

SECRETARIAT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON MIGRATION, REFUGEES AND POPULATION

Synopsis AS/MIG/2008/CB/02

10 March 2008

The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population, meeting in Brussels, on 6-7 March 2008,

- **ON 6 MARCH 2008:** visited the Islamic Cultural Centre of Belgium and held an exchange of views with Mr Yahia ABDEL AZIZ, Director of the Centre.
- **ON 7 MARCH 2008:** with Mrs Jonker (Netherlands, EPP/CD) in the Chair, *as regards:*
 - **European Muslim communities confronted with extremism** (*Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Keskin, Germany, UEL*): held an exchange of views with Mr Rachid ADDAH, Deputy Director of the Islamic Cultural Centre of Belgium and with Mr Mustafa KASTIT, Imam and Theologist;
 - **Housing, land and property considerations as part of durable solutions for refugees and displaced persons:** appointed Mr Dendias (Greece, EPP/CD) Rapporteur and held an exchange of views with Mr Rhodri WILLIAMS, expert, and Mr Peter van der AUWERAERT, Senior Legal Officer, IOM Reparation Programmes;
 - **Conference on the globalisation of migration processes (Meeting of the Sub-Committee on Migration, St Petersburg, 3-4 April 2008):** held an exchange of views with Mrs Yevgenia VLADIMIROVA, Secretariat of the Inter-parliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the CIS and Mr Denis ZHUK, Deputy Head of the Directorate of Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation on Foreign Policy on the programme of the Conference;
 - **Europe's response to humanitarian disasters – follow-up to Resolution 1586 (2007):** held an exchange of views with Mrs Joachime NASON and Mrs Julia STEWART-DAVID, European Commission DG ECHO;
 - **Seminar on**
 - **Europe's population decline and migration and**
 - **Human Rights of IDPs (Geneva, November 2008) – to be confirmed and subject to the authorisation of the Bureau :**held an exchange of views with Mrs Siri TELLIER, Regional Director of UNFPA Geneva, and with Mr Neil DATTA, European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development (EPF);
 - **Political aspects of migration** (*Rapporteur: Mr Greenway, United Kingdom, EDG*): considered an outline report, held an exchange of views on the debate on political aspects of migration planned for the June part-session of the Assembly and decided to modify the title of the report as follows: *Political aspects of migration - Measures to improve the democratic participation of migrants*;

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
Director General in the Secretariat 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 General
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Director of Communication and Research
Secretary of the Committee of Ministers
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

- **Activities of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)** (*Rapporteur: Mr Hancock, United Kingdom, ALDE*): considered an outline report and held an exchange of views;
- **The activities of the European Red Cross national societies in relation to “reception, integration and return”**: heard a statement by Mr Luc HENSKENS, Director of the Red Cross/EU Office and agreed to continue co-operation on these issues in the future;
- **Sub-Committees:**
 - *Ad Hoc Sub-Committee to take part in the Euro-Mediterranean meetings on Migration, Co-development and intercultural dialogue, organised in cooperation with the North-South Centre and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities (Tanger, 23-26 April 2008)*: finalised the composition of the *Ad Hoc* Sub-Committee (subject to the authorisation by the Bureau);
 - *Sub-Committee on Migration*: decided to switch Mr Lindblad (Sweden, EPP/CD) from member to alternate and Mrs Acketoft (Sweden, ALDE) to member;
- **Next meetings**: decided to hold its next meetings as follows:

Plenary Committee:

- Strasbourg, during the 2nd part of the Session 2008 (14-18 April 2008)
- Paris, 19-20 May 2008 (*to be confirmed*)
- Strasbourg, during the 3rd part of the Session 2008 (23-27 June 2008)

Sub-Committee on Migration:

- St Petersburg, 3-4 April 2008: participation in the Joint Conference on Migration of the CIS Inter-Parliamentary Assembly and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe¹
- Kyiv, 4-5 September 2008: participation in the 8th Ministerial Conference on Migration (*to be confirmed and subject to the authorisation by the Bureau*)

Mark Neville, Dana Karanjac, Olga Kostenko

¹ This meeting is opened to all members of the plenary Committee