



TO THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

Secretariat of the Assembly

Synopsis

23 January 2012

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on 23 January 2012 in Strasbourg, with Mr Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, President of the Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- **1st part of the 2012 Session (Strasbourg, 23-27 January 2012):**

i. Requests for debates under urgent procedure and current affairs debates: decided to propose to the Assembly to hold a current affairs debate on "The Russian Federation between two elections", to be introduced by Mr Gross (Switzerland, SOC);

ii. Election of a judge to the European Court of Human rights in respect of Belgium: took note of the recommendation submitted by the Sub-Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights and decided to transmit it to the Assembly for endorsement in the framework of the Progress report;

iii. Election of the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights: took note of the letter from the Sub-Committee on Human Rights which had interviewed the candidates and decided to transmit it to the members of the Assembly;

iv. Draft agenda: updated the draft agenda;

- **Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (7 October 2011 – 23 January 2012):** (*Rapporteur: Mr Çavuşoğlu, Turkey, EDG*): approved the Progress report;

- **Election of the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe:** considered and agreed to the draft competence framework for the post of Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe as proposed by the Committee of Ministers and decided to submit it, together with the decision already taken on 12 December 2011 to shorten the term of office of the Deputy Secretary General to be elected in 2012 to three years, to the Assembly for ratification in the framework of the Progress report.

- **Election observation:**

i. Parliamentary elections in Morocco (25 November 2011): approved the report of the ad hoc Committee which observed these elections;

ii. Parliamentary elections in the Russian Federation (4 December 2011): approved the report of the ad hoc Committee which observed these elections and took note of the press release issued by the post-electoral observation mission (19-21 January 2012);

iii. Presidential elections in the Russian Federation (4 March 2012): approved the composition of the ad hoc Committee and appointed Mr Kox (Netherlands, UEL) as its Chairperson;

iv. Elections to the Palestinian Legislative Council and for the Presidency of the Palestinian National Authority (4 May 2012 to be confirmed): decided - in principle and subject to receipt of an invitation by the competent authorities and the confirmation of date - to observe these elections, and to constitute an ad hoc Committee for this purpose composed of 30 members (in accordance with the D'Hondt system: EPP/CD: 11, SOC: 9; EDG: 5, ALDE: 4, UEL: 1) and authorise a pre-electoral mission to take place approximately one month ahead of the elections;

- v. *Parliamentary elections in Armenia (6 May 2012)*: decided - in principle and subject to the reception of an invitation by the competent national authorities - to observe these elections, and to constitute an ad hoc Committee for this purpose composed of 30 members (in accordance with the D'Hondt system: EPP/CD: 11, SOC: 9; EDG: 5, ALDE: 4, UEL: 1) and to authorise a pre-electoral mission to take place approximately one month ahead of the elections;
- vi. *Parliamentary elections in Serbia (May 2012)*: decided - in principle and subject to the reception of an invitation by the competent national authorities and the confirmation of date - to observe these elections, and to constitute an ad hoc Committee for this purpose composed of 30 members (in accordance with the D'Hondt system: EPP/CD: 11, SOC: 9; EDG: 5, ALDE: 4, UEL: 1) and to authorise a pre-electoral mission to take place approximately one month ahead of the election;
- **References and transmissions to committees:** approved the following reference, subject to ratification by the Assembly:
 - . Doc. 12818, Request for an opinion by the Committee of Ministers, , to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*;
 - **Communications:** took note of communications by the President, the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe as well as the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly;
 - **Vice-Presidents of the Assembly in 2012:** took note of the list of candidates;
 - **Reports by 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:* approved the report by the Chairperson of the ad hoc Committee;
 - ii. *Ad Hoc Committee on promoting dialogue between the Georgian and Russian Assembly delegations:* approved the oral report by the Chairperson of the ad hoc Committee;
 - **Issues raised by committees:**
 - i. *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*
 - . approved the memorandum on the evaluation of the Partnership for democracy and the proposals contained in it to be submitted to the Assembly to approbation in the framework of the Progress report;
 - . decided to refer the evaluation of the Partnership for Democracy in respect of the Parliament of Morocco and the Palestinian National Council to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy for report and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination for opinions;
 - **Composition of the Monitoring Committee and the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs:**
 - i. on the basis of proposals from the political groups, nominated members of these two committees and decided to submit these nominations to the Assembly for ratification;
 - ii. in respect of Ukraine: following a vote, nominated Ms Herasym'yuk (EPP/CD) and Ms Liovochkina (EDG) as members of the Monitoring Committee, for ratification by the Assembly;
 - **Resolution 1376 (2004) relating to Cyprus:** took note of the letters from the two Turkish Cypriot political parties informing the President of the Assembly of the names of the "elected representatives of the Turkish Cypriot community" entitled to sit in the Assembly, namely Mr Ahmet Eti (National Unity Party) and Mr Mehmet Çağlar (Republican Turkish Party), to be submitted to the Assembly for its approval in the framework of the Progress Report ;

- **Date and place of the next meetings:**

- . Friday 27 January 2012, Strasbourg (part session) at 8.30 am;
- . Thursday 8 March 2012, Paris (CoE office) at 3 pm

Markus Adelsbach/ Ivi-Triin Odrats

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
Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations
Secretary General of the Congress
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Directors General
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