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Political Affairs Committee

Sub-Committee on External Relations

Sub-Committee on conflict prevention through dialogue and reconciliation

The Sub-Committee on External Relations and the Sub-Committee on conflict prevention through dialogue and reconciliation of the Political Affairs Committee, meeting in St. Petersburg (Russian Federation) on 7 and 8 April 2010, with Mr Göran Lindblad (Sweden, EPP/CD) and Mr David Wilshire (United Kingdom, EDG) in the Chair:

- on 7 April, took part in a meeting co-organised jointly with:
 - . the permanent Commission on Political Issues and International Co-operation of the Inter-parliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA CIS), chaired by Mr. Amzebek Zholshibekov (Kazakhstan), Chairperson,
 - . the permanent Commission on Defence and Security Issues of the Inter-parliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA CIS), chaired by Mr Viktor Voytenko (Russian Federation), Chairperson,
 - . and the joint delegation of the Political Committee and the Committee for Parliamentary and Public Relations of the European Security and Defence Assembly (ESDA), chaired by Mr Robert Walter (United Kingdom), President of the Assembly,
- participated in an exchange of views with members of the above-mentioned bodies on:
 - . ***Role of European diplomacy in reinforcement of the European security*** (keynote speaker: Mr Viktor Voytenko, IPA CIS);
 - . ***Afghanistan and the international security*** (keynote speaker: Mr Amzebek Zholshibekov, IPA CIS);
 - . ***Situation in the Balkans*** (keynote speaker: Mr Giacomo Stucchi, ESDA);
 - . ***Parliamentary contribution to conflict prevention*** (keynote speaker: Mr David Wilshire, PACE);
 - . ***Piracy – a crime and a challenge for democracies*** (keynote speaker: Ms Birgen Keleş, PACE);
- on 8 April, took part in the International Parliamentary Conference on “Future of European Security”, and in this context, organised a panel discussion on “Soft Security” (keynote speaker: Mr Göran Lindblad);
- ***Date and place of the next meeting***: left it to the Chairs to convene their next meetings.

Pavel Chevtchenko