

**TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON MIGRATION, REFUGEES AND DEMOGRAPHY**

SECRETARIAT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

**Synopsis No. 2002/067**

31 May 2002

**The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Demography**, meeting in Lucerne on 27 May 2002 with Mr Iwiński (Poland, SOC) in the Chair:

- heard opening speeches by:
  - Mrs Lisbeth FEHR (Switzerland, LDR), Chairperson of the Swiss Parliamentary Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;
  - Mrs Felicitas Zopfi-Gassner, President of the City Parliament of Lucerne.

*As regards:*

- *Situation of refugees and displaced persons in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia* (Rapporteur: Mr Cilevičs, Latvia, SOC): adopted a draft recommendation as amended and approved a draft report;
- *Situation of refugees and displaced persons in Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia* (Rapporteur: Mrs Vermot-Mangold, Switzerland, SOC): adopted a draft recommendation and approved a draft report;
- *Seminar on the humanitarian situation of refugees and displaced persons in CIS countries and Committee meeting, Voronej-Borisoglebsk, 11-12 June 2002*: heard a statement by Mr Rogozin (Russia, EDG) on the state of preparation;
- *Migrants in irregular employment in the agricultural sector of southern European countries*: appointed Mrs de Zulueta (Italy, SOC) as Rapporteur;
- *Swiss policies with regard to migration and refugees*: heard statements by:
  - Mrs Ruth Metzler-Arnold, Swiss Federal Minister for Justice and Police;
  - Mrs Dora Andres, Minister of the Canton of Bern, responsible for migration and refugee affairs;

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly  
Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly  
Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly  
Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly  
Directors  
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General  
Director of Communication and Research  
Secretary of the Committee of Ministers  
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

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– *Situation of irregular migrants*: held a discussion panel, chaired by Mrs Vermot-Mangold (Switzerland, SOC) with the participation of:

- Mrs Vania Alleva, President of the Migration Commission of the Swiss Trade-Union Federation (USS) and responsible for migration in the Industry and Building Trade Union (GBI), Zurich;
- Mr Jean-Daniel Gerber, Director of the Federal Office for Refugees, Federal Department for Justice and Police (FDJP), Bern;
- Mr Peter Hasler, Director, Swiss Employers' Union, Zurich;
- Mrs Anni Lanz, Solidarité sans Frontières, Bern;
- Mrs Anne-Marie Saxer-Steinlin, Delegate of the Swiss Evangelical Churches' Federation, Bern;
- Mr Jacob Schädelin, Pastor, Bern;
- Mr Roger Schneeberger, President, Migration Service of the Canton of Bern;

– *Pan-European perspectives of the European Union on future migration and asylum policies*: held an exchange of views with:

- Mrs Celia Abenza Rojo, Coordinator of international and institutional relations, Directorate General "foreigner and immigration affairs", Ministry of the Interior of the Spanish Government;
- Mrs Sandra Pratt, Principal Administrator, Immigration and Asylum Unit, Justice and Home Affairs Directorate-General, European Commission;
- Mrs Heide-Marie Fenzl, Chair of the European Committee on Migration (CDMG) of the Council of Europe;
- Mr Jean-François Durieux, Deputy Director, Western and Central Europe, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR);

– heard a closing address by Mr Peter Schieder, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;

– *Next meetings*: confirmed the dates and places as follows:

- Voronej and Borisoglebsk (Russia), 11-12 June 2002, Plenary Committee, Seminar on the humanitarian situation of refugees and displaced persons in CIS countries;
- Strasbourg, during the 3<sup>rd</sup> part of the session 2002 (24-28.6.2002);
- Helsinki, 16-17 September 2002, Sub-Committee on Migration, 7<sup>th</sup> Conference of European Ministers responsible for Migration Affairs;
- Strasbourg, during the 4<sup>th</sup> part of the session 2002 (23-27.9.2002);
- Brussels, 3-4 October 2002 (*dates to be confirmed and subject to authorisation by the Bureau*) Plenary Committee, joint meeting with the Committee on Citizens' Freedoms and Rights, Justice and Home Affairs of the European Parliament, Hearing;
- Budapest (European Youth Centre), 17-18 December 2002 (*dates to be confirmed and subject to authorisation by the Bureau*).

Agnieszka NACHILO