To the members of the Standing Committee

Synopsis of the meeting held in Helsinki on 23 November 2018

The Standing Committee, meeting on 23 November 2018 in Helsinki, with Ms Liliane Maury Pasquier, President of the Assembly, in the Chair:

- heard a welcome address by Ms Paula Risikko, Speaker of the Parliament of Finland;
- held an exchange of views with Mr Timo Soini, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland, Chairman of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe;
- held an exchange of views with Ms Anna Rurka, President of the Conference of the INGOs, Council of Europe;
- ratified the credentials of new members of the Assembly submitted by the delegations of the Czech Republic, Denmark, France, Germany, Poland and Slovenia;
- approved changes in the composition of Assembly committees;
- took note of the draft agenda of the first part-session of the Assembly (21-25 January 2019);
- ratified the references proposed by the Bureau which are contained in the appendix hereafter;
- took note of the report of the Ad hoc Committee of the Bureau on the “observation of the general elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina (7 October 2018)”;
- adopted the following texts on behalf of the Assembly:

Recommendation 2143 (2018) Protecting and promoting sign languages in Europe
Resolution 2247 (2018) Protecting and promoting sign languages in Europe
Resolution 2248 (2018) Procedure for the election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights
Resolution 2249 (2018) The provision of palliative care in Europe
Resolution 2250 (2018) Encouraging the movement of international students across Europe

- decided to hold its next meeting in Paris on 1st March 2019.

Kateryna Gayevska

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
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
APPENDIX

Decisions on documents tabled for references to committees

A. REFERENCES TO COMMITTEES

1. The use of innovative technologies for the benefit of migrants
   Motion for a resolution tabled by Ms Doris Fiala and other members of the Assembly
   Doc. 14594

   Transmission to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons for information

2. Unaccompanied and separated migrant children: the need for effective guardianship
   Motion for a recommendation tabled by the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons
   Doc. 14637

   Reference to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons for report and to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development for opinion

3. Urgent need to strengthen Financial Intelligence Units – Sharper tools needed to improve confiscation of illegal assets
   Motion for a resolution tabled by the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights
   Doc. 14638

   Reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights for report

4. Fighting corruption – General principles of political responsibility
   Motion for a resolution tabled by the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights
   Doc. 14639

   Reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights for report and to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy for opinion

5. Following up on the Genocide Convention and developing processes for reflecting on historic genocides in Council of Europe member States
   Motion for a resolution tabled by Ms Kerstin Lundgren and other members of the Assembly
   Doc. 14640

   No further action

6. Forced and child labour in the sectors of cocoa, coffee and tea
   Motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Ulrich Oehme and other members of the Assembly
   Doc. 14641

   No further action

B. MODIFICATION OF REFERENCE

1. The evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of Morocco
   Bureau decision
   Reference 4246 of 14 October 2016 – validity: 14 October 2018 (reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy for report and to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination for opinion)

   Reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy for report and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination for opinion