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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Doc. 11793 Part II
26 January 2009

Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (3 October 2008-26 January 2009)

Progress report
Bureau of the Assembly
Rapporteur: Mr Paul WILLE, Belgium

1. Introduction

1. The Bureau met on 26 January 2009 in Strasbourg.

2. Functioning of the Assembly

2.1. Progress Report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (3 October 2008-26 January 2009)

2. On 26 January, the Bureau approved the Progress report.

2.2. 1st Part of the 2009 Ordinary Session (Strasbourg, 26-30 January 2009)

2.2.1. Current affairs debate

3. "Situation in Gaza": on 26 January, the Bureau decided to appoint Mr Lindblad, in his capacity of Chairperson of the Political Affairs Committee, to open the debate.

2.2.2. Draft agenda

4. On 26 January, the Bureau approved the updated draft order agenda and decided to reduce the speaking time to 4 minutes on Monday 26 January in the afternoon, on Tuesday 27 January in the morning and on Thursday 29 January in the morning.

2.2.3. Draft agenda of the Joint Committee (Thursday 28 January at 6.30 pm)

5. On 26 January, the Bureau updated the draft agenda as follows:

a. Follow-up given to Assembly Recommendation 1846 (2008) on "the consequences of the war between Georgia and Russia"

b. The situation in Armenia

c. European Court of Human Rights

- *a.* Election of judges to the Court
- *b.* Reform: recent developments

d. The Council of Europe's 60th Anniversary and the May 2009 meeting of the Committee of Ministers

e. Budgetary prospects for 2010.

2.3. Implementation of Resolution 1633 (2008) on "The consequences of the war between Georgia and Russia"

6. On 26 January, the Bureau took note of a memorandum prepared by the President regarding the Presidential Committee's visit to Russia and decided to declassify it (see Doc. 11793 Addendum III).

2.4. Vice-Presidents of the Assembly in 2009

7. On 26 January, the Bureau took note of the names of the candidates for the post of Vice-Presidents of the Assembly in 2009.

2.5. Composition of the Monitoring Committee

8. On 26 January, the Bureau approved the list of members as proposed by political groups for ratification by the Assembly.

2.6. Composition of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs

9. On 26 January, the Bureau approved the list of members as proposed by political groups for ratification by the Assembly.

3. Other matters

3.1. Communications

10. On 26 January, the Bureau took note of communications by the President, the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe as well as the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly.

Appendix

The Bureau approved the following references and modifications of references, subject to ratification by the Assembly:

i. References to committees

a. The follow-up to the issue of political prisoners in Azerbaijan

Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Pourgourides and others

Doc. 11468, to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*

b. The real situation of rural women in Europe

Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Quintanilla Barba and others

Doc. 11773, to the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men *for report* and to the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs *for opinion*

c. Towards a model rulebook for self-evaluation by Europe's national parliaments

Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Gross and others

Doc. 11774, to the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities *for report*

d. Investing in family cohesion as a development factor in times of crisis

Motion for a resolution presented by Mr Volonte and others

Doc. 11782, to the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee *for report*

ii. Reply after consultation

a. Requiring a minimum of 30 % of each sex on Assembly's national delegations

Motion for a resolution presented by Mrs Err and others

Doc. 11664, to the Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities *for report* and to the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men *for opinion*