

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Secretariat of the Assembly

Synopsis No 2004/113

8 October 2004

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting in Strasbourg on 8 October 2004 with Mr Peter Schieder, President of the Assembly in the Chair, as regards,

- *Standing Committee in Warsaw (23 November 2004):*

a. took note of the draft agenda and the draft programme;

b. agreed that a Polish guest-speaker could address the Standing Committee during one of the debates on the draft agenda;

- *Observation of elections:*

a. Presidential election in Ukraine (31 October 2004): following the request of the Monitoring Committee, agreed to increase the number of the Ad Hoc Committee members from 30 to 40 (SOC: 14, EPP/CD: 12, LDR: 6, EDG: 6, UEL: 2) and encouraged Assembly members to seek accreditation to observe these elections in the polling stations set up in their respective countries for Ukrainians living abroad;

b. Parliamentary elections in Belarus (17 October 2004): took note that the Assembly has not been invited to observe these elections and it will not observe them;

c. Referendum in “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” (7 November 2004): decided to set up an ad hoc Committee of five members (one from each political group) to observe this referendum, subject to receiving an invitation;

- *Composition of the Monitoring Committee:* approved the following modifications proposed by political groups to be submitted to the Assembly: SOC (new members: Mr Batet Lamana and Mr Bartumeu Cassany), EPP/CD (new member: Mr Nemeth), EDG (new members: Mr Vojir and Mr Dobelis), LDR (new member: Mrs Tevdoradze), UEL (new member: Mr Platvoet);

- decided to discuss the question of the increase of the number of seats of the Monitoring Committee at one of its next meetings (Resolution 1357 (2003));

- *European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT):*

a. drawing up of the list of candidates in respect of Iceland and Italy: took note of the recommendations of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and drew up the lists of candidates in the following order:

. Iceland: 1. Dr Hauksson; 2. Ms Hreidarsdottir, 3. Mrs Thorkelsdottir

. Italy: 1. Mr Palma, 2. Mr Maisto, 3. Mr Marchesi

- b. took note of the 14th General Report on the activities of the CPT;
- *Parliamentary Troika on the Stability Pact (Conference on the “Fight against organised crime in South Eastern Europe”, Sofia, 11-12 November 2004):* approved the list of the Ad Hoc Committee to participate in this Conference, it being understood that members could not be replaced, and appointed Mr Lloyd, Vice-President of the Assembly, as Chairman;
 - *References and transmissions to committees: approved the following proposals:*
- a. References
1. **Doc. 10272**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr van der Linden and others
The Third Summit, to the Political Affairs Committee, *for report*, and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, to the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development, to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population, to the Committee on Culture, Science and Education and to the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, *for opinion*
 2. **Doc. 10280**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mrs de Zulueta and others
The image of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in the media, to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population, *for report*
 3. **Doc. 10289**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Cilevičs and others
Ratification of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities by the Council of Europe member states, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, *for report*
 4. **Doc. 10290**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Crema and others
Sustainable development of the Adriatic: co-operation between local and regional authorities, to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs, *for report*
 5. **Doc. 10307**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Dees and others
HIV/AIDS in Europe, to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee, *for report (it being understood that the report will take into consideration the world-wide dimension and consequences of HIV/AIDS)*
 6. **Doc. 10314**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Saks and others
Situation of Fenno-Ugric and Samoyed peoples, to the Committee on Culture, Science and Education, *for report at the Standing Committee*
 7. **Doc. 10316**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Cubreacov and others
Education in the Transdnestrian region of the Republic of Moldova, to the Committee on Culture, Science and Education, *for report*, and to the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), *for opinion*

8. **Doc. 10317**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Platvoet and others
Sexual assaults linked to “date-rape drugs”, to the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, *for report*, and to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee, *for opinion*
9. **Doc. 10318**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Jarab and others
Media and terrorism, to the Committee on Culture, Science and Education, *for report*
10. **Doc. 10234**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Kocharyan and others
The restriction of the use of firearms in peacetime within the member states of the Council of Europe, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, *for report at the Standing Committee*

b. request to extend references

Doc. 9248 Ref. no 2665 of 8 November 2001 – validity: 8 November 2004

Motion for a recommendation

Genetically modified organisms (GMOs), extended up to the end of 2004

c. requests to modify references

Doc. 10243

Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Pourgourides and others

Enforced disappearances, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, *for report (instead of for information)*

- *Meetings elsewhere than in Strasbourg and Paris:*

a. authorised the following meetings:

- . Ad hoc Sub-Committee “on the sustainable development of the Adriatic region” (of the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs), Termoli (Italy), 8-9 November 2004;
- . Sub-committee on Tourism Development (of the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development), Rhodes (Greece), 18-19 November 2004;
- . Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities, Stockholm (Sweden), 10-11 December 2004;
- . Committee on Culture, Science and Education, Mexico & Oaxaca, 15-16 January 2005;
- . Committee on Economic Affairs and Development, London (UK), 20-21 January 2005;

b. did not approve the request of the Political Affairs Committee to meet in Warsaw (Poland) on 24 November 2004;

c. following the request of the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs, authorised an ad hoc sub-committee composed of the Committee Chairman, the Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Sustainable Development and the rapporteur on “Global warming: beyond Kyoto” to attend part of the 10th Conference of the Parties (COP-10) to be held in Buenos Aires on 6-17 December 2004 (without secretariat participation);

d. agreed to examine the Ruling on meetings of Committees and Sub-Committees of the Assembly elsewhere than in Strasbourg and Paris at a forthcoming meeting on the basis of a Secretariat proposal;

- *Appointment of Assembly representatives for official activities:*

a. Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC) (23-25 November 2004, Antalya): Mr Kirilov, Mr Högmark;

b. Monaco World Summit (27-29 October 2004, Monaco): Mr Pullicino Orlando;

c. Conference on the Integrated Project "Making Democratic Institutions Work" (17-19 November 2004, Barcelona): Mr Gross, Mr Mercan, Mr Severin and Mr Wielowieyski;

- *International Institute for Democracy:* took note of the decisions taken at the Institute's General meeting on 6 October 2004 and decided to come back to this matter at its next meeting;

- *4th part of the 2004 Ordinary session (4-8 October 2004) - follow-up to the texts adopted:*

a. Resolution 1402 (2004) on the "Political situation in the Chechen Republic: measures to increase democratic stability in accordance with Council of Europe standards": took note that the Assembly instructed its Political Affairs Committee "to establish a Round Table for the organisation of an exchange of views with political parties and politicians from the Chechen Republic and the federal authorities of Russia" and that the Secretary General of the Assembly would check with the Committee if such a round table could be held before the end of 2004;

b. Current affairs debate on "Georgian-Russian relations": invited the parliamentary delegations of Georgia and Russia to agree on joint proposals for a dialogue and, in the absence of such proposals, decided to come back to the follow-up to this debate during a Bureau meeting in January 2005;

- *Auschwitz Commemoration Day (27 January 2005):* set up a working group composed of Mr Eörsi, Mr van der Linden and Mr de Puig to prepare proposals to the Bureau for the commemoration in the Assembly during the January 2005 part-session;

- *Dialogue with the Parliament of Liechtenstein:* took note of the information by the President on his visit to Liechtenstein on 27 September 2004 and his meeting in Strasbourg on 1 October 2004, of his proposals on the modalities of this dialogue and agreed to come back to this matter at its next meeting on the basis of written proposals prepared by the Secretariat;

- *Pan-African Parliament:* decided to discuss a draft working agreement between the Assembly and the Pan-African Parliament at its next meeting;

- *Membership ex officio of the immediate past President in the Political Affairs Committee (Rule 18.3):* took note that the President did not intend to make use of this rule at the end of his mandate and asked the Committee on the Rules of Procedure and Immunities to analyse practical implications of this Rule and inform the Bureau accordingly;

- *Meeting of the President of the Assembly with the Chairmen of the parliamentary delegations of Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia (Strasbourg, 6 October 2004):* took note of the information note prepared by the Secretariat;

- *Implementation of paragraph 6 of the Resolution 1376 (2004) on Cyprus:* took note that the President had informed Mr Christodoulides, Chairman of the parliamentary delegation of Cyprus, and Mr Nami, elected representative of the Turkish Cypriot community, about the Bureau's decision of 4 October 2004;

- *Belarus:*

- a. took note of the letters from the Chairmen of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and of the Committee on Culture, Science and Education;
- b. took note of the President's letter to the Chairman of the Committee of Ministers and of his reply confirming that Mr Sivakov, Minister of Sport of Belarus, will not participate in the 10th Conference of European Ministers responsible for Sport;
- c. took note that the President had asked the Venice Commission to prepare an opinion on the constitutionality of the referendum on 17 October 2004 and that he would send this opinion to all Bureau members and to international institutions concerned immediately when transmitted to him;

- *Situation of the imprisoned international medical team in Libya:*

- a. took note of the information by Mr Eörsi and thanked him for his work;
- b. took note of the memorandum prepared by the secretariat;
- c. decided to come back to the motion for a resolution on this matter (Doc. 10057) at its next meeting;

- *1st part of the 2005 Assembly session:* decided to postpone the invitation to Mr Fatos Nano, Prime Minister of Albania, until after the parliamentary elections in Albania in 2005;

- *Deadline for tabling of amendments:* decided to come back to this matter at its next meeting on the basis of a proposal prepared by the Secretariat;

- *Date and place of the next meetings:* agreed to hold the following meetings:

- . Warsaw (Poland), Tuesday 23 November 2004 at 8.30 a.m
- . Paris, Monday 13 December 2004 at 9.30 a.m.

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
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