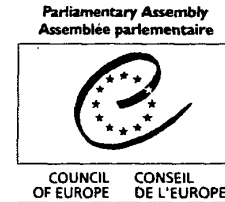


Parliamentary Assembly
Assemblée parlementaire



Doc 1405, Part 2
24 January 2005

**Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the
Standing Committee
(8 October 2004 – 24 January 2005)**

Covering the period from 10 January to 24 January 2005

Report
Bureau of the Assembly
Rapporteur: Mr Peter Schieder, Austria, Socialist Group

1. INTRODUCTION

1. The Bureau met on 10 January in Vienna and on 24 January in Strasbourg.

2. FUNCTIONING OF THE ASSEMBLY

A. PROGRESS REPORT OF THE BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY AND OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE (8 OCTOBER 2004 - 25 JANUARY 2005)

2. On 10 January, the Bureau approved the first part of the Progress report covering the period from 8 October 2004 to 9 January 2005.
3. On 24 January, the Bureau approved the second part of the Progress report covering the period from 10 to 24 January 2005.

B. 1st PART OF THE 2005 ORDINARY SESSION (24-28 JANUARY 2005)

4. On 10 January, the Bureau:
 - up-dated the draft order of business;
 - Opinion on the draft specific legal instrument for the prevention of terrorism: seized the Political Affairs Committee for opinion (subject to the transmission of the draft to the Assembly by the Committee of Ministers)¹;

¹ Transmission to the Assembly done on 11 January 2005

- Opinion on the draft Council of Europe Convention on action against trafficking in human beings: seized the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee and the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population for opinion;
 - requests for urgent debates:
 - *"Prospects for peace in the Middle East"*: recommended that the Assembly hold this urgent debate and refer the matter to the Political Affairs Committee for report;
 - *"Europe and the Tsunami Disaster"*:
 - ✓ recommended that the Assembly hold this urgent debate and refer the matter to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee for report and to the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development, the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population and the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs for opinion;
 - ✓ invited Mr Louis Michel, European Commissioner for Development and Humanitarian Aid, and Mr Jan Egeland, Under-Secretary General of the United Nations for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator, to take part in this debate;
 - commemoration ceremony of the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz (27 January 2005):
 - decided to hold the commemoration ceremony in the Assembly Chamber on 25 January 2005 and to invite Mr Szewach Weiss, Chairman of the Yad Vashem Council, and Mr Jean Samuel, Auschwitz survivor, to address the Assembly on this occasion;
 - agreed to invite representatives of the local and regional authorities as well as the Strasbourg religious communities to this ceremony;
 - Joint Committee: took note of the draft agenda;
 - Election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights with respect to Serbia and Montenegro: approved and declassified the report of the Ad Hoc Committee on the election of judges to the ECHR for distribution to the members of the Assembly.
5. On 24 January, the Bureau updated the draft order of business as follows:
- Monday 24 January:
 - to include the statement by Mr Claude Frey, Chairperson of the Executive Council of the North-South Centre, during the debate on the Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and the Standing Committee;
 - to hold the debate on the "honouring of obligations and commitments by Georgia" as the last debate in the afternoon instead of the debate on "Genetically Modified Organisms";
 - to postpone the communication from Mr Terry Davis until Thursday 27 January;
 - Tuesday 25 January: to include the address by Mr Viktor Yushenko, President of Ukraine, at 3pm;

➤ Wednesday 26 January:

- to include the address by Mr Mikheil Saakashvili, President of Georgia, at 11 am;
- took note that Mr Jan Trzuszczynski, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Poland representing the Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers, would replace Mr Adam Daniel Rotfeld, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Poland, to present the Communication from the Committee of Ministers to the Parliamentary Assembly;
- to hold the debate on "Genetically Modified Organisms" as the second debate in the afternoon;
- to continue the urgent debate on "Prospects for peace in the Middle East" in the afternoon;
- to include the "Opinion on the Draft Council of Europe Convention on action against trafficking in human beings" as the last debate in the afternoon;
- to end the sitting at 8.30 pm;

➤ Thursday 27 January:

- to include the communication from Mr Terry Davis, Secretary General of the Council of Europe at 12 noon;
 - to include the statement by Ms Yvette Stevens, Director of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA), during the urgent debate on "Europe and the Tsunami Disaster";
 - proposed to seize the Committee on Culture, Science and Education for opinion on the report on "Europe and the Tsunami Disaster";
6. decided to limit the speaking time on Tuesday 25, Wednesday 26 and Thursday 27 to 4 minutes;
7. Commemoration ceremony of the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz (25 January 2005): took note of the programme of this ceremony;
8. Joint Committee (27 January): decided to include the item "time-table of the election of the HR Commissioner" on the draft agenda.

C. REFERENCES AND TRANSMISSIONS TO COMMITTEES

9. On 10 January, the Bureau approved the following proposals:

a. References:

➤ **Doc. 10371**

Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Tkáč and others
Demographic challenges for social cohesion, to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population, *for report*, and to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee, *for opinion*

➤ **Doc. 10377**

Motion for a resolution presented by Mr McNamara and others
Candidates for the European Court of Human Rights, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, *for report*, and to the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, *for opinion*

- **Doc. 10387**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Pourgourides and others
Member States' duty to co-operate with the European Court of Human Rights, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, for report
- **Doc. 10388**
Motion for a recommendation presented by Mr Lloyd and others
The United States of America and international law, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, for report
- **Doc. 10389**
Request for an opinion from the Committee of Ministers
Draft Convention on action against trafficking in human beings, to the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, for report, and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee and to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population, for opinion

b. Modification of references:

- **Doc. 10330**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Severinsen and others
Launching a new inquiry into the murder of the Ukrainian journalist Georgiy Gongadze
Ref. 3018 of 23 November 2004, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights for report.
- **Doc. 10343**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Sasi and others
Europe's interest in the continued economic development of Russia
Ref. 3025 of 23 November 2004, to the Committee on Economic Affairs and Development, for report, and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, for opinion.

c. follow-up after consultation

- **Doc. 10160**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Braun and others
Law on local elections in Romania, together with the opinion by the Venice Commission, to the Political Affairs Committee, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, and to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs, for information.
- **Doc. 10322**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Hägg and others
Mercenaries, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, to be taken into account in the preparation of the forthcoming report on "Human rights of members of the armed forces".
- **Doc. 10327**
Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Ilaşcu and others
Liberation of political prisoners from Tiraspol – Andrei Ivantoc and Tudor Petrov-Popa, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, to be taken into account in the framework of the report on "the implementation of decisions of the European Court of Human Rights".

D. LIECHTENSTEIN

❖ **Dialogue with the Parliament of Liechtenstein**

10. On 10 January, the Bureau:

- was informed about the appointments by the Political Affairs Committee, the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and the Monitoring Committee to the ad hoc Committee on the dialogue with the Parliament of Liechtenstein;
- was informed that the UEL group appointed Mr Einarsson as member;
- invited the EDG group to appoint its representative before the Bureau meeting on 24 January 2005;
- decided to approve the composition of this ad hoc Committee and to appoint its Chairperson at its meeting on 24 January 2005.

11. On 24 January, the Bureau:

- approved the composition of the ad hoc Committee for the dialogue with the Parliament of Liechtenstein (enclosed);
- took note of the letters of Mr Wanger, Speaker of the Liechtenstein Parliament, and from Mr Ferster from the "Liechtenstein Democratic Movement" and decided to come back to these letters at a future meeting.

E. CYPRUS

❖ Implementation of Paragraph 6 of Resolution 1376 (2004) on Cyprus

12. On 24 January, the Bureau took note of the letters from two Turkish Cypriot political parties communicating to the President of the Assembly the names of the two "elected representatives of the Turkish Cypriot community" i.e. Mr Nami (Republican Turkish Party) and Mr Özgürgün (National Unity Party), to be submitted to the Assembly for approval.

F. COMPOSITION OF THE MONITORING COMMITTEE

13. On 24 January, the Bureau approved the list of members as proposed by the political groups for ratification by the Assembly.

G. INSTITUTIONAL REPRESENTATION OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

14. On 24 January, the Bureau took note of the memorandum prepared by the Secretariat.

H. ASSEMBLY'S REPRESENTATION AT OFFICIAL ACTIVITIES

15. On 10 January, the Bureau appointed Mr Azzolini to participate at the 4th Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Security and Cooperation in the Mediterranean (Nafplion, Greece, 7 February 2005).

16. On 10 January, the Bureau was informed about the participation of Mr Sasi and Baroness Hooper in the Parliamentary Conference on the WTO (Brussels, 24-26 November 2005).

3. RELATIONS WITH OTHER BODIES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

A. COUNCIL OF EUROPE COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS

17. On 10 January, the Bureau:

- considered that Resolution (99) 50 and the timetable for the election of a new Commissioner entailed by the end of the term of office of the current Commissioner should be respected;

- took note of the deadlines as proposed in the appendix of the letter of the Polish Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers to the President of the Assembly of 7 January 2005;
- proposed that the Assembly hold this election during the June 2005 part-session;
- decided to ask the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights to organise the interviews of candidates in late May/early June 2005.

B. EUROPEAN COMMITTEE FOR THE PREVENTION OF TORTURE AND INHUMAN AND DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT (CPT)

18. On 10 January, the Bureau:

- examination of the list of candidates with respect to Albania and Ukraine: following the recommendations of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, requested a new list of candidates from the Albanian and Ukrainian Parliaments;
- agreed to the following proposals of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights:
 - to remind all national delegations concerned by the renewal of half of the membership of the CPT next year of the urgent need to present balanced lists of candidates fulfilling the criteria of Resolution 1248 (2001) and Recommendation 1323 (1997);
 - to recommend to the national delegations to use a model curriculum vitae in order to facilitate the presentation and analysis of relevant information;
 - to ask the national delegations for written information on the national procedures used to establish the lists of candidates submitted to the Bureau in order to examine possible further improvements in the selection procedure for members of the CPT.

C. EUROPEAN COURT OF HUMAN RIGHTS

❖ **Modification of Resolution 1366 (2004) on candidates for the European Court of Human Rights**

19. Following the request by the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, on 10 January, the Bureau suspended temporarily all examination of the lists of candidates having all the same sex, if that is the sex which is under-represented on the Court, pending the Assembly's decision on a possible modification of its Resolution 1366 (2004).

4. BUDGETARY QUESTIONS

20. On 10 January, the Bureau:

- budget of the Assembly for 2005: took note of the memorandum prepared by the Secretariat;
- proposals for the apportionment of the allocation to the political groups for 2005: approved the proposals for the apportionment.

5. OBSERVATION OF ELECTIONS

A. PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN UKRAINE (21 NOVEMBER, 26 DECEMBER)

21. On 10 January, the Bureau approved and declassified:

- the report of the ad hoc Committee on the 2nd round of the election (21 November 2004) (Rapporteur: Mr Christodoulides, UEL, Cyprus,);
- the report of the ad hoc Committee on the repeated 2nd round of the election (26 December 2004) (Rapporteur: Mr Iwinski, SOC, Poland).

B. ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE PALESTINIAN AUTHORITY (9 JANUARY 2005)

22. On 10 January, the Bureau was informed about the press release issued by the ad hoc Committee which observed this election.

23. On 24 January, the Bureau approved and declassified the report of the ad hoc Committee, which observed this election (Rapporteur: Lord Kilclooney, United Kingdom, EPP/CD).

C. PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN MOLDOVA (6 MARCH 2005)

24. On 24 January, the Bureau:

- took note of the invitation of the Parliament of Moldova to observe these elections;
- set up an Ad Hoc Committee to observe these elections composed of 40 members (d'Hondt system : SOC: 15; EPP/CD : 12; LDR: 6; EDG: 5; UEL: 2) and appointed Mr Kvakkestad (EDG) as Chairperson;
- agreed to authorise a pre-electoral mission in February 2005 composed of one member from each political group from the members of the ad hoc committee.

D. SCHEDULE OF ELECTIONS FOR 2005

25. On 24 January, the Bureau took note of the schedule of forthcoming elections in 2005.

6. OTHER MATTERS

A. EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF RESEARCH AND INFORMATION CENTRES ON SECTARISM (FECRIS)

26. On 10 January, the Bureau:

- took note of the opinion by the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities regarding the procedure followed by the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights on the report on the request by FECRIS for consultative status with the Council of Europe;
- agreed with the recommendations made by the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities in this respect;
- referred this opinion to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and asked it to table a revised version of the report taking into account this opinion.

B. AMENDMENT N° 7 TO THE DRAFT RESOLUTION CONTAINED IN THE REPORT ON THE MONOPOLISATION OF THE ELECTRONIC MEDIA AND POSSIBLE ABUSE OF POWER IN ITALY

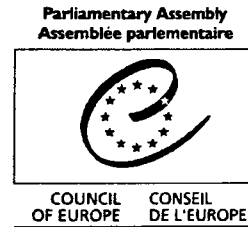
27. On 10 January, the Bureau took note of the opinion of the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities.

C. INFORMATION

28. On 10 January, the Bureau heard information by the President of the Assembly and the Secretary General of the Assembly and noted the written information by the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

29. On 24 January, the Bureau heard information by the President of the Assembly, and took note of the written information by the Secretary General of the Assembly.

Parliamentary Assembly
Assemblée parlementaire



AS/Bur (2005) 6 revised/révisé
18 January 2005

**Bureau of the Assembly/
Bureau de l'Assemblée**

**Ad Hoc Committee on the Dialogue with the Parliament of Liechtenstein/
Commission ad hoc sur le dialogue avec le Parlement du Liechtenstein**

Appointments by the Committees/Désignations par les commissions:

Political Affairs Committee/Commission des questions politiques :

Lord Kilclooney (United Kingdom/Royaume-Uni, EPP-CD/PPE-DC)
Mr Azim Mollazade (Azerbaijan/Azerbaïdjan, LDR)

Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights/Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme:

Mr Abdülkadir Ateş (Turkey/Turquie, SOC)
Mr Malcolm Bruce (United-Kingdom/ Royaume-Uni, LDR)

Monitoring Committee / Commission de suivi :

M. Luc Van den Brande (Belgium/Belgique, EPP-CD/PPE-DC)
Ms Katrin Saks (Estonia/Estonie, SOC)

Appointments by the political groups/Désignations par les groupes politiques:

EDG/GDE: Mr André Kvakkestad, Norway
UEL/GUE: Mr Mats Einarsson, Sweden

