



TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Secretariat of the Assembly

Synopsis

2 February 2009

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Friday 30 January 2009 in Strasbourg, with Mr Lluís Maria de Puig, President of the Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- **2009 First ordinary part-Session of the Assembly (Strasbourg, 26-30 January 2009) :**

i. Follow-up of adopted texts:

a. Resolution 1647 (2009) "Implementation of Resolution 1633 (2008) on the consequences of the war between Georgia and Russia":

. in accordance with paragraph 15, decided to constitute an ad hoc committee of the Bureau comprising the President of the Assembly; the Chairpersons of the Political Groups; the co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee for Georgia and for Russia; the Chairpersons (or their representatives) of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population, of the Political Affairs Committee and of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights; and representatives of the Georgian and Russian parliamentary delegations and which would be chaired by the President of the Assembly;

. in accordance with paragraph 19, decided to include on the draft agenda for the April 2009 part-session, an item on the follow-up given by Georgia and Russia to Resolution 1647 (2009);

b. Resolution 1648 (2009) on "the humanitarian consequences of the war between Georgia and Russia": decided to submit the matter to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population and to invite the committee to produce a report for the April 2009 part-session;

c. Resolution 1643 (2009) "The implementation by Armenia of Assembly Resolutions 1609 (2008) and 1620 (2008)": in accordance with paragraph 11, asked the Monitoring Committee to follow this matter;

d. Resolution 1651 (2009) "The consequences of the global financial crisis": in accordance with paragraph 8, asked the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee to analyse the social impact and human dimension of the financial and economic crisis in the member states of the Council of Europe;

ii. Follow-up of the current affairs debate on "the situation in Gaza": decided to refer this matter to the Political Affairs Committee so that it could be taken into account in the report on the Situation in the Middle East;

iii. Conference on early warning systems and conflict prevention: approved the proposals concerning the organisation of this conference as prepared by the ad hoc sub-committee on early warning systems and conflict prevention and endorsed by the Political Affairs Committee;

- **Standing Committee (Paris, 13 March 2009):** took note of the draft agenda;

- **2009 Second ordinary part-Session (Strasbourg, 27-30 April 2009):** approved the preliminary draft agenda;

- **References and transmissions to committees :** see appendix I;

- **Elections observation:**

i. *Constitutional referendum in Azerbaijan (18 March 2009)*: decided to organise a delegation (2 EPP/CD, 2 SOC, 1 ALDE, 1 EDG, and 1 UEL) to be present during this referendum and authorised the President of the Assembly to appoint the Chairperson;

ii. *Presidential election in « the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia » (22 March 2009)*: took note of the invitation letter sent by the country's authorities; approved the composition of the ad hoc committee and authorised the President of the Assembly to appoint the Chairperson;

iii. *Parliamentary elections in Montenegro (29 March 2009)*:

a. subject to receipt of an invitation, decided to observe these elections;

b. set up an ad hoc committee to observe these elections, composed of 20 members in accordance with the "D'Hondt" system (7 EPP/CD, 6 SOC, 3 EDG, 3 ALDE and 1 UEL) and authorised the President of the Assembly to appoint the Chairperson;

c. authorised a pre-electoral mission composed of five members – one from each political group who were also members of the ad hoc Committee – on the understanding that it should take place approximately one month ahead of the elections;

iv. *Parliamentary elections in Moldova (5 April 2009; to be confirmed)*: authorised the President of the Assembly to approve the composition of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections and to appoint its Chairperson;

v. *Conclusions of the meeting on 27 January of Chairpersons and members of ad hoc committees for the observation of elections during the period 2006-2008*: agreed to organise an exchange of views with the new Director of ODIHR, Ambassador Lenarcic, during the next meeting of the Standing Committee in Paris on 13 March;

- **Re-constitution of Ad Hoc Committees of the Bureau:**

i. *Ad Hoc Committee on the implementation of Resolution 1416 (2005) on the conflict over the Nagorno-Karabakh region dealt with by the OSCE Minsk Conference*: renewed this ad hoc committee and approved its composition;

ii. *Ad hoc Committee on the Forum for the Future of Democracy*: renewed this ad hoc committee and appointed Mr Popescu (Ukraine, SOC) as Chairperson, in his capacity as Chairperson of the parliamentary delegation of the host country of the Forum to take place in Kiev in October 2009;

- **European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT)**: approved the following lists of candidates for the CPT with regard to Georgia and Sweden on the basis of the order of preference recommended by the Sub-Committee on Human Rights and endorsed by the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights:

i. *With regard to Sweden*:

1. Dr Stefan WEINBERG-KRAKOWSKI
2. Dr Gunilla EDELSTAM
3. Ms Anna WALDENSTRÖM

ii. *With regard to Georgia*:

1. Mr George TUGUSHI
2. Ms Tea TUTBERIDZE
3. Mr Otar KVACHADZE

- **Progress Report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (30 January – 27 April 2009)**: appointed Mr Hörster (Germany, EPP/CD) as rapporteur;

- **Visits by rapporteurs:** authorised:
 - i. Mr Fassino (Italy, SOC), new rapporteur of the Political Affairs Committee for the Middle East to visit Israel and the occupied territories (early March) and then Egypt in the context of the preparation of his report;
 - ii. Mr Blum (France, EPP/CD), rapporteur for the Social, Health and Family Affairs committee on “Co-operation between the Council of Europe and Maghreb countries in fighting social exclusion”, to visit Algeria in the context of the preparation of his report;
- **Composition of the Monitoring Committee and the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs:** approved the lists of members as proposed by political groups for ratification by the Assembly;
- **Meetings elsewhere than in Strasbourg and Paris:** see appendix II;
- **Institutional representation of the Parliamentary Assembly in 2009:** see appendix III;
- **Appointments of Assembly representatives for official activities:** see appendix IV;
- **Date and place of the next meeting:** decided to hold the following meeting:
 - . Paris, 12 March 2009 at 3pm.

Kjell Torbiörn/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
 Secretary General of the Congress
 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
 Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

APPENDIX I

The Bureau approved the following references and modifications of references, subject to ratification by the Assembly:

A. References to committees

1. **Protecting the human rights of long-term displaced persons in Europe**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Jonker and others
Doc. 11804, to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population *for report*

B. Requests to extend references

1. **The environment and renewable energies**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Scheer and others
Doc. 11154
Ref. no. 3312 of 16 March 2007 – validity : 16 March 2009, extension until 30 September 2009
2. **Nuclear energy and sustainable development**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Lengagne and others
Doc. 11198
Ref. no. 3333 of 16 April 2007 – validity: 16 April 2009, extension until 30 October 2009

APPENDIX II

Meetings elsewhere than in Strasbourg and Paris

The Bureau authorised the following meetings:

- i. Sub-Committee on the European Social Charter and Employment (of the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee): Moscow (Russia), 26-27 February 2009;
- ii. Sub-Committee on Youth and Sport (of the Committee on Culture, Science and Education): Mollina (Spain), 24-25 March 2009;
- iii. Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population: The Hague (Netherlands), 26-27 March 2009;
- iv. Sub-Committee on Tourism Development (of the Economic Affairs and Development Committee): Limassol (Cyprus), 27-28 March 2009;
- v. Sub-Committee on equal participation of women and men in decision-making (of the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men): Lisbon (Portugal), 2-3 April 2009;
- vi. Sub-Committee on Sustainable Development (of the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs): St. Petersburg (Russia), 14-15 May 2009;
- vii. Committee on Economic Affairs and Development: Helsinki (Finland), 18-19 May 2009;
- viii. Political Affairs Committee: Astana (Kazakhstan), 25-26 May 2009;
- ix. Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights: Bucharest (Romania), end of May 2009;

APPENDIX III

Institutional representation of the Parliamentary Assembly in 2009:

- i. European Commission for Democracy through Law – Venice Commission:* Mr van der Linden (PPE/CD) appointed by the President, Mr Pourgourides (EPP/CD Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights); and as substitute Ms Leutheusser-Schnarrenberger (ALDE, Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights);
- ii. Council for Democratic Elections (of the Venice Commission):* Mr Gross (SOC, Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights), Mr Van den Brande (EPP/CD, Monitoring Committee) and Mrs Durrieu (SOC, Political Affairs Committee), and as substitutes: Mr Cilevics (SOC, Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights), Mr Wilshire (EDG, Monitoring Committee) and Mr Hancock (ALDE, Political Affairs);
- iii. European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity – North-South Centre:* Mr Wodarg (SOC, Committee on Culture, Science and Education) and Mr Sasi (EPP/CD, Committee on Economic Affairs and Development) and as substitutes: Mrs de Melo (SOC, Committee on Culture, Science and Education), Mrs Papadopoulos (ALDE, Committee on Economic Affairs and Development);
- iv. European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance – ECRI:* Mr Cilevics (SOC, Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights) and Mr Vitali (EPP/CD, Committee on Political Affairs) and as substitutes: Mr Berenyi (EPP/CD, Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights) and Mr Szabo (SOC, Political Affairs Committee) and a representative of the Committee on Culture, Science and Education to be designated at a later stage;
- v. Advisory Board for the Future of Democracy:* Chairperson of the Political Affairs Committee or a member of the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on the Forum for the Future of Democracy (according to availability);
- vi. High-level group entrusted with examining the follow-up to the Juncker report:* Mr Van der Linden (EPP/DC) appointed by the President;
- vii. Group of States against Corruption – GRECO:* Mr Marty (ALDE, Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights) and as substitute Mr Sasi (EPP/CD, Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights);
- viii. European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice - CEPEJ:* Mr Hunault (EDG, Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights);
- ix. Council of Europe Committee for Works of Art:* Mr Nachbar (EPP/CD, Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on the Cultural Heritage of the Committee on Culture, Science and Education) and Mr O'Hara (SOC, General Rapporteur on the Cultural Heritage and Rapporteur on the European Museum Awards);
- x. Pan-European Federation for Heritage – Europa Nostra:* Mr Nachbar (EPP/CD, Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on the Cultural Heritage of the Committee on Culture, Science and Education).

APPENDIX IV

Appointments of Assembly representatives for official activities

In reply to formal invitations, the Bureau appointed the following parliamentarians:

- i. Mrs Err (Luxembourg, SOC), Side event to the Commission on the Status of Women session of the United Nations, New York (United States of America), 3-4 March 2009;
- ii. Mr Çavuşoğlu (Turkey, EDG), 70th Rose-Roth Seminar, Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), 19-21 March 2009 ;
- iii. Mrs John-Calame (Switzerland, SOC), Seminar on “Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women” and “the role of female parliamentarians in conflict resolution”, Kinshasa, Congo, 30-31 March 2009, *no cost for the Assembly*;
- iv. Mr Olsson (Sweden, EPP/CD), 60th international session of the European Youth Parliament, Stockholm (Sweden), 17-26 April 2009, *no cost for the Assembly*;
- v. Mr MacShane (United Kingdom, SOC), Nato Parliamentary Assembly Spring Session, Oslo (Norway), 22-26 May 2009, *no cost for the Assembly*;