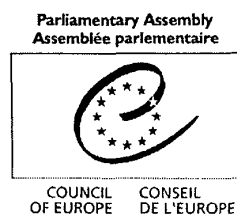


Parliamentary Assembly
Assemblée parlementaire



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Bureau of the Assembly
Presidential Committee

Implementation of proposals submitted by the Presidential Committee
(following its meeting in Maastricht, 17-18 July 2006)

1. Implementation of priorities agreed by the Assembly

a. short term

	Agreement in the Presidential Committee	Proposal	Body responsible for implementation	Timetable for implementation
1.1	- priorities for 2007	- state of human rights - intercultural and inter-religious dialogue - responding to common threats to Europeans, such as terrorism	- Bureau	- October 2006 part-session
1.2	- reduce to 49 per year the number of reports debated by the plenary Assembly (excluding urgent/current affairs debates)	reports per year: - AS/Pol, AS/Jur, AS/Mon : 8 - AS/Pro : 1 - all the others : 4	- Bureau	- first discussion (October part-session) - decision : 16 November 2006 - implementation : January 2007
1.3	- committee reports focused on core issues (in accordance with Assembly priorities)	- committees decide the reports they want to submit to the Assembly taking into account previous decisions (1.1 and 1.2)	- committees	- committee meetings in December 2006

b. medium term

	Agreement in Presidential Committee	Proposal	Body responsible for implementation	Timetable for implementation
1.4	- reduce the number of motions referred for report	- President consults committees on the follow-up to be given to the motions ; Presidential Committee makes a proposal to the Bureau - increase the number of information reports (no debate)	- committees - Bureau - Assembly/Standing Committee - committees	- November 2006 (first circulation) - December 2006 (Bureau's proposal) - January 2007 (Assembly's ratification) - immediate

2. Participation level at Assembly meetings (Plenary and committees)

a. short term

	Agreement in the Presidential Committee	Proposal	Body responsible for implementation	Timetable for implementation
2.1	- make public the names of participants in votes	- list available on the Assembly's internet site	- Bureau	- decision taken: 6 September 2006 - implementation: October 2006 part-session
2.2	- devote more time to debates	- reduction of the number of reports debated	- Bureau (consequence of 1.2)	- January 2007 part-session
2.3	- increase participation in committee meetings	- grouping committee meetings in Paris	- Bureau	- January 2007 onwards
2.4	- increase interest at national level	- inform Speakers of members not attending committee meetings during one year	- Bureau	- January 2007 (for participation during 2006)

b. medium term

	Agreement in the Presidential Committee	Proposal	Body responsible for implementation	Timetable for implementation
2.5	- make public the votes (who voted, in what way)	- list available on the Assembly's internet site	- AS/Pro report - Assembly/Standing Committee	- adoption report AS/Pro: October 2006 part-session - adoption report by Standing Committee: 17 November 2006 - implementation January 2007 part-session
2.6	- avoid multiplication of sub-committees	- reduce number of sub-committees (changing Rules of Procedure)	- Bureau to ask AS/Pro - AS/Pro report - Assembly/Standing Committee	- adoption report AS/Pro: first quarter 2007 - immediate implementation after text adoption by Assembly/Standing Committee

3. Relations with national parliaments and with national delegations

a. short term

	Agreement in the Presidential Committee	Proposal	Body responsible for implementation	Timetable for implementation
3.1	- better knowledge of Assembly's work	- access of members to committee documents through Assembly's "extranet" site	- Secretariat	- December 2006 onwards
3.2	- reflect on the Conference of Speakers	- keep current practice/broaden it with outside partners/joint conference with EU	- Bureau	-discussion in the Bureau: January 2007

b. medium term

	Agreement in the Presidential Committee	Proposal	Body responsible for implementation	Timetable for implementation
3.3	- better input of national parliaments in Assembly work	- allow national parliaments to submit motions (changing Rules of Procedure)	- Bureau to ask AS/Pro - AS/Pro - Assembly/Standing Committee	- adoption report AS/Pro: first quarter 2007 - immediate implementation after text adoption by Assembly/Standing Committee

4. The role of political groups of the Assembly

a. short term

	Agreement in the Presidential Committee	Proposal	Body responsible for implementation	Timetable for implementation
4.1	- devote more time to political groups meetings during the session	- modify the timetable of part-sessions as follows: * Monday 8.00-9.30 am : Bureau 9.30-11.30 am : political groups 11.30 am-1. pm: opening of the part-session, adoption order of business and progress report 2.00-3.00 pm : committees 3.00-5.00 pm : part-session continued – debate on reports by the Assembly 5.00-7.00 pm : political groups * Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 8.00-9.00 am : political groups 9.00-10.00 am : committees rest of the day without changes * Friday no change	- Bureau	- first discussion (October part-session) - decision : 16 November 2006 - implementation : January 2007
4.2	- reduce time available for committee meetings	- no consideration of amendments at committee level : rapporteurs (or Committee chairpersons?) give opinion in plenary	- Bureau	- first discussion (October part-session) - decision : 16 November 2006 - implementation : January 2007

b. medium term

	Agreement in the Presidential Committee	Proposal	Body responsible for implementation	Timetable for implementation
4.3	- increase political role of political groups	- nominations to committees to be made by political groups (changing Rules of Procedure)	- Bureau to ask AS/Pro - AS/Pro - Assembly/Standing Committee	- adoption report AS/Pro: first quarter 2007 - immediate implementation after text adoption by Assembly/Standing Committee

5. Relations with the Committee of Ministers (CM)

a. short term

	Agreement in the Presidential Committee	Proposal	Body responsible for implementation	Timetable for implementation
5.1	- analysis by committees of CM replies	- action proposed by committees, discussed in Joint Committee	- committees - Bureau - Joint Committee	- discussion by committees: until the end of 2006 - discussion in Joint Committee: January 2007 part-session
5.2	- amend the structure of the Forum for the future of Democracy	- discuss with CM in Joint Committee	- Bureau - CM	- discuss in Joint Committee in January 2007

b. medium term

	Agreement in the Presidential Committee	Proposal	Body responsible for implementation	Timetable for implementation
5.3	- spontaneous questions to the Chairperson of CM	- discuss with CM in Joint Committee and then modify Rules of Procedure	- AS/Pro - Assembly/Standing Committee	- discussion in Joint Committee: October 2006 part-session - adoption report AS/Pro: first quarter 2007 - immediate implementation after text adoption by Assembly/Standing Committee
5.4	- improve status of Parliamentary Assembly in the Council of Europe	- change Council of Europe Statute : * Article 13 * Article 15.a * budgetary powers	- AS/Pro - Assembly - CM	- adoption of recommendation on institutional balance: October 2006 part-session - Ministers Deputies reply: November/December 2006 - adoption of statutory resolution by CM

6. Relations with the European Union (EU)

a. short term

	Agreement in the Presidential Committee	Proposal	Body responsible for implementation	Timetable for implementation
6.1	- develop relations with the EP	- continue contacts at committee level - yearly meeting Presidential Committee/Conference of Presidents of EP - regular meetings of leaders of PACE political groups with EP counterparts - members of EP speaking at committee level and addressing the Assembly only exceptionally	- committees - Presidential Committee - political groups - Bureau	- ongoing activity - November 2006 - before the end of the year 2006 October 2006 part-session
6.2	- Sign the PACE-EP Agreement	- under consideration by EP	- EP	- before the meeting between the Presidential Committee and the Conference of Presidents EP in 2006
6.3	- contribute to the finalisation of MoU	- PACE representatives continue to participate in CM-SUIVI3	- Bureau	- finalisation by CM: November 2006 (?)

7. Relations with countries bordering CE member States (close neighbourhood)

a. short term

	Agreement in the Presidential Committee	Proposal	Body responsible for implementation	Timetable for implementation
7.1	- promotion of co-operation agreements with non Council of Europe Parliaments	- focus on the Middle-East and Northern Africa	- Bureau	- 2007
7.2	- invitation to MPs from close neighbourhood countries	- participation in hearings, symposia	- committees	- October 2006 onwards
7.3	- promotion of pan-regional parliamentary assemblies	- invitations to follow PACE sessions	- Bureau	- October 2006 onwards

8. Relations with civil society

a. short term

	Agreement in the Presidential Committee	Proposal	Body responsible for implementation	Timetable for implementation
8.1	- enhance contribution of NGOs to PACE work	- allow NGOs the right to submit to the Bureau written proposals for themes for debate in the Assembly	- Bureau	- first discussion (October part-session) - decision : 16 November 2006 - implementation : January 2007

b. medium term

	Agreement in the Presidential Committee	Proposal	Body responsible for implementation	Timetable for implementation
8.2	- enhance youth participation in PACE work	- organize a youth event on human rights in 2007 in co-operation with Youth Centre	- committees concerned	- October 2007 part-session

9. Media coverage and visibility of the Assembly (and link with guest speakers)

a. short term

	Agreement in the Presidential Committee	Proposal	Body responsible for implementation	Timetable for implementation
9.1	- debate issues interesting the civil society	- select priority subjects for debate in accordance with Assembly's priorities	- committees - Bureau	- December 2006
9.2	- define a policy of invited speakers	- speakers invited by President on a proposal approved by the Presidential Committee (agree to answer spontaneous questions) - civil society leaders invited on a case by case basis	- Presidential Committee - Bureau	- first discussion (October part-session) - decision : 16 November 2006 - implementation : January 2007
9.3	- limit invited speakers' speaking time	- major invited guests : 20-30 minutes (speech) + 20-30 minutes (replies) - guests in debates : 12 minutes - speakers of national parliaments: 7 minutes	- Presidential Committee - Bureau	- first discussion (October part-session) - decision : 16 November 2006 - implementation : January 2007

