



SECRETARIAT

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25 May 2012

To the members of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development

Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on 22 May 2012

The Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, meeting in Paris on 22 May 2012 with Mr Valeriu Ghilechi (Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD), first Vice-Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Austerity measures – a danger for democracy and social rights** (*Rapporteur: Mr Andrej Hunko, Germany, UEL*): considered a revised draft report, adopted a draft resolution as amended, with a view to presenting the report for debate in the Assembly during the June part-session 2012, and decided to propose to invite Mr Steingrímur Jóhann Sigfússon, Minister of Finance of Iceland, and Mr Michel Barnier, European Commissioner for Internal Market and Services, or Mr Olli Rehn, European Commissioner for Economic and Financial Affairs, as high-level speakers in the plenary debate;
- **The young generation sacrificed: social, economic and political consequences of the financial crisis** (*Rapporteur: Mr Luca Volontè, Italy, EPP/CD*): approved the new title “The young generation sacrificed: social, economic and political implications of the financial crisis”, considered a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution as amended and a draft recommendation, with a view to presenting the report for debate in the Assembly during the June part-session 2012;
- **The impact of increasing social exclusion on democratic institutions and participation: need for strong action** (*Rapporteur: Mr Mike Hancock, United Kingdom, ALDE*): considered an introductory memorandum;
- **Equal access to health care** (*Rapporteur: Mr Jean-Louis Lorrain, France, EPP/CD*): considered an outline report and held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Douste-Blazy, Chair of the Executive Board, UNITAID;
- **Protection of the environment through law**: held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Manuel Lezertua, Director, Directorate of Legal Advice and Public International Law of the Council of Europe;
- **Update on the Council of Europe ONE in FIVE campaign**: heard a statement by its Vice-Chairperson;
- **Committee’s work programme and priorities**:

Upon the proposal of Mr Tuur Elzinga (Netherlands, UEL), decided to ask the Bureau that, in accordance with the Committee’s terms of reference, the issue of the activities of the Council of Europe Development Bank be referred to it for report;

- **Representation of the committee:** appointed the following Committee representatives to external events:
 - Ms Marlene Rupprecht (Germany, SOC) to take part in the meeting of the Committee of experts on the rights of people with disabilities, CS-RPD, Strasbourg, 6-8 June 2012;
 - Mr Luca Volontè (Italy, EPP/CD) to take part in the 1st meeting of the Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO), Strasbourg, 19-20 June 2012;
 - Sir Alan Meale (United Kingdom, SOC) to take part in the General Assembly of the Association of towns awarded the Europe Prize, Częstochowa (Poland) from 21 to 24 June 2012;
- heard a report from Mr Bernard Marquet (Monaco, ALDE), member of the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee who took part in the 6th World Water Forum, Marseille, 12-17 March 2012;
- **Composition of Sub-Committees:** approved the following changes in the Sub-Committee on Environment and Energy:
 - Mr Zoran Vukcevic (Montenegro, SOC) to become a substitute;
 - Mr Sergey Kalashnikov (Russian Federation, EDG) to become a substitute;
- **Next meetings:**

Plenary committee:

 - Strasbourg, during the Assembly's 3rd part-session 2012 (25-29 June);
 - Paris (Council of Europe office), Friday 7 September 2012;
 - Strasbourg, during the Assembly's 4th part-session 2012 (1-5 October);
 - Moscow (Russian Federation), Monday 19 and Tuesday 20 November 2012 (*subject to the authorisation of the Bureau*);

PACE network of contact parliamentarians to stop sexual violence against children:

 - Strasbourg, during the Assembly's 3rd part-session 2012, 27 June 2012 (*date to be confirmed*);
 - Strasbourg, during the Assembly's 4th part-session 2012, October 2012 (*date to be confirmed*);
 - Moscow (Russian Federation), Tuesday, 20 November 2012 (*subject to the authorisation of the Bureau*).

The Sub-Committee on Environment and Energy (of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development), meeting in Paris on 23 May 2012 with Ms Christine Marin (France, EPP/CD), in the Chair, as regards:

- **Food security and the environment** (*Rapporteur: Mr Bernard Marquet, Monaco, ALDE*): considered an introductory memorandum and other related documents and held an exchange of views;
- **Preparations for the Rio+20, United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development**, Rio de Janeiro (Brazil), 20-22 June 2012: held an exchange of views with the participation of Ms Anne-Marie Chavanon, Chairperson of the Committee on Democracy, Social Cohesion and Global Challenges, Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe, and considered information documents;
- **World Summit on Climate Change**, Doha (Qatar), 26 November - 7 December 2012: held an exchange of views with the participation of Ms Anne-Marie Chavanon, Chairperson of the Committee on Democracy, Social Cohesion and Global Challenges, Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe, and considered information documents;
- **Sub-Committee work programme:** held an exchange of views;
- **Next meeting:** left it to its Chairperson to convene the next meeting.

Tanja Kleinsorge, Aiste Ramanauskaite, Maren Lambrecht-Feigl

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
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