



TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Secretariat of the Assembly

Synopsis

8 September 2011

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Monday 5 September 2011 in Caserta (Italy), with Mr Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, President of the Assembly in the Chair, as regards:

- **Election of the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights:** took note of the calendar for the election of the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights and asked the Assembly's Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights to organise the interviews of candidates for the post of Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights in time for the Assembly's first part-session of 2012, preferably in December 2011;
- **Fourth Part of the 2011 Ordinary Session (Strasbourg, 3-7 October 2011):** drew up the draft agenda for the Fourth part-Session;
- **References and transmissions to committees:** considered and approved references and transmissions as presented in Appendix I, subject to ratification by the Assembly;
- **Observation of elections:**
 - i. **Meeting of the Chairpersons of Ad Hoc Committees for the observation of elections, Strasbourg, 4th part-session 2011 :** decided to hold this meeting on 4 October at 6.00 pm, in Strasbourg, during the fourth part-Session;
 - ii. **Parliamentary elections in Turkey (12 June 2011):** approved the report of the ad hoc committee which observed these elections, presented by its Chairperson;
 - iii. **Presidential elections in the Kyrgyz Republic (30 October 2011) :** decided to observe these elections and to constitute an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 5 members, one from each political group;
 - iv. **Parliamentary elections in Morocco (25 November 2011):** decided - subject to the receipt of an invitation from the competent Moroccan authorities - to observe these elections, to constitute an ad hoc Committee for this purpose composed of 20 members, in accordance with the D'Hondt system (EPP/CD: 7, SOC: 6; EDG: 3, ALDE: 3, UEL: 1) and to authorise a pre-electoral mission approximately one month ahead of the elections;
 - v. **Parliamentary elections in the Russian Federation (4 December 2011):** decided to observe these elections, to constitute an ad hoc Committee for this purpose composed of 40 members, in accordance with the D'Hondt system (EPP/CD: 13, SOC: 12; EDG: 7, ALDE: 6, UEL: 2) and to authorise a pre-electoral mission approximately one month ahead of the elections;
 - vi. **Parliamentary elections in Egypt (date to be confirmed):** invited the President to convey to the competent authorities in Egypt the Assembly's interest to observe these elections;

- **Communications:** took note of the communications by the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe and the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly;
- **Cooperation with the European Parliament:** took note of the document on the relations between the European Parliament and the Parliamentary Assembly, and of the information on the meeting between the Presidential Committee and the Conference of Presidents of the European Parliament (Brussels, 22 September 2011);
- **Issues raised by committees**
 - i. **Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs:**
 - endorsed the proposals made in the Information memorandum on “Freedom of access and movement for Parliamentary Assembly members in Council of Europe member states” ;
 - decided to propose to the Assembly that its committees do not hold any meetings for a period of two years in member states which fail to honour their commitments vis-à-vis the freedom of movement of its members, particularly in connection with the issue of visas to Assembly members wishing to attend meetings or visit the country in question as a member of the Assembly travelling on Assembly business;
 - reminded Assembly committees that in such a context, they have the possibility to cancel a meeting themselves.
 - ii. **Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men:** took note that Ms Theresa May, Home Secretary and Minister for Women and Equalities of the United Kingdom, be invited to address the Standing Committee, at its meeting in Edinburgh on 25 November 2011, in the context of the debates on “Psychological violence” and “European norms concerning the enforcement and supervision of restraining orders in case of gender-based violence”;
 - iii. **Political Affairs Committee :** authorised the visit by Mr Gardetto (Monaco, EPP/CD) to Egypt, in the framework of his report on “Co-operation between the Council of Europe and emerging democracies in the Arab World”, subject to the approval of the Political Affairs Committee (meeting on 6 September);
- **International Day of Democracy, 15 September 2011 (Interparliamentary Union):** approved a draft Declaration to be published in connection with this event;
- **Forum for the Future of Democracy (Cyprus, 13-14 October 2011):** took note of the programme and decided that Maghreb Parliaments be invited to participate in the Forum;
- **“Women as drivers of change in the Mediterranean” Rome, 24 and 25 October 2011:** decided to accept this invitation and to constitute an ad hoc Committee of the Bureau composed of up to three members of the three following Committees - the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, the Committee on Culture, Science and Education and the Political Affairs Committee - to participate in the meeting;
- **Appointment of Assembly representatives for official visits:**
 - . invited the President to remind members that while visiting a country they can only speak on behalf of the Assembly after having been appointed by the Bureau or a committee to an official visit to this country;
 - . approved the proposals as presented in Appendix II;

- **Meetings elsewhere than in Strasbourg and Paris:** authorised the meetings appearing in Appendix III;
- **Sixth Summer University for Democracy (Strasbourg, 27 June – 29 July 2011):** took note of the final declaration;
- **Date and place of the next meetings:** decided to hold the following meetings:
 - . Strasbourg, Monday 3 October 2011 at 8 am
 - . Strasbourg, Friday 7 October 2011 at 8.30.

Markus Adelsbach

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
Director General, Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly
Members of observer and partner for democracy delegations
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

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

i. references to committee

1. **Doc. 12652**
Gender equality and the status of women in the Council of Europe southern neighbourhood
Motion for a recommendation presented by Ms Bergamini and others, reference to the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men *for report*
2. **Doc. 12654**
Parental leave as a way to foster gender equality
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Rigoni and others, reference to the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men *for report* and to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee *for opinion*
3. **Doc. 12655**
Support for a European sign language dictionary on the Internet
Motion for a recommendation presented by Ms de Pourbaix-Lundin and others, transmission to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee *for information*
4. **Doc. 12657**
The promotion of active citizenship in Europe
Motion for a resolution presented by the Earl of Dundee and others, reference to the Political Affairs Committee *for report*
5. **Doc. 12659**
Promoting alternatives to imprisonment
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Gardetto and others, reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*
6. **Doc. 12661**
Counteraction to manifestations of neo-nazism and xenophobia
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Kosachev and others, transmission to the Political Affairs Committee *for report*

ii. extension of references

1. **Doc. 11982**
Population transfer as a human rights violation
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Lotman and others
Ref. 3604 of 2 October 2009 - Validity: 2 October 2011, extension until 31 March 2012
2. **Doc. 11903**
The inadmissibility of restrictions on freedom of movement as punishment for political positions
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Gross and others
Ref. 3620 of 20 November 2009 - Validity: 20 November 2011, extension until 31 March 2012
3. **Doc. 11976**
Ad hoc judges: a problem for the legitimacy of the European Court of Human Rights
Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Bemelmans-Videc and others
Ref. 3600 of 2 October 2009 - validity: 2 October 2011, extension until 30 November 2011

Appendix II

Appointment of Assembly representatives for official visits

- a. Mr Schneider (France, EPP/CD): Enter! Youth Meeting, Strasbourg, 15 September 2011;
- b. Ms Lundgren (Sweden, ALDE): International Conference on “The Council of Europe – the European Union Facing the challenges of the modern world”, Warsaw, 15 September 2011;
- c. Mr Pourgourides (Cyprus, EPP/CD): Conference on the Prevention as part of human rights’ protection mechanism organised within the framework of the Ukrainian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, Kyiv, 20-21 September 2011
- d. The Chairman of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, subject to his availability: Round table on the role of the supreme Court in the protection of human rights at national level, Kyiv, 22 September 2011
- e. Sir Alan Meale (United Kingdom, SOC), Summit of Mayors on Roma, Strasbourg, 22 September 2011
- f. Mr Volontè (Italy, EPP/CD): 2011 OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, Warsaw, 26 September – 7 October 2011 (at no cost for the Assembly)
- g. Mr Gardetto (Monaco, EPP/CD): OSCE PA’s Fall Meetings, Dubrovnik (Croatia), 7-10 October 2011 (at no cost for the Assembly)
- h. Mr Preda (Romania, EPP/CD): 57 Annual Session of the NATO PA, Bucharest, 7-10 October 2011

Appendix III

Meetings elsewhere than in Strasbourg and Paris

- a. Sub-Committee on Sustainable Development (of the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs):Kyiv, 19 September 2011;
- b. Sub-Committee of the Europe Prize (of the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs): Landerneau (France), 15 October 2011;
- c. Sub-Committee on Crime Problems and the Fight against Terrorism (of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights) : Belgrade, 28 October 2011;
- d. Sub-Committee on Children (of the Committee on Social, Health and Family Affairs): Monaco, 20-21 November 2011