

**TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY**

**Secretariat of the Assembly**  
**Synopsis No. 2004/032**  
3 March 2004

**The Bureau of the Assembly**, meeting in Paris on Monday 1 March 2004 at 3.00 pm with Mr Peter Schieder, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- *2<sup>nd</sup> Part of the 2004 Ordinary Session (26-30 April 2004):*
  - a. adopted the draft agenda;
  - b. agreed to include, at this stage, the following guest speakers on the draft order of business:
    - . Mr Balkenende, Prime Minister of Netherlands;
    - . Mr Bot, Foreign Minister of Netherlands;
    - . Mr Sanader, Prime Minister of Croatia;
  - c. agreed to give the floor to the following Speakers of Parliament to address the Assembly:
    - . Mr Radi, Speaker of Morocco Parliament;
    - . Mr Abdykarimov, Speaker of the Kazak Senate;
    - . Mr Valéri, Speaker of the National Council of Monaco (in the debate on the request for membership by Monaco in the Council of Europe);
  - d. agreed to draw up the draft order of business at its next meeting;
  - e. agreed to include the following items on the draft agenda of the Joint Committee (Thursday 29 April at 6.30 pm): statutory consultation on the candidates for the post of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, the draft agenda for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Summit, accession of Monaco to the Council of Europe and relations between the Council of Europe and the United Nations;
- *Liechtenstein:*
  - . took note of the information by the President on his meeting with the Speaker of the Parliament and of his intention to meet him again between the end of August and December 2004 to discuss the modalities of the dialogue with Liechtenstein;
  - . agreed that the aim of the dialogue was to study the constitutional and political practice following the entry into force of the amendments to the Constitution and that it would start after the Parliamentary elections in February 2005;
- *Libya ( follow-up to be given to the motion for a resolution on “serious human rights violations in Libya – inhuman treatment of Bulgarian medical staff”):* took note of the modalities

of Mr Eörsi's forthcoming visit to Libya (2-3 March 2004) and asked him to report back to the Bureau at its next meeting;

- *Latvia:*

a. was informed by the President that he would participate in the meeting of the Monitoring Committee on 3 March 2004;

b. decided to come back to this matter at its next meeting in the light of the discussion in the above-mentioned meeting of the Monitoring Committee;

- *Petition concerning the access to health care in their language of French Speakers living in the municipalities of the Brussels periphery (in the Flemish region):*

a. took note that this petition was registered by the Secretary General of the Assembly;

b. declared this petition admissible and referred it to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee for report and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights for opinion, possibly to be dealt together with reference N° 2906 of 25/11/2003 on the "petition concerning the Dutch speakers' rights to health care in Brussels and the surrounding Dutch-speaking municipalities" in one report;

- *Election of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe:* agreed to hold the statutory consultation with the Ministers' Deputies at the Joint Committee meeting during the April 2004 part-session and to invite the candidates to the Bureau for interviews at its meeting on 24 May 2004 in Paris;

- *Observation of elections - parliamentary elections in Georgia:*

a. took note of the press release issued after the pre-electoral mission (25-28 February 2004) and the information by Mr Eörsi, Head of the Mission;

b. accepted the proposal by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to associate members of the Secretariat General and experts with the Parliamentary Assembly Observer Delegation, it being understood that such an enlarged observation mission will be under the Assembly's leadership;

- *Standing Committee (2 March 2004, Paris):*

a. took note of the Committee requests to withdraw the following reports from the agenda: "Bulgarian Confessions Act 2002" (Rapporteur: Mr Contestabile), "Internet and the Law" (Rapporteur: Mr Pourgourides), "The situation of women in the countries of post-communist transition" (Rapporteur: Mrs Kosa-Kovacs) and "Counterfeiting: problems and solutions" (Rapporteur: Mr Schreiner) (for health reasons);

b. asked the Committees to ensure the presence of rapporteurs for reports in the Standing Committee in order to avoid last-minute changes in the agenda;

- *Request of membership by Monaco to the Council of Europe:* took note of the information by the Secretary General of the Assembly on the meeting which he held with a delegation from Monaco on 12-13 February 2004 in Strasbourg, and of possible arrangements, in particular as regards deadlines, under which Monaco might be able to accept the commitments regarding its accession to the Protocol 12 to the European Convention on Human Rights and the Cyber-Crime Convention;

- *Organisation of the forthcoming Ministerial Session of the Committee of Ministers (12-13 May 2004, Strasbourg)*: took note of the information by the Secretary General of the Assembly concerning the proposal for a meeting of a joint working group of representatives of the Assembly and of the Committee of Ministers to take place on 13 May 2004 in the morning;
- *Parliamentary Assistance Programmes*: took note of the information by the Secretary General of the Assembly on the secretariat visit to Georgia (23-25 February 2004) and agreed to come back to this matter at one of its next meetings on the basis of his memorandum;
- *Lifting of the parliamentary immunity of members of the Parliament of Moldova*: was informed of the lifting of the parliamentary immunity of Mr Cubureacov, Mr Rosca and Mr Secareanu and stressed that Mr Cubureacov still enjoys immunity as member of the Parliamentary Assembly;
- *Meeting with the UN High-Level Panel on Global Threats, Challenges and Change (16 February 2004, Paris)*: took note of the information by the President and of an information document prepared by the Secretariat;
- *International Institute for Democracy*:
  - a. took note of a letter from Lord Russell-Johnston, Chairman of the Governing Board, and of the 2003 Annual report;
  - b. took note of the President's decision to appoint Lord Russell-Johnston, Rt. Hon. Terry Davis and Mr Toshev as his representatives on the Governing Board until 31 August 2004;
  - c. decided to allocate a grant of € 10.000,- to the Institute for 2004;
- *European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT)*: invited the Parliaments of Italy and Latvia to put forward candidates;
- *References and transmissions to committees*: approved the following proposals:
  - a. references:
    1. **Doc. 10074**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Wielowieyski and others**  
**Strengthening the democratic cohesion between voters and elected members of parliamentary bodies**, postponed its decision
    2. **Doc. 10075**  
**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr R. Huseynov and others**  
**Appropriation and demolition of the forests by Armenia in the occupied lands of Azerbaijan**, for information to the Political Affairs Committee and to the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)
    3. **Doc. 10076**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Slutsky and others**  
**Education reform in Latvia**, for report to the Committee on Culture, Science and Education and for information to the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)

4. **Doc. 10077**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Reimann and others**  
**Questionable investment from Eastern and Central Europe in high level football in Western Europe**, *for information* to the Committee on Culture, Science and Education
5. **Doc. 10078**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Yáñez-Barnuevo and others**  
**Need for International Condemnation of the Franco Regime**, *for report* to the Political Affairs Committee
6. **Doc. 10079**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Ilaşcu and others**  
**Release from prison of political prisoners in Tiraspol: Andrei Ivanto, Alexandru Lesco and Tudor Petrov-Popa**, *for information* to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and to the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)
7. **Doc. 10080**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Ilaşcu and others**  
**Withdrawal of military forces of the Russian Federation from the Eastern districts (Transnistria) of the Republic of Moldova**, *for information* to the Political Affairs Committee and to the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)
8. **Doc. 10081**  
**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Jurgens and others**  
**Human rights of conscript soldiers**, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, *for report at the Standing Committee*
9. **Doc. 10082 rev.**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Pavlidis and others**  
**Mr Apostolos Mangouras, Captain of the Tanker “Prestige”**, *for information* to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights
10. **Doc. 10083**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Bindig and others**  
**The circumstances surrounding the arrest and prosecution of leading Yukos executives**, *for report* to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights
11. **Doc. 10084**  
**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Eörsi and others**  
**Case of A1+ television channel**, *for information* to the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) and to the Committee on Culture, Science and Education
12. **Doc. 10085**  
**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mrs Belohorská and others**  
**Poverty and fight against corruption in the Council of Europe member states**, to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee, *for report*
13. **Doc. 10086**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Jurgens and others**  
**The Case of Igor Sutiagin**, *for information* to the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)

14. **Doc. 10087**  
**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Jařab and others**  
**Academic freedom, university autonomy and human rights in the 21<sup>st</sup> century**, to the Committee on Culture, Science and Education, *for report at the Standing Committee*
15. **Doc. 10088 rev.**  
**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mrs Agudo and others**  
**Disappearance and murder of a great number of women and girls in Mexico**, to the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, *for report at the Standing Committee*
16. **Doc. 10089**  
**Motion for a recommendation presented by Lord Russell-Johnston and others**  
**The cultural situation of the Kurds**, for consultation of the Committee on Culture, Science and Education, on the possible follow-up
17. **Doc. 10090**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Coifan and others**  
**The potential adverse impact for the environment of the building channel in the Danube Delta**, to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs, *for report at the Standing Committee*
18. **Doc. 10091**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Meale and others**  
**Climate change – challenging local environments**, *for information* to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs
19. **Doc. 10096**  
**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Iwiński and others**  
**The humanitarian situation of the Chechen displaced population**, to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population, *for report*
20. **Petition concerning the access to health care in their language of French Speakers living in the municipalities of the Brussels periphery (in the Flemish region)**: to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee for report and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights for opinion, possibly to be dealt together with reference N° 2906 of 25/11/2003 on the “petition concerning the Dutch speakers’ rights to health care in Brussels and the surrounding Dutch-speaking municipalities” in one report;
- b. requests to extend references:
1. **Doc. 9358, Ref. No 2703, Validity: 26 March 2004**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Gross and others**  
**New methodological concepts of democracy to evaluate its implementation**, decided to reject the request to extend the reference until 30 September 2004;
2. **Doc. 9345, Ref. No 2693, Validity: 26 March 2004**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Martinez Casañ and others**  
**Protection of the Mediterranean coast**, decided to extend the reference until 30 September 2004.

- *Meetings elsewhere than in Strasbourg and Paris:* authorised the following meetings:
  - . Committee on Culture, Science and Education, Barcelona (Spain), 27-29 May 2004,
  - . Committee on Economic Affairs and development, Sofia (Bulgaria), 27-28 May 2004,
  - . Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, Berlin (Germany), 7-8 June 2004.
  
- *Forum on Transatlantic dialogue (19 April 2004, London):* set up an Ad Hoc Committee of the Bureau to participate in this Forum, composed of members of the Political Affairs Committee, who are in a position to participate and chaired by Mr Jakic, Chairman of the Political Affairs Committee;
  
- *Appointment of Assembly representatives for official activities:* appointed the following representatives:
  - a. Seminar for Chairpersons and members of parliamentary human rights bodies” organised by the Inter- Parliamentary Union (Geneva, 15-17 March 2004): Mr Lintner;
  - b. Parliamentary Committee of the Central European Initiative (Ljubljana, 18-20 March 2004): Mr Jakic (to be confirmed);
  - c. Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly (Athens, 22-23 March 2004): Mr Azzolini;
  - d. Conference on “Building an area of freedom, security and justice: challenges for Europe”(Sinaia, Romania, 1-2 April 2004): Mr Olteanu;
  - e. Nordic Council Theme Meeting 2004 (Helsinki, 14-15 April 2004): Mr Elo;
  - f. 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Petersburg International Parliamentary Conference on Pan-European Cooperation and 23<sup>rd</sup> Plenary session of the Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the Commonwealth of Independent States (St. Petersburg, 16-17 April 2004): Mr Cekuolis (to be confirmed);
  
- *Date and place of the next meetings:* confirmed the following meetings:
  - . Istanbul, Tuesday 6 April 2004 at 9.30 am.
  - . Strasbourg, Monday 26 April 2004 at 8.30 am
  - . Strasbourg, Friday 30 April 2004, 8.30 am.
  - . Paris, Monday 24 May 2004, 3 pm.

Petr Sich/Agnès Nollinger

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- 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