, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, Mr Giorgos Kosmopoulos, representative of Amnesty International and Mr Theofilos Zafirakos, Diplomatic Adviser of the Permanent Representation of Greece to the Council of Europe;

- **Sub-Committee on Co-operation with non-European countries of origin and transit**: took note of the election of Mr Andrea Rigoni (Italy, ALDE) as Vice-Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Co-operation with non-European countries of origin and transit and heard an oral report by him and took note of an invitation by the Parliament of Morocco to members of the Sub-Committee to organise a seminar on "the new migration policy of Morocco and European experience: areas to explore in integration policies and implementation" in Rabat on 23-24 October 2014, subject to the authorisation by the Bureau;

- **Sub-Committee on Detention**: heard an oral report by Ms Tineke Strik (Netherlands, SOC), Chairperson of the Sub-Committee;

- **Composition of the sub-committees**: approved the following changes:

Sub-Committee on Integration

- Ms Foteini Pipili (Greece, EPP/CD) to become a titular member
- Ms Elena Kountoura (Greece, EDG) to become an alternate member

Sub-Committee on Detention

- Ms Vasiliki Katrivanou (Greece, UEL) to become a titular member
- Ms Foteini Pipili (Greece, EPP/CD) to become an alternate member

Sub-Committee on Co-operation with non-European countries of origin and transit

- Ms Liana Kanelli (Greece, UEL) to become a titular member
- Ms Elena Kountoura (Greece, EDG) to become an alternate member

– **Next meetings:**

- Paris, 9 September 2014
- Strasbourg, during the 4th part-session 2014 (29 September-3 October)
- Bucharest, 27-28 November 2014

The **Sub-Committee on Detention**, meeting in Strasbourg on 26 June 2014, with Ms Tineke Strik (Netherlands, SOC) in the Chair, as regards:

- **National exercises:** was informed on the state of preparation of two national seminars on visiting immigration detention centres in France and the United Kingdom to be held in 2014, heard a statement by Mr Chope on the added value of such an event and encouraged members to take the initiative for hosting national seminars on visiting immigration detention centres in 2015;
- **International exercises:** held an exchange of views on the immigration detention policies and practices in Greece, discussed the proposal to organize a training event on visiting immigration detention centres in Greece in 2014, agreed to explore the possibility of organizing it in the framework of the existing co-operation programmes and decided to come back to this question at the forthcoming meeting;
- **Translation of the Guide:** invited the members to contribute to fund-raising for the translation of the Guide for parliamentarians on visiting immigration detention centres into the languages of the Council of Europe member states;
- **Immigration Detention Rules:** heard a statement by the Chair and decided to discuss further the need for immigration detention rules during the October part session;
- **Next meeting:** left it to its Chairperson to convene the next meeting;

The **Sub-Committee on Co-operation with non-European countries of origin and transit**, meeting in Strasbourg on 26 June 2014, with first Mr Thierry Mariani (France, EPP/CD) and then Mr Andrea Rigoni (Italy, ALDE) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Election of a Vice-Chairperson:** elected Mr Andrea Rigoni (Italy, ALDE) by acclamation;
- **Statement:** heard a presentation by Mr Mancini, Deputy to the Head of the Secretariat of the Parliamentary Projects Support Division on the ongoing and planned co-operation activities with regard to non-member States; held an exchange of views on possibly making use of opportunities provided by co-operation programmes in the sub-committee's work, and decided to come up, at its forthcoming meetings, with ideas for possible projects to be held in the framework of the co-operation programmes;
- **Invitation:** welcomed the invitation of the Moroccan delegation to organise a seminar on the "new migration policies of Morocco and European experience: areas to explore in integration policies and implementation" in Rabat on 23-24 October 2014;

- **Cooperation with the Kyrgyz delegation:** expressed the wish to establish and develop closer co-operation regarding migration issues with the Kyrgyz parliamentary delegation, following granting of Partnership for Democracy status to the Kyrgyz Parliament by the PACE;
- **Next meeting:** Agreed to organise its next meeting during the October part session.

Agnieszka Nachilo, Agnès Nollinger, Olga Kostenko, Kelly Sipp

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
Director of Communication
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe