



SECRETARIAT

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11 June 2013

To the members of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy

Synopsis of the meetings held in Paris from 5 to 6 June 2013

The Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, meeting in Paris from 5 to 6 June 2013, with Mr Pietro Marcenaro (Italy, SOC) and Mr João Bosco Mota Amaral (Portugal, EPP/CD) in the Chair,

on Wednesday, 5 June 2013, as regards:

- **Situation in the Middle East** (*Rapporteur: Mr Pietro Marcenaro, Italy, SOC*): considered and approved a report and adopted unanimously a draft resolution;
- **The activities of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in 2012-2013** (*Rapporteur: Mr Dirk Van der Maelen, Belgium, SOC*): considered an outline for a report;
- **Ad hoc Sub-Committee on Kyrgyzstan**: appointed the following members to the *ad hoc* Sub-Committee:

Ms Anne Brasseur, Luxembourg, ALDE,
Mr Andreas Gross, Switzerland, SOC,
Mr Tiny Kox, Netherlands, UEL,
Mr Joao Bosco Mota Amaral, Portugal, EPP/CD,
Mr Robert Walter, United Kingdom, EDG;

on Thursday, 6 June 2013, as regards:

- **Evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the parliament of Morocco** (*Rapporteur: Mr Luca Volontè, Italy, EPP/CD*): considered and approved a report and adopted unanimously a draft resolution;
- **Request for partner for democracy status with the Parliamentary Assembly submitted by the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic** (*Rapporteur: Mr Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, Turkey, EDG*): considered a preliminary draft report; took note that the Rapporteur would update it following his visit to the country (11-13 June 2013), and postponed a decision on the timing for its adoption;
- **Situation in Belarus** (*Rapporteur: Mr Andres Herkel, Estonia, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur and the Chairperson, and agreed to invite a delegation from the House of Representatives of the National Assembly of Belarus to its meeting on Thursday morning, 27 June 2013;
- **Political transition in Tunisia** (*Rapporteur: Ms Anne Brasseur, Luxembourg, ALDE*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur: held an exchange of views and agreed to the request by the Rapporteur to carry out a fact-finding visit to the country (subject to the authorisation by the Bureau);

- **Rapporteurs:** appointed:
 - Ms Cheryl Gillan (United Kingdom, EDG) for a report on *Activities of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) in 2013-2014*,
 - Mr José María Beneyto (Spain, EPP/CD) for a report on *Political transition in Egypt*,
 - Mr Dirk Van der Maelen (Belgium, SOC) for an opinion on *Keeping political and criminal responsibility separate*,
 - Mr Şaban Dişli (Turkey, EPP/CD) for an opinion on *Syrian refugees in Jordan, Turkey, Lebanon and Iraq: how to organise and support international assistance*;
- **Open discussion on current issues:**
 - heard a statement by Ms Tinatin Bokuchava (Georgia, EPP/CD) on recent cases of criminal prosecution of former government officials in Georgia,
 - heard statements by Mr Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu (Turkey, EDG) and Mr Deniz Baykal (Turkey, SOC) on the current situation in Turkey, followed by an exchange of views,
 - discussed other current international issues;
- **Changes in the composition of Sub-Committees:** approved the following changes:
 - Mr Arcadio Díaz Tejera (Spain, SOC) to become member of the Sub-Committee on the Middle East as alternate to Mr Pedro Agramunt (Spain, EPP/CD) and to become member of the Sub-Committee on relations with the OECD and the EBRD as alternate to Mr José María Beneyto (Spain, EPP/CD),
 - Mr Zoran Vukčević (Montenegro, SOC) and Mr Deniz Baykal (Turkey, SOC) to become members of the Sub-Committee on relations with the OECD and the EBRD;
- **Authorisations by the Committee:** authorised Mr Andres Herkel (Estonia, EPP/CD) to take part in a meeting on “Communication Platform with the civil society” organised by Council of Europe INGOs, in Warsaw, on 15-16 June 2013;
- **Other business:** decided to request an extension of validity of the reference to the Bureau of the Assembly with respect to the preparation of the report on *Counteraction to manifestations of neo-Nazism and xenophobia* until 3 October 2014 (Rapporteur: Ms Marietta de Pourbaix-Lundin, Sweden, EPP/CD);
- **Next meetings:**
 - 24-28 June 2013 (3rd part session), Strasbourg
 - 4 September afternoon and 5 September 2013, Paris
 - 30 September – 4 October 2013 (4th part session), Strasbourg
 - 8 November 2013, Paris (to be confirmed)
 - 10-11 December 2013, Paris.

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The **Sub-Committee on relations with the OECD and the EBRD** (of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy), meeting in Paris on 5 June 2013, with Mr Tuur Elzinga (Netherlands, UEL) in the Chair, as regards:

– **Activities of the OECD:**

- held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Raffaele Russo, Head of the Non-Compliance Unit, International Co-operation and Tax Administration Division, OECD Centre for Tax Policy and Administration; Mr Shardul Agrawala, Head of the New Approaches to Economic Challenges (NAEC) Unit, OECD; Mr John Christensen, co-founder and Executive Director of the Tax Justice Network; and Mr Gabriel Zucman, PhD Candidate, Paris School of Economics;
- considered an outline for a report;

– **Activities of the EBRD:**

- held an exchange of views on the preparation of the meeting of the Sub-Committee at the EBRD headquarters in London;
- heard a statement by its Chairperson on his participation in the 2013 EBRD Business Forum and 22nd Annual Meeting of the Board of Governors of the EBRD, Istanbul, Turkey, 10-11 May 2013;

– **Date and place of the next meeting:** left it to the Chairperson to convene the next meeting.

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The **Sub-Committee on the Middle East** (of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy), meeting in Paris on 5 June 2013, with Ms Josette Durrieu (France, SOC) in the Chair, as regards:

– **Second part of the visit to the Middle East:**

- heard a statement from its Chairperson on the second part of the visit held in Israel, 30 April to 1 May 2013;
- heard a statement by Mr Pietro Marcenaro (Italy, SOC), Rapporteur on the *Situation in the Middle-East*;
- held an exchange of views with the participation of members of the Knesset.

– **Date and place of the next meeting:** left it to the Chairperson to convene the next meeting.

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The **ad hoc Sub-Committee on Kyrgyzstan** (of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy), meeting in Paris on 5 June 2013, first with Mr Pietro Marcenaro (Italy, SOC), then with Mr Andreas Gross (Switzerland, SOC) in the Chair:

– **Election of the Bureau:**

- elected Mr Andreas Gross (Switzerland, SOC) as Chairperson;
- postponed the election of a Vice-Chairperson;

- **Fact-finding visit to Kyrgyzstan:**
 - held an exchange of views on possible dates for a fact-finding visit and agreed, subject to confirmation, that it would take place from 28 October to 1 November 2013;
 - held a preliminary exchange of views on a programme of the visit;
- **Date and place of the next meeting:** left it to the Chairperson to convene the next meeting.

D. Chatzivassiliou, J. Ary, P. Chevtchenko

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