



SECRETARIAT

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## To the members of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons

### Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on 10 September 2013

The Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons, meeting in Paris, with Ms Anne-Mari Virolainen (Finland, EPP/CD) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Effective and fair returns of irregular migrants and failed asylum seekers** (Rapporteur: Ms Anne-Mari Virolainen, Finland, EPP/CD): considered a preliminary draft report;
- **Missing persons from Europe's conflicts: the long road to finding humanitarian answers** (Rapporteur: Mr Jim Sheridan, United Kingdom, SOC): approved a selection of photos from the ICRC archives on missing persons in order to project them during the presentation of the report by the rapporteur to the Assembly in the October part-session;
- **Migrants: a benefit or a burden for our society?** (Rapporteur: Ms Athina Kyriakidou, Cyprus, SOC): considered a memorandum;
- **Syrian refugees in Jordan, Turkey, Lebanon and Iraq: how to organise and support international assistance?** (Rapporteur: Mr Jean-Marie Bockel, France, EPP/CD): in the absence of the rapporteur, decided to postpone this item until the next meeting;
- **Immigration detention of children** (Rapporteur: Ms Tinatin Bokuchava, Georgia, EPP/CD): held a hearing with the participation of:
  - ✓ Mr George Tugushi, member of CPT and former Ombudsman of Georgia
  - ✓ Mr Grant Mitchell, Director, International Detention Coalition
  - ✓ Mr Samuel Boutruche, Legal Associate, UNHCR Representation to the European Institutions in Strasbourg
- **Resettlement of refugees: an efficient tool for greater solidarity in Europe** (Rapporteur: Mr Eric Voruz, Switzerland, SOC): considered a memorandum;
- **Conference on Integration, March 2014 (tbc)**: took note of the information provided by the Secretariat;
- **World Forum for Democracy, Strasbourg, 27-29 November 2013**: following the decision taken at the Bureau's meeting in Dubrovnik to create an ad-hoc Sub-Committee, the following members expressed an interest in participating in this event: Ms Milena Santerini (Italy, NR), Ms Anne-Mari Virolainen (Finland, EPP/CD), Mr Manlio Di Stefano (Italy, NR), Claudio Fazzone (Italy, NR), Mr Cezar Florin Preda (Romania, EPP/CD) and Mr René Rouquet (France, SOC);

- **Chinese migration to Europe: challenges and opportunities** (Rapporteur: Mr Thierry Mariani, France, EPP/CD): in the absence of the rapporteur, decided to postpone this item until the next meeting;
- **Appointment of a Rapporteur:**
  - Criminalisation of irregular migrants: a crime without victim: appointed Mr Ionuț-Marian Stroe (Romania, ALDE) and heard a declaration of absence of conflict of interest from him;
- **Free debate:** held an exchange of views on the work programme and decided to look at a motion for a resolution on forced migration at one of its future meetings;
- **Representation of the Committee**
  - **Statement:**
    - International Dialogue on Migration 2013: Diaspora Ministerial Conference, International Organization for Migration (IOM), Geneva, (18-19 June 2013): heard a statement by Mr Andrea Rigoni (Italy, ALDE);
- **Visit to the Mesnil-Amelot Detention Centre:** took part in the visit of the Detention Centre;
- **Next meetings:**
  - **Strasbourg**, during the 4<sup>th</sup> part-session 2013 (30 September – 4 October)
  - **Paris**, 20 November 2013
  - **Strasbourg**, 21 and 22 November 2013, Sub-Committee on Detention in the framework of a conference on detention of migrants in Europe

Mark Neville, Agnès Nollinger, Olga Kostenko

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