



TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Secretariat of the Assembly
Synopsis No. 2003/21
3 February 2003

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Friday 31 January 2003 in Strasbourg with Mr Schieder in the Chair, as regards:

- *1st Part of the 2003 Ordinary Session (Strasbourg, 27-31 January 2003):*
- a. *Follow-up to Resolution 1315 (2003) on Evaluation of the prospects for a political solution of the conflict in the Chechen Republic:*

decided, at this stage, not to send a delegation to be present during the referendum on the draft Constitution and draft election laws, which should take place in the Chechen Republic on 23 March 2003 and to come back to this matter at its next meeting in the light of possible new developments;

authorised the Assembly's President to transmit the requested opinion of the Venice Commission on the draft constitution of the Chechen Republic and the draft election laws to the Russian authorities as soon as received from the Venice Commission;

asked the Secretary General of the Assembly to contact the Head of the Russian parliamentary delegation in order to clarify the position of the State Duma regarding the future work of the Joint Working Group on Chechnya, and decided to come back to this matter at its next meeting;

- b. *Follow-up to the opinion by the Venice Commission on the amendments to the Constitution of Liechtenstein proposed by the Princely House of Liechtenstein:* decided to come back to this matter at its meeting following the referendum on the proposed amendments to the Constitution planned to take place on 14-16 March 2003;

- *Letter of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia:* took note of the letter informing the Assembly that the Parliament of the Republic of Serbia and the Parliament of the Republic of Montenegro adopted the Constitutional Charter of state union of Serbia and Montenegro and the law on implementation of the constitutional charter;

- *"3+3" High-level meeting between the Council of Europe and the OSCE (The Hague, 5 February 2003):* was informed by the President that he would take part in this meeting;

- *European Committee for the prevention of torture and inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment:* approved the lists of candidates in respect of San Marino, Sweden and Liechtenstein to be forwarded to the Committee of Ministers;

- *Observation of elections:*
 - a. Monaco: Parliamentary elections (9 February 2003) and Armenia: Presidential elections (19 February 2003): took note of the lists of members of the Ad Hoc Committees to observe these elections;
 - b. took note of the calendar of forthcoming elections;
- *Parliamentary Troika on the Stability Pact:* took note of the information by the President on the conclusions of the 4th meeting of the Troika held on 14 January 2003 in Strasbourg under the incoming Chairmanship of the European Parliament;
- *4th Part of the 2003 Ordinary session:* agreed to the schedule of meetings to take place on this occasion from 25 September to 2 October 2003;
- *Rapporteurship in Committees:* took note of the draft letter that the President intends to send to the Committee Chairpersons containing guidelines for the distribution of rapporteurship in the Assembly's committees;
- *Composition of the Monitoring Committee:* approved the proposals of the EPP Group for ratification by the Assembly;
- *Social and cultural events during Assembly sittings:* decided that no social or cultural events may take place in the lobby of the debating Chamber and in the bar besides the Chamber during Assembly sittings;
- *Re-constitution of the Ad Hoc Committees of the Bureau:*
 - a. took note of the re-constitution of the Ad Hoc Committee of Chairpersons of Political Groups-Presidential Committee following a written consultation;
 - b. re-constituted the Ad Hoc Committee on the European Union Convention on the future of Europe (subject to ratification by the Assembly), agreed that it should meet, preferably, at the beginning of March 2003 and appointed Mr Magnusson (Sweden, SOC) as member instead of Mr Lekberg;
- *Progress Report of the Bureau of the Assembly (period: 31/01-31/03/2003):* appointed Mr Clerfayt (Belgium, LDR) as Rapporteur;
- *References and transmissions to committees:* approved the following proposals:
 - Doc. 9662
Motion for a recommendation
Management and coordination of water related issues and initiatives at European level to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs;
 - Doc. 9663
Motion for a resolution
Agriculture and enlargement of the European Union to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs;
 - Doc. 9665
Motion for a resolution
The involvement of men and young men in reproductive health to the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men;

Doc. 9668

Motion for a resolution

Setting up a Committee for future generations to the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities.

Doc. 9669

Motion for a resolution

The withdrawal of reservations and derogations made in respect of the European Convention on Human Rights to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights;

- *Meetings elsewhere than in Strasbourg and Paris:* authorised the following meetings:
 - . Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee, Brussels (Belgium), 19 February 2003;
 - . Committee on Migration, Refugees and Demography, Geneva (Switzerland), 27-28 February 2003;
 - . Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs, Valencia (Spain), 13-14 March 2003;
 - . Sub-Committee on International Economic Relations (of the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development), Athens (Greece), 8-10 March 2003;
 - . Committee on Economic Affairs and Development, Versilia (Italy), 8-10 May 2003;
 - . Political Affairs Committee, Athens (Greece), 9-10 June 2003;

- *Appointment of Assembly representatives for official activities:* 54th Rose-Roth Seminar (Belgrade, 20-22 March 2003): appointed Mr Jakic (Slovenia, LDR);

- *Meetings of the Standing Committee:* took note of the President's decision to convene a meeting of the Standing Committee in Naples (Italy) on 8 September 2003 at the invitation of the Italian Parliament and agreed to meet on this occasion;

- *confirmed the following next meetings:*
 - . Paris, Monday 10 March 2003 at 9.30 am;
 - . Strasbourg, Monday 31 March 2003 at 8.30 am;
 - . Strasbourg, Friday 4 April 2003 at 12 noon (at the end of the Part-Session);
 - . Berlin, Monday 28 April 2003 at 3 pm;
 - . Chisinau, Tuesday 27 May 2003 at 9 am.

Petr Sich/Agnès Nollinger

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
Secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly
Special guests and observers to the Assembly

Directors General
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Director of Communication and Research

Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

