

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Secretariat of the Assembly
Synopsis No. 2004/103
4 October 2004

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting in Strasbourg on 4 October 2004 with Mr Peter Schieder, President of the Assembly in the Chair, as regards,

- *4th part of the 2004 Ordinary session (4-8 October 2004):*

a. Urgent procedure debates:

. took note of the formal request from the Political Affairs Committee to hold an urgent debate on the “Challenge of terrorism in Council of Europe members states”;

. did not recommend to the Assembly to debate the report on “Combating terrorism through culture” (Rapporteur: M. Sudarenkov, Russia, SOC) under the urgent procedure as requested by the Committee on Culture, Science and Education;

b. Current affairs debate:

. following a request by the Georgian delegation, recommended to the Assembly to hold a current affairs debate on “Georgian-Russian relations” and proposed that the debate takes place on Thursday 7 October from 5.30 pm to 6.30 pm;

. following a request by Mrs Burjanadze, Speaker of the Georgian Parliament, to address the Assembly during this part-session, invited her to speak in this current affairs debate and also invited a representative of the Russian Parliament to take the floor;

c. updated the draft order of business as follows:

. Monday 4 October: “Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee”: Mr La Pergola, President of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (“Venice Commission”) is not in a position to speak in the Assembly;

. Wednesday 6 October: “OECD and the world economy”: Mr Schlögl, Deputy Secretary General of the OECD, will replace in the debate Mr Johnston, Secretary General of the OECD,;

. Thursday 7 October:

. add the current affairs debate on “Georgian-Russian relations” from 5.30 pm to 6.30 pm;

. “Global warming: beyond Kyoto”: Mr Töpfer, Executive-Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), is not in position to speak in the Assembly;

d. decided to limit the speaking time on Wednesday 6 October and on Thursday 7 October to 4 minutes;

g. agreed to invite M. Alkhanov, President of the Chechen Republic, to take part in the debate on reports concerning the Chechen Republic on Thursday 7 October;

e. election of a judge to the European Court of Human Rights with respect of Slovakia: confirmed the written consultation of the Bureau members to declassify the Sub-committee's report;

f. Joint Committee:

. took note of the draft agenda;

. invited rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee on Armenia, Azerbaijan and Serbia and Montenegro to the Joint Committee for the item "Monitoring procedures";

h authorised the Political Affairs Committee to hold an exchange of views on terrorism and the Chechen Republic on Wednesday 6 October at 6 pm;

i. took note that the President will meet the Chairpersons of the parliamentary delegations of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia on Tuesday 5 October at 5 pm as a follow-up to the meeting with the Speakers of these countries during the Speakers' conference in May 2004;

- *Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (25 June – 4 October 2004) (Rapporteur: Mr van der Brande, Belgium, EPP/CD):* approved the Progress report and appointed M. Schieder (Austria, SOC) as rapporteur for the Progress report covering the period from 8 October to 24 January 2004;

- *Cyprus – implementation of paragraph 6 of Resolution 1376 (2004):*

a. took note of the letters of Mr Christofias, Speaker of the Parliament of Cyprus, and Mr Christodoulides, Chairman of the parliamentary delegation of Cyprus, of 21 September 2004 containing the position of the Parliament of Cyprus on the draft decision presented to the Bureau on 21 June 2004 and presenting concrete amendments to it;

b. took note that the President met on 3 October 2004 Mr Christodoulides, Chairman of the Cypriot parliamentary delegation, and on 4 October 2004 representatives of the Turkish Cypriot community, to inform them about the proposal for a revised draft decision;

c. approved the revised draft decision;

- *International Institute for Democracy:*

a. took note that the Institute has been invited by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to provide its comments on the Internal Auditor report by 15 October 2004;

b. took note of the financial documents provided by the Institute following a request by the Bureau on 25 June 2004;

c. took note that the mandate of the President's representatives in the Institute's Governing Board expired on 31 August 2004 and therefore nobody is representing either the President or the Assembly in the Governing Board at present;

d. took note that the Institute will hold an extraordinary meeting of its Governing Board on Wednesday 6 October 2004;

e. decided to come back to this matter at its next meeting;

- Situation in Haiti: took note that the President will give an appropriate follow-up to the proposal of Mr Azzolini to draw Assembly's attention to the very serious humanitarian situation in Haiti.

Petr Sich/Alexandra Alléon

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