

**TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY**

**Secretariat of the Assembly**

**Synopsis No 2005/64**

6 June 2005

**The Bureau of the Assembly**, meeting on Monday 6 June 2005 in Lisbon with Mr René van der Linden, President of the Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- *3<sup>rd</sup> Part of the 2005 Ordinary Session (Strasbourg, 20-24 June 2005):*
  - i. requests for debates under urgent procedure:
    - a. “Constitutional reform process in Armenia”: recommended to the Assembly to hold this urgent debate and to refer the matter to the Monitoring Committee for report and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights for oral opinion;
    - b. “Follow-up to the Third Summit”: recommended to the Assembly to hold this urgent debate and to refer the matter to the Political Affairs Committee for report;
  - ii. request for a current affairs debate on “the Situation in the Republics of Central Asia”: recommended to the Assembly to hold this current affairs debate;
  - iii. updated the draft agenda and the draft order of business;
  - iv. decided to limit the speaking time for speakers in debates on Tuesday 21 June, Wednesday 22 June and possibly on Thursday 23 June in the morning to 4 minutes;
  - v. Joint Committee (Thursday 23 June at 6.30 pm): approved the draft agenda;
- *Standing Committee (Lisbon, 6 June 2005 at 11 am):* took note of the updated draft agenda;
- *Follow-up to the Third Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe (Warsaw, 16-17 May 2005):*
  - . held an exchange of views on this matter;
  - . asked the President to send a letter to the Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers informing him about concrete proposals of the Assembly concerning the implementation of the Action Plan adopted at the Third Summit, in particular the involvement of the Assembly in the appointment of the group of wise persons for the reform of the European Court of Human Rights and the setting-up of the Council of Europe Forum for the Future of Democracy;

. decided that the Presidential Committee will be responsible within the Assembly of follow-up to the implementation of the Action Plan of the Third Summit;

- *References and transmissions to committees:* approved the following proposals:

a. references:

1. **Doc. 10529**

**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mrs Hägg and others  
Holy See and respect for the basic values of the Council of Europe**, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, *for information*;

2. **Doc. 10530**

**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Rakhansky and others  
20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster – consequences and problems for Europe**, to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs, *for information*;

3. **Doc. 10531**

**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Holovaty and others  
Towards decriminalization of defamation**, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, *for report*;

4. **Doc. 10537**

**Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Paoletti Tangheroni and others  
Aids orphans and vulnerable children**, to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee, *for report at the Standing Committee*;

5. **Doc. 10539**

**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Platvoet and others  
Monarchy and democracy**, to the Political Affairs Committee *for information*;

6. **Doc. 10540**

**Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Westerlund Panke and others  
Need of a greater transparency in the arms trade**, to the Political Affairs Committee, *for report* and to the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men *for opinion*;

7. **Doc. 10543**

**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Margelov and others  
UK postal voting system**, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, *for information*;

8. **Doc. 10545**

**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mrs Krohn and others  
An European Framework for Diabetes – A call for Europe's leaders to act**, to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee, *for information*;

9. **Doc. 10548**

**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Sasi and others  
The situation of the Mari minority in the Russian Federation**, to the Committee on Culture, Science and Education, to be taken into account in the preparation of the report on the "situation of Fenno-Ugric and Samoyed peoples";

10. **Doc. 10552**  
**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Randegger and others**  
**Vocational Education and Training, a key factor for lifelong employability**, to the Committee on Culture, Science and Education, *for report at the Standing Committee*, and to the Committees on Economic Affairs and Development and to on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, *for opinion*;
11. **Docs. 10555 and 10556**  
**Warsaw Declaration and Action Plan adopted at the Third Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe (Warsaw, 16-17 May 2005)**: to all Assembly committees *for report on the parts of the texts coming within their terms of reference*;
- b. requests to extend references
1. **Doc. 9856**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Damanaki and others**  
**Women and religion in Europe**  
**Ref. No 2855 of 8 September 2003 – Validity: 8 September 2005**, extended the validity of the reference to 7 October 2005;
2. **Docs. 9865 and 9866**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Err and others**  
**Mechanisms to promote gender equality in practice**  
**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mrs Cliveti and others**  
**Women's participation in decision-making**, extended the validity of the merged reference until 7 October 2005
3. **Doc. 9802**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr de Puig and others**  
**Regionalisation in Europe**  
**Ref. No 2840 of 27 May 2003 – Validity: 27 May 2005**, extended the validity of the reference until 31 December 2005;
- c. request to modify a reference
1. **Doc. 10519**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Preda and others**  
**Management of solid urban waste**  
**Ref. No 3075 of 29 April 2005**, to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs, *for report at the Standing Committee* instead of information;
- d. miscellaneous
1. **Doc. 10538**  
**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mrs Petrova-Mitevaska and others**  
**Provisional name of the Republic of Macedonia in the Council of Europe**, postponed consideration until October 2005, awaiting adoption of the report on “recent political developments in ‘the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia’ and information on negotiations within the framework of the United Nations”;

2. **Doc. 10087**  
**Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Jarab and others**  
**Academic freedom, university autonomy and human rights in the 21<sup>st</sup> century,**  
postponed until early 2006 consideration of the request for an extension;
  
  3. **Doc. 10536**  
**Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Torosyan and others**  
**“Imvros and Tenedos”**, following information provided by Mrs Papadimitriou and Mr Mercan concerning their on the spot visit from 17-18 June 2005, decided to come back to this Motion at the next meeting of the Bureau;
- *Observation of elections:*
    - i. Parliamentary elections in Bulgaria (25 June 2005): approved the composition of the ad hoc Committee to observe these elections;
    - ii. Parliamentary elections in Albania (3 July 2005):
      - . approved the composition of the ad hoc Committee to observe these elections and appointed Mr Smorawinski (EPP/CD) as Chairperson;
    - iii. Elections to the Palestinian Legislative Council (possibly November 2005):
      - . approved the current composition of the ad hoc Committee to observe these elections being understood that it may change when the date of the election will be announced and appointed Lord Russell- Johnston (LDR) as Chairperson;
    - iv. Elections in Nagorno Karabakh (19 June 2005): decided not to observe these elections;
  - *Analysis of the use made by the Assembly’s political groups of their allocations for 2004:* took note of the information paper prepared by the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development;
  - *European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT):* drew up the lists of the candidates for the CPT in the following order:
    - i. Candidates in respect of Luxembourg
      - 1/ Mr Pierre SCHMIT
      - 2/ Ms Nadia RANGAN
      - 3/ Mr Xavier BETTEL
    - ii. Candidates in respect of Switzerland
      - 1/ Mr Jean-Pierre RESTELLINI
      - 2/ Ms Priska SCHÜRMAN
      - 3/ Mr Andreas WERREN
  - *Meetings elsewhere than in Strasbourg and Paris:* authorised the following meetings:
    - . Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize (of the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs), Kaliningrad (Russia), 9 July 2005;

- . Sub-Committee on Agriculture and Food (of the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs), Geneva (Switzerland), 8 – 9 September 2005;
- . Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs, Bucharest (Romania), 3 – 4 November 2005;
- . Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, Reykjavik (Iceland), 12 – 13 September 2005;
- . Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, Tbilisi (Georgia), 3 – 4 November 2005 (to be confirmed);
- *Assembly representatives for official activities*: took the following decisions on the Assembly representatives at different events:
  - . Preparatory meeting of the Inaugural Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, Naples, 26-27 June 2005: M. Azzolini (Italy, EPP/CD);
  - . European Conference to mark the 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the European Charter of Local Self Government, Lisbon, 8 July 2005: left it up to the President to appoint the Assembly representative (without costs for the Assembly);
  - . 51<sup>st</sup> Commonwealth Parliamentary conference, Nadj (Fiji Islands), 1-10 September 2005: left it up to the President to appoint the Assembly representative (without costs for the Assembly);
- *Official reports of Assembly debates*: took note of the memorandum prepared by the secretariat and decided to come back to this matter at a next Bureau meeting;
- *The Council of Europe's North-South prize 2005*: proposed to the North-South Center the candidature of Mr Alain Godonou, Director of the School of African Heritage in Porto Novo (Benin);
- . *Composition of the Ad Hoc Committee on the implementation of paragraph 5 of Resolution 1416 (2004) on the conflict over the Nagorno-Karabakh region dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference*: following the proposal of the Political Affairs Committee, decided to include in the Ad Hoc Committee one representative of the main opposition party from, respectively, the delegation of Armenia and Azerbaijan to the Assembly;
- *Information*: took note of the information by the President of the Assembly, the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe and the Secretary General of the Assembly;
- *Date and place of the next meetings*: decided to hold the following meetings:
  - . Strasbourg, Monday 20 June 2005 at 8.30 am,
  - . Strasbourg, Friday 24 June 2005 at 8.30 am
  - . Monaco, Thursday 1 September 2005 at 8.30 am.

Petr Sich/Alexandra Alléon

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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

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