

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Secretariat of the Assembly
Synopsis No. 2003/53 revised
10 April 2003

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Friday 4 April 2003 in Strasbourg with Mr Schieder in the Chair, as regards:

- *2nd part of the 2003 Ordinary Session (Strasbourg, 31 March-4 April 2003):*
 - a. follow-up to the texts adopted - Europe and the war in Iraq: took note of the President's intention to send the adopted resolution to the Secretary General of the United Nations, to the European Union, to Foreign Ministers of all members and observer states as well as to the Congress of the United States of America;
 - b. draft orders: was informed about the President's intention to refer to the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities the matter of drawing up clear guidelines concerning the conformity of draft orders with the rules of procedure of the Assembly;
- *Visit of the President of the Assembly to Cape Town, South Africa (18-20 March 2003):* took note of the report on his participation in the Conference on "Towards the second Euro-African Summit: human rights, democratic governance and the African Union", organised by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, and agreed to invite Mr Thabo Mbeki, President of South Africa, to one of the Assembly's forthcoming part-sessions ;
- *"Gonghadze case":* took note that Mr Krüger, former Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, appointed by the Bureau as expert consultant to report on the legal and judicial aspects of this case, would carry out his second visit to Kyiv and submit a written report to the Bureau for the June part-session;
- took note of the thanks expressed by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to the Chairman and the rapporteur of the Sub-Committee on Budgetary Affairs and to the members of the Presidential Committee for their contribution to the consultation meeting with the Minister's Deputies, which took place on 1 April 2003;
- *Joint Working Group on Chechnya between the Parliamentary Assembly and the State Duma:* decided to come back to this matter at one of its next meetings;
- *Berlin meetings of the Parliamentary Assembly (28-30 April 2003):* took note of the programme of meetings;
- *Standing Committee in Moldova (27 May 2003):*
 - a. took note of the draft agenda and draft programme;

b. asked the Secretary General of the Assembly to clarify with the Parliament of Moldova before 11 April 2003 whether interpretation into the Assembly working languages can be ensured for this meeting and, if not, decided to hold the Standing Committee in Strasbourg on the same date and with the same draft agenda;

- *Observation of the parliamentary elections in Armenia (25 May 2003):*

a. approved the list of members of the Ad Hoc Committee and asked the LDR and UEL groups to provide candidates for the vacant seats falling to their groups, being understood that if they do not wish to do so, other political groups may appoint their candidates instead;

b. approved the list of members of the pre-electoral mission and took note that it would take place on 22-25 April 2003;

- *European Committee for the prevention of torture and inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment (CPT):*

a. drew up the list of candidates on behalf of Finland to be submitted to the Committee of Ministers;

b. was informed by the Chairman of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights that the delegations of Armenia and Slovakia had withdrawn their lists;

- *Ad Hoc Committee of the Bureau on the EU Convention for the future of Europe:*

a. heard a report by the President on the meeting held on 1st April 2003;

b. took note of the declaration adopted at this meeting to be signed by the members of the Ad Hoc Committee, which are also members of the Convention and asked Mr van der Linden to take the responsibility for collecting these signatures and transmitting this declaration to the President of the EU Convention;

c. took note of the list of members of the Ad Hoc Committee, which was ratified by the Assembly during the April 2003 part-session;

- *Meetings elsewhere than in Strasbourg and Paris:* authorised the meeting of the Sub-Committee on Sustainable Development (of the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs) in Trento (Italy) on 16-17 June 2003;

- *4th Stability Pact Parliamentary Conference on "A new European Union Policy for South Eastern Europe, a Renewed Stabilisation and Association Process and the Perspective for Accession" (Brussels, 21-22 May 2003), organised by the European Parliament:* set up an Ad Hoc Committee of the Bureau to participate in this conference composed of two members from different political groups for each of the three committees concerned, i.e. the Political Affairs Committee, the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development and the Committee on Culture, Science and Education (including its Chairman) and decided that in case that after these nominations some political groups are not represented, they can appoint a supplementary member;

- *Appointment of Assembly representatives for official activities:* appointed the following representatives:

- . Trans-Asian Parliamentary Forum of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, Almaty (Kazakhstan), 7-8 June 2003: Mr David Atkinson (United Kingdom, EDG);
- . 2003 Spring Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organisation of the Black Sea Economic Co-operation (PABSEC), 10-12 June 2003: Mr Andrei Neguta (Moldova, GDU);

- *Participation of Assembly members at different events:* authorised the following participations:
 - . Conference against the death penalty, Minsk (Belarus), 23 April 2003: Mrs Nabholz-Haidegger (Switzerland, LDR) (Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights) and Mr Jonas Cekuolis (Lithuania, LDR) (Political Affairs Committee);
 - . EBRD's 12th Annual meeting in Tashkent (Uzbekistan), 4-5 May 2003: Mr Marton Braun (Hungary, EPP) (Committee on Economic Affairs and Development);
 - . 5th Ministerial Conference "Environment for Europe", Kyiv (Ukraine), 21-23 May 2003: Sir Sydney Chapman, Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Sustainable Development (of the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs):

- *Standing Committee in Maastricht (November 2003):* took note of the invitation letter of the Dutch parliamentary delegation to hold this meeting in Maastricht in connection with the Dutch Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe and instructed the Secretariat to clarify the exact date with the Dutch Parliament;

- *Composition of the Monitoring Committee:* approved Mrs Synnove KONGLEVOLL (Norway, SOC) as member in replacement of Mrs Tarja KAUTTO (Finland, SOC) for ratification by the Assembly;

- *Date and place of the next meetings:* agreed to hold the following meetings:
 - . Berlin, Monday 28 April 2003 at 3 pm;
 - . Chisinau, Tuesday 27 May 2003 at 8.30 am;
 - . Strasbourg, Monday 23 June 2003 at 8.30 am;
 - . Strasbourg, Friday 27 June 2003 at 12 noon (at the end of the Part-Session);
 - . Naples, Monday 8 September 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