



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY

AS/Bur/CB (2015) 07

22 June 2015

To the Members of the Assembly

Synopsis of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 22 June 2015

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Monday 22 June 2015 in Strasbourg, with Ms Anne Brasseur, President of the Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Communication by the President:** took note of the written communication as well as of the report on the meeting of the ad hoc committee of the Bureau on large scale arrival of refugees to Turkey (Istanbul and Gaziantep, 14-16 June 2015), to be included as an addendum to the Progress report;
- **Third part-session of 2015 (Strasbourg, 22-26 June):**
 - i. *Request for a current affairs debate (under Rule 53 of the Rules of Procedure):* decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold a current affairs debate on “The need for a common European response to migration challenges” on Thursday 25 June in the morning, and designated Mr Reha Denemeç (Turkey, EC) as first speaker;
 - ii. *Draft agenda:* updated the draft agenda of the part-session;
 - iii. *Joint Committee (Strasbourg, 25 June 2015, from 3.30 pm to 4 pm):* took note of the draft agenda;
 - iv. *Election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights in respect of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Latvia, Luxembourg and Monaco:* took note of the report drawn up by the Committee on the election of judges following interviews with candidates for the posts of judges to the Court in respect of these countries, including its decision to reject the list in respect of Azerbaijan, subject to ratification by the Assembly in the Progress report;
- **Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (24 April – 22 June 2015)** (Rapporteur: Ms Adele Gambaro, Italy, ALDE): approved the Progress report;
- **References and transmissions to committees:** considered and approved the references as presented in Appendix 1, subject to ratification by the Assembly in the addendum to the Progress report; took note of the letter of the Chairperson of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development concerning the decision to merge the motions for a resolution on “The ‘Turin process’ for the European Social Charter” and “Drafting social indicators and issuing an annual report on social rights”;
- **Election observation:**
 - i. *Turkey: parliamentary elections (7 June 2015):* approved the report of the ad hoc committee;
 - ii. *Belarus: presidential election (11 October 2015, to be confirmed):* subject to receiving an invitation, decided to observe this election; constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 11 members (SOC: 3; EPP/CD: 3; ALDE: 2, EC: 2, UEL: 1 - in accordance with the D’Hondt system) as well as the rapporteur of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy on “The situation in Belarus”; and authorised a pre-electoral mission;

- iii. *Azerbaijan: parliamentary elections (1st November 2015)*: decided to observe these elections; constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 30 members (SOC: 11; EPP/CD: 10; ALDE: 4, EC: 3, UEL: 2 - in accordance with the D'Hondt system) and the co-rapporteurs of the monitoring committee; and authorised a pre-electoral mission;
- iv. *Kyrgyzstan: parliamentary elections (8 November 2015, to be confirmed)*: subject to receiving an invitation, decided to observe these elections; constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 20 members (SOC: 7; EPP/CD: 7; ALDE: 3, EC: 2, UEL: 1 - in accordance with the D'Hondt system) and the rapporteur of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy on "Evaluation of the Partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic" ; and authorised a pre-electoral mission;
- v. *Schedule of elections for 2015*: took note of the elections calendar for 2015 as presented in the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly;
- **Communication by the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe**: took note of the communication and postponed the oral communication by the Deputy Secretary General to its meeting on Friday 26 June 2015;
- **Other business**:
 - i. *The allocation of seats in the Parliamentary Assembly with respect to Turkey*: took note of the changes in the Statute of the Council of Europe as regards the allocation of seats in the Parliamentary Assembly with respect to Turkey;
 - ii. *Invitation to hold a Bureau meeting in London*: at the invitation of Mr Robert Walter (United Kingdom, EC), decided to hold a meeting in London on 14 December 2015;
- **General Rapporteurs**: approved the revised terms of reference of the General Rapporteur on Local and Regional Authorities and the General Rapporteur on Children, subject to ratification by the Assembly (Appendix 2);
- **Composition of the Monitoring Committee and the Committee on the election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights**:
 - i. *Composition of the Monitoring Committee*: on the basis of a proposal from the UEL Group, nominated Ms Athanasia Anagnostopoulou (Greece) in replacement of Mr Matjaž Hanžek (Slovenia);
 - ii. *Composition of the Committee on the election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights*: on the basis of a proposal from the UEL Group, nominated Mr Matjaž Hanžek (Slovenia) as alternate in replacement of Mr Ögmundur Jónasson (Iceland);
- **Date and place of next meeting**:

Friday 26 June 2015, Strasbourg at 8.30 am.

Copy to:

Secretary General of the Assembly
Director General, Director 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

Appendix 1

References and transmissions to committees

A. References to committees

Doc. [13775](#), motion for a resolution, New methods of political influence over independent journalism, reference to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media *for report*;

Doc. [13776](#), motion for a resolution, Situation in Lebanon and challenges for regional stability and European security: transmission to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*;

Doc. [13777](#), motion for a resolution, The over-sexualisation of children: reference to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for report*;

Doc. [13778](#), motion for a resolution, Preventing the radicalisation of children by fighting the root causes: reference to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for report* and to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media and to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for opinion*;

Doc. [13779](#), motion for a recommendation, The situation of the deported Meskhetian Turks: reference to the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) *to be taken into account in the preparation of the report on "Honouring of obligations and commitments by Georgia"*;

Doc. [13780](#), motion for a resolution, Attacks against journalists and media freedom in Europe: reference to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media *for report*;

Doc. [13781](#), motion for a resolution Securing access of detainees to lawyers: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*.

B. Modification of a reference

Doc. [13573](#), motion for a resolution, The fate of critically ill prisoners in Turkish prisons, reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report* and to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for opinion*.

Appendix 2

Updated terms of reference for General Rapporteurs

A. General Rapporteur on Children

General rapporteur on children of the Parliamentary Assembly (of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development)

Denomination: general rapporteur on children

Term of office: one year renewable, subject to a maximum of two years

Subject: It is the duty of the general rapporteur on children to intervene in the area of children's rights, particularly concerning issues of child protection, child development and child participation in different contexts (educational institutions, family, leisure, others). He or she shall report periodically to the committee on the information collected and the action taken.

Responsibilities:

The role of the general rapporteur is to:

- follow activities and maintain working relations with the Children's Rights Division of the Council of Europe and represent the Committee and the Parliamentary Assembly at any **meetings of the expert and advisory groups coordinated by it, in particular those related to the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child;**
- follow activities and represent the Committee and the Assembly within the Committee of the Parties of the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse ("Lanzarote Convention");
- follow activities related to children's rights undertaken by other bodies of the Council of Europe, notably the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities and the Commissioner of Human Rights;
- follow activities and maintain working relations with bodies and agencies of the United Nations (Unicef, the Special Representative of the Secretary General on Violence against Children), the European Commission and Parliament, the Interparliamentary Union (IPU), and international non-governmental organisations working in this field (Save the Children, ECPAT and others);
- follow-up on relevant texts adopted by the Assembly, in particular **Resolution 1995 (2014) and Recommendation 2044 (2014) on Ending child poverty in Europe, Resolution 2010 (2014) on Child-friendly juvenile justice: from rhetoric to reality, Recommendation 2045 (2014) on Combating sexual violence against children: towards a successful conclusion of the ONE in FIVE Campaign, as well as Resolution 2049 (2015) and Recommendation 2068 (2015) on Social services in Europe: legislation and practice of the removal of children from their families in Council of Europe member States,** and continue to promote the Assembly's decisions which appear in these texts.

B. General Rapporteur on Local and Regional Authorities

General rapporteur on local and regional authorities of the Parliamentary Assembly (of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development)

Denomination: general rapporteur on local and regional authorities

Term of office: one year renewable, subject to a maximum of two years

Subject: It is the duty of the general rapporteur on local and regional authorities to intervene in the area of local and regional democracy, particularly concerning issues of good governance at local and regional level, citizen participation, local and regional finances and human rights at local level. He or she shall report periodically to the committee on the information collected and the action taken.

Responsibilities:

The role of the general rapporteur is to:

- systematically follow activities and maintain working relations with the European Committee on Democracy and Governance (CDDG), the Rapporteur Group on Democracy (GR-DEM), and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities,
- follow activities by the European Commission and Parliament, and where appropriate follow and maintain working relations with European and national associations of local and regional authorities,
- represent the Committee on behalf of the Assembly at the meetings of any of the above mentioned bodies where appropriate.