

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Secretariat of the Assembly
Synopsis No 2005/04

24 January 2005

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Monday 24 January 2005 in Strasbourg with Mr Peter Schieder, President of the Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- *1st part of the 2005 Ordinary Session (24-28 January 2005):*
- a. updated the draft order of business as follows:

Monday 24 January:

- . included the statement by Mr Claude Frey, Chairperson of the Executive Council of the North-South Centre, during the debate on the Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and the Standing Committee;
- . included the debate on the “honouring of obligations and commitments by Georgia” as the last debate in the afternoon instead of the debate on “Genetically Modified Organisms”;
- . postponed the communication from Mr Terry Davis until Thursday 27 January;

Tuesday 25 January: included the address by Mr Viktor Yushenko, President of Ukraine, at 3pm;

Wednesday 26 January:

- . included the address by Mr Mikheil Saakashvili, President of Georgia, at 11am;
- . took note that Mr Jan Truszczyński, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Poland representing the Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers, would replace Mr Adam Daniel Rotfeld, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Poland, to present the Communication from the Committee of Ministers to the Parliamentary Assembly;
- . included the debate on “Genetically Modified Organisms” as the second debate in the afternoon;
- . proposed to continue the urgent debate on “Prospects for peace in the Middle East” (vote) in the afternoon;
- . included the “Opinion on the Draft Council of Europe Convention on action against trafficking in human beings” as the last debate in the afternoon;
- . proposed to end the sitting at 8.30 pm;

Thursday 27 January:

- . included the communication from Mr Terry Davis, Secretary General of the Council of Europe at 12 noon;
- . included the statement by Ms Yvette Stevens, Director of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), during the urgent debate on “Europe and the Tsunami Disaster”;
- . proposed to seize the Committee on Culture, Science and Education for opinion on the report on “Europe and the Tsunami Disaster”;
- b. proposed to limit the speaking time on Tuesday 25, Wednesday 26 and Thursday 27 January to 4 minutes;
- c. Commemoration ceremony of the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz (25 January 2005): took note of the programme of this ceremony;
- d. Joint Committee (27 January 2005 at 7 pm): decided to include the item “Timetable for the election of the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights” on its draft agenda;
 - *Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (8 October 2004 - 25 January 2005) (Rapporteur: Mr Peter Schieder, SOC, Austria)*: approved the second part of the Progress report covering the period from 10 to 24 January 2005;
 - *Dialogue with the Parliament of Liechtenstein*:
 - a. approved the composition of the ad hoc Committee for the dialogue with the Parliament of Liechtenstein;
 - b. was informed of the letters to the President of the Assembly from Mr Wanger, Speaker of the Liechtenstein Parliament, and from Mr Ferster from the “Liechtenstein Democratic Movement” and decided to come back to these letters at a future meeting;
 - *Implementation of Paragraph 6 of Resolution 1376 (2004) on Cyprus*:
 - a. took note of the letters from two Turkish Cypriot political parties communicating to the President of the Assembly the names of the two “elected representatives of the Turkish Cypriot community” i.e. Mr Nami (Republican Turkish Party) and Mr Özgürgün (National Unity Party), to be submitted to the Assembly for approval in accordance with the decision of the Bureau on 4 October 2004;
 - b. was informed about the letter of Mr Christofias, Speaker of the Parliament of Cyprus, to the President of the Assembly;

- *Observation of elections:*
 - a. election of the President of the Palestinian Authority (9 January 2005): approved and declassified the report of the ad hoc Committee, which observed this election (Rapporteur: Lord Kilclooney, United Kingdom, EPP/CD);
 - b. Parliamentary elections in Moldova (6 March 2005):
 - took note of the invitation of the Parliament of Moldova to observe these elections;
 - set up an Ad Hoc Committee to observe these elections composed of 40 members (d'Hondt system : SOC: 15; EPP/CD : 12; LDR: 6; EDG: 5; UEL: 2) and appointed Mr Kvakkestad (EDG) as Chairperson and rapporteur of this Ad Hoc Committee;
 - authorised a pre-electoral mission in February 2005 composed of one member from each political group from the members of the ad hoc committee;
 - c. schedule of forthcoming elections: was informed about the schedule of forthcoming elections in 2005;
- *Composition of the Monitoring Committee:* approved the list of members as proposed by the political groups for ratification by the Assembly;
- *Institutional representation of the Parliamentary Assembly:* took note of the memorandum prepared by the Secretariat;
- *Information:* heard information by the President of the Assembly, and took note of the written information by the Secretary General of the Assembly;
- *Date and place of the next meeting:* Strasbourg, Friday 28 January 2005 at 8.30 am.

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