



TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Secretariat of the Assembly

Synopsis

16 March 2011

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Thursday 10 March 2011 in Paris, with Mr Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, President of the Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- **2011 First part-Session of the Assembly (Strasbourg, 24-28 January 2011):** approved the proposals for follow-up to texts adopted by the Assembly;
- **Standing Committee (Paris, 11 March 2011):**
 - i.* decided to recommend to the Standing Committee to hold a current affairs debate on “Cooperation between the Council of Europe and emerging democracies in the Arab world”;
 - ii.* decided, subject to the Standing Committee’s agreement to holding such a debate, to refer the subject to the Committee on Political Affairs Committee for a report, to be debated at the Assembly’s June 2011 part-Session;
 - iii.* took note of the updated draft agenda for the Standing Committee meeting;
- **2011 Second part-Session of the Assembly (Strasbourg, 11-15 April 2011):** updated the draft agenda;
- **Communications:** took note of communications by the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, as well as the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly;
- **References and transmissions to committees:** see Appendix I;
- **Ad hoc committee of the Bureau on recent detentions, prosecutions and convictions of members of the opposition in Belarus:** decided, subject to ratification by the Standing Committee, to set up an ad hoc committee of the Bureau on recent detentions, prosecutions and convictions of members of the opposition in Belarus, composed of one member of each political group who is not a member of the Bureau;
- **Observation of elections :**
 - i.* **Kazakhstan: early presidential election (3 April 2011):** confirmed the proposal to observe these elections; constituted an ad hoc Committee composed of five members (one from each political group); and appointed Mrs Liovochkina (Ukraine; EDG) as its Chairperson;
 - ii.* **Turkey: parliamentary elections (12 June 2011):** decided, subject to the receipt of an invitation from the competent Turkish authorities, to observe these elections; constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 30 members in accordance with the d’Hondt system (10 EPP/CD; 9 SOC; 5 ALDE; 5 EDG; 1 UEL); and authorised a pre-electoral mission composed of five members (one from each political group) – to be carried out approximately one month before the elections;
- **Cooperation with the European Parliament :**
 - i.* formally established an ad hoc Committee to participate in the joint informal body to co-ordinate information sharing in the context of the accession of the European Union to the European Convention on Human Rights, to be co-Chaired by the Chairperson of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and the Chairperson of the Committee on Political Affairs;

- **Issues raised by Committees**

i. *Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men*: held an exchange of views on a memorandum on "Gender mainstreaming in the work of the Assembly" and agreed to return to this subject at its meeting on 15 April 2011;

ii. *Political Affairs Committee*:

a. authorised the Committee to prepare a report on the subject "Living Together in 21st Century Europe: Follow-up to the Eminent Persons report" to be debated at the Assembly's June 2011 part-Session, with the following Committees being seized for opinion: Committee on Social, Health and Family Affairs; the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population; the Committee on Culture, Science and Education; and the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men;

b. authorised Mr Kox, Rapporteur for "Request for Partner for Democracy Status with the Parliamentary Assembly submitted by the Palestinian National Council (PNC)", to conduct a fact-finding visit to the Palestinian Territories, including the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, if possible, at the end of March for the purposes of his report;

c. authorised the Committee to prepare a report on the subject "Situation in Tunisia" for debate at the Assembly's June 2011 part-Session, and authorised the Rapporteur to carry out a fact-finding visit to Tunisia for the purposes of her report;

- **Reform of the Assembly:**

i. held an exchange of views on the draft report of the ad hoc Committee of the Bureau on the Assembly's reform;

ii. took note of the appointment of Mrs Bemelmans-Vidéc (Netherlands; EPP/CD) to replace Mr Haibach on the ad hoc Committee of the Assembly on the Assembly's reform;

- **Forum for the Future of Democracy**: constituted a Bureau ad hoc committee to participate in the thematic meeting of the Forum to be held in Cyprus on 13 and 14 October 2011 on the subject "The Interdependence of democracy and Social cohesion" and appointed the Head of the Cypriot delegation in office at the time of the event as the ad hoc Committee's Chairperson for 2011;

- **Other business**: awarded Mr Lluís Maria de Puig, former President of the Assembly, the title of Honorary President of the Assembly, with effect from the date that he ceases to be a member of the Assembly; and conferred the title of Honorary Secretary General of the Assembly on Mr Mateo Sorinas, former Secretary General of the Assembly, with effect from 1 April 2011;

- **Institutional representation of the Parliamentary Assembly on the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) in 2011**: appointed the following representatives: Mrs Lundgren (ALDE, Political Affairs Committee), Mr Čilevičs (SOC, Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights) and Mr Schneider (EPP/CD, Committee on Culture, Science and Education);

- **Appointment of Assembly representatives for official activities**: see Appendix II;

- **Sixth Summer University for Democracy, Strasbourg, 27-29 June 2011**: approved a proposal for Assembly representation;

- **European Conference of Presidents of Parliament, Strasbourg, 7-9 June 2012**: took note of the dates for the Conference;

- **Meetings elsewhere than in Strasbourg and Paris**: authorised the meetings appearing in Appendix III;

- ***Date and place of the next meetings:*** decided to hold forthcoming meetings as follows:

- . Monday 11 April 2011, Strasbourg, at 8 am;
- . Friday 15 April 2011, Strasbourg, at 8.30 am;
- . Thursday 26 May 2011, Kyiv, 2.30 pm.

Kjell Torbiörn/Marine Trévisan

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
Director General, Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly
Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly
Observers to the Assembly
Secretary General of the Congress
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Directors General
Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe for Organisational Development and Reform
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights
Director of Communication
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

APPENDIX I

References and transmissions to committees

Doc No.	Nature of document	Title of document	Committee concerned	Reference No.	Date of reference
12490	Motion for a Resolution	Serious setbacks in the fields of the rule of law and human rights in Hungary	Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) <i>for preparation of a written opinion in accordance with § 3 and 4 of the terms of reference of the Monitoring Committee</i>	3744	Standing Committee 11/03/2011
12491	Motion for a Resolution	The situation of women in Ukraine	Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) <i>for taking into account in the preparation of the report on Honouring of obligations and commitments by Ukraine</i> Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men <i>for information</i>	3745	Standing Committee 11/03/2011
12492 rev	Motion for a Recommendation	Towards a Council of Europe Convention to combat trafficking in organs, tissues and cells of human origin	Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee <i>for report</i>	3746	Standing Committee 11/03/2011
12495	Motion for a Resolution	Investing in a low-carbon economy for growth and development	Committee on Economic Affairs and Development <i>for report</i> Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs <i>for opinion</i>	3747	Standing Committee 11/03/2011
12498	Motion for a Resolution	Integration of migrants: is Europe failing?	Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population <i>for report</i>	3748	Standing Committee 11/03/2011
0	Communication	Granting of participatory status to the international non-governmental organisation Andante	Committee on Culture, Science and Education <i>for report at the Standing Committee</i> Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men <i>for opinion</i>	3749	Standing Committee 11/03/2011
0	Resolution 1791 (2011)	The situation in Tunisia	Political Affairs Committee <i>for report</i>	3750	Standing Committee 11/03/2011
0	Follow-up to the current affairs debate	Co-operation between the Council of Europe and emerging democracies in the Arab world	Political Affairs Committee <i>for report</i>	3751	Standing Committee 11/03/2011

0	Bureau Decision	Living together in 21st century Europe : follow-up to the Eminent Persons report	Political Affairs Committee for report Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee <i>for opinion</i> Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population <i>for opinion</i> Committee on Culture, Science and Education <i>for opinion</i> Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men <i>for opinion</i>	3752	Standing Committee 11/03/2011
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Extensions of references

Doc No.	Nature of document	Title of document	Committee concerned	Reference No.	New validity date
11843	Motion for a Recommendation	The Council of Europe and the Eastern Partnership of the European Union	Political Affairs Committee <i>for report</i>	3539	31 December 2011
11892	Motion for a Resolution	The need for independent and credible environmental assessments	Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs <i>for report</i>	3562	30 November 2011
11894	Motion for a Recommendation	The potential dangers of electromagnetic fields and their effect on the environment	Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs <i>for report</i>	3563	30 November 2011

APPENDIX II

Appointment of Assembly representatives for official activities

- i. Ms Annette Groth (Germany, UEL), Plenary Assembly of the European Roma and Travellers Forum, Strasbourg, 30 March 2011;
- ii. A Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights (according to availability), High-level follow-up conference on the Future of the European Court of Human Rights, Izmir (Turkey), 26-27 April 2011;
- iii. Ms Dzhema Grozdanova (Bulgaria, EPP/CD), Spring Session of NATO PA, Varna (Bulgaria), 27-30 May 2011 at no cost for the Assembly.

APPENDIX III

Meetings elsewhere than in Strasbourg and Paris

- i. 1-2 June 2011, Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population, Corfu (Greece).