



AS/SOC (2015) CB 06

16 September 2015

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

Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on 11 September 2015

The Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, meeting in Paris on 11 September 2015 with Mr Valeriu Ghilechi (Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD), Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Participation of external interested parties in Committee meetings:** held a discussion *in camera* and decided that, in accordance with Rule 48.3., third parties not covered by the Rules of Procedure should not have access to Committee meetings; however, representatives of INGOs with a participatory status at the Council of Europe could attend Committee meetings after prior notice has been given; the participation of other third parties would be decided on a case-by-case basis after prior notice has been given; network meetings and hearings would continue to be open to all;
- **Freedom of religion and living together in a democratic society** (*Rapporteur: Ms Liliane Maury Pasquier, Switzerland, SOC*): considered and unanimously approved a draft opinion, including four amendments to the draft resolution to be tabled on behalf of the Committee;
- **Equality and shared parental responsibility: the role of fathers** (*Rapporteur: Mr Stefan Schennach, Austria, SOC*): considered a draft opinion in the absence of the Rapporteur;
- **Exchange of views with the President of the Parliamentary Assembly, Ms Anne Brasseur:** held a discussion on topical developments relevant to the Committee's work programme;
- **Protecting patients and public health against undue influence of the pharmaceutical industry** (*Rapporteur: Ms Liliane Maury Pasquier, Switzerland, SOC*): considered a draft report, changed the title to "Public health and the interests of the pharmaceutical industry: how to guarantee the primacy of public health interests?" and unanimously adopted a draft resolution (with two abstentions), with a view to presenting the report for debate in the Assembly during the fourth part-session 2015;
- **Human rights and ethical issues related to surrogacy** (*Rapporteur: Ms Petra De Sutter, Belgium, SOC*): held a hearing with the participation of:
 - .Ms Laura Martínez-Mora, Principal Legal Officer, Permanent Bureau of the Hague Conference on Private International Law,
 - .Professor Susan Golombok, Director, Centre for Family Research, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, University of Cambridge, United Kingdom
 - .Professor René Frydman, Foch Hospital, Department of Obstetrics, Gynaecology and Reproductive Medicine, Suresnes, France;
- **Handling international public health emergencies** (*Rapporteur: Ms Sílvia Eloïsa Bonet Perot, Andorra, SOC*): considered an introductory memorandum;

– **Committee’s work programme:**

- appointed Ms Ana Mato (Spain, EPP/CD), rapporteur on the report “A European social commitment guaranteeing the rights of the elderly and their comprehensive care” and heard from her a declaration on the absence of a conflict of interests;

- appointed its representatives to external events as follows (*subject to the availability of funds*):

.3rd Meeting of the Committee of experts on the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (DECS-ENF), Strasbourg, 20-21 October 2015: Mr Valeriu Ghiletschi (Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD);

.4th Regional conference on the MEDICRIME Convention, Larnaca (Cyprus), 10-11 November 2015: Mr Cezar Florin Preda (Romania, EPP/CD) and Ms Stella Kyriakides (Cyprus, EPP/CD);

– **Parliamentary Conference on the MEDICRIME Convention on 24 November 2015 in Paris:** heard a statement by the Chairperson;

– **Changes in the Sub-Committees:** took note of the following changes:

- *Sub-Committee on Environment and Energy:*

.Ms Anne Kalmari (Finland, ALDE) became a full member (replacing Ms Sirkka-Liisa Antilla who had left the Committee);

.Mr Jouko Skinnari had left the Committee;

- *Sub-Committee on Public Health:*

.Ms Anne Louhelainen (Finland, EC) became a full member (replacing Ms Sirkka-Liisa Antilla);

– **Other business:** agreed to submit to the Bureau a request for an extension of the reference for the following reports:

. Improving children’s access to child-friendly health and social services (*Rapporteur: Ms Stella Kyriakides, Cyprus, EPP/CD*), until 15 October 2016;

. Road safety in Europe as a public health priority (*Rapporteur: Ms Naira Karapetyan, Armenia, EPP/CD*), until 15 December 2016;

. Involuntary placement and treatment of people with psychosocial disability: need for a new paradigm (*Rapporteur: Ms Guguli Magradze, Georgia, SOC*), until 15 December 2016;

– **Date and place of next meetings:**

Plenary committee:

- Fourth part-session 2015 of the Assembly, (28 September-2 October 2015), Strasbourg;

- Monday, 23 November 2015, Paris (Council of Europe Office);

- Tuesday, 24 November 2015, Paris, Parliamentary Conference on the MEDICRIME Convention, (OECD Conference Centre);

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

- Thursday, 1 October 2015 (during the Fourth part-session 2015 of the Assembly), Strasbourg;

Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize:

- Dresden (Germany), 24 September 2015;

- Vara (Sweden), 28-29 November 2015;

Sub-Committee on Environment and Energy:

- 29 September 2015 (during the Fourth part-session 2015 of the Assembly), Strasbourg.

Tanja Kleinsorge, Maren Lambrecht-Feigl, Ayşegül Elveriş

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
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Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights
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