

AS/Soc (2024) CB07

4 October 2024

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

Synopsis of the meetings held in Strasbourg during the 4th part-session 2024

The Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, meeting in Strasbourg, on

- **Monday, 30 September 2024, at 2:00 pm**, with Ms Danuta Jazłowiecka (EPP/CD), First Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, in the Chair, as regards:
 - **The Council of Europe Development Bank: implementing the Reykjavík Declaration** (*Rapporteur: Ms Eka Sepashvili, Georgia, EC/DA*): took note that no amendments have been tabled to the draft resolution and recommendation;
 - **The humanitarian situation of (mainly) children and women in Gaza, the West Bank and in Israël** (*Rapporteur: Ms Saskia Kluit, Netherlands, SOC*): held a public hearing with Mr Sam Rose, Director of Planning and Ms Amal Abu Shawareb, Associate Protection Officer, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA) (online participation);
 - **Parliamentary Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine**: adopted the revised terms of reference for transmission to the Bureau for approval and appointed Ms Victoria Tiblom (Sweden, EC/DA) as a member of the Network;
- **Tuesday, 1st October 2024, at 2.00 pm**, with Mr Armen Gevorgyan (Armenia, EC/DA), Second Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, in the Chair, as regards:
 - **Terms of reference of the Parliamentary Network for a healthy environment**: considered and adopted the revised terms of reference for transmission to the Bureau;
 - **Social mobilisation, social unrest, and police reaction in Council of Europe member States need for a new social contract?** (*Rapporteur: Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez, Switzerland, SOC*): considered an introductory memorandum;
 - **Committee of Ministers replies to Assembly recommendations**: considered the Committee of Ministers' reply to the Recommendation on "Safeguarding democracy, rights and the environment in international trade";
- **Thursday, 3 October 2024, at 8:30 am**, with Ms Danuta Jazłowiecka (EPP/CD), First Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, in the Chair, as regards:
 - **Guaranteeing the human right to food for all** (*Rapporteur: Mr Simon Moutquin, Belgium, SOC*): took position on the amendments tabled to the draft resolution and the draft recommendation;
 - **Follow-up to the High-Level Conference on the European Social Charter, 3-4 July 2024, Vilnius**: heard a statement by Mr Paul Galles (Luxembourg, EPP/CD); held an exchange of views with Mr Rafael Benitez, Director, Directorate of Social Rights, Health and Environment, Council of Europe;
 - **Changes in Sub-Committees**: took note of the following changes:
 - ✓ Sub-Committee on the European Social Charter: Ms Anne Lambelin (Belgium, SOC) becomes a full member with Mr Andries Gryffroy (Belgium, NR) as alternate;
 - ✓ Sub-Committee on Public Health and Sustainable Development: Ms Andries Gryffroy (Belgium, NR) becomes a full member with Ms Marie-Christine Marghem (Belgium, ALDE) as alternate;

- ✓ Sub-Committee on Children: Mr Benoît Lutgen (Belgium, ALDE) becomes a full member with Ms Anne Lambelin (Belgium, SOC) as alternate and Ms Victoria Tiblom (Sweden, EC/DA) becomes a full member;
- **Committee's work programme and priorities:**
 - appointed Committee representatives to external events as follows (*subject to the availability of funds*):
 - 47th Session of the Congress of Local and Regional authorities, 15-17 October 2024, Strasbourg – Mr Armen Gevorgyan (Armenia, EC/DA)
 - 43rd Plenary Meeting of the Lanzarote Committee, 5-8 November 2024, Vienna, Austria: Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez (Switzerland, SOC) on 5-6 November 2024 (at no cost for the Assembly) and Mr Joseph O'Reilly (Ireland, EPP/CD) on 7-8 November 2024;
 - 6th Meeting of the Steering Committee for Human Rights in the fields of Biomedicine and Health (CDBIO), 26-29 November 2024, Strasbourg : Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, Soc) TBC
 - 101st Meeting of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH), 26-29 November 2024, Strasbourg: Ms Saskia Kluit (Netherlands, SOC)
 - Conference “Addressing homelessness through social investment”, 3 December 2024, Strasbourg: Ms Aurora Floridia (Italy, SOC) and Mr Georgios Stamatis (Greece, EPP/CD) (online)
 - 2nd Meeting of the Ad hoc Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment (GME), 9-11 December 2024, Strasbourg : Ms Saskia Kluit (Netherlands, SOC) or Ms Aurora Floridia (Italy, SOC)
- **Other business:** was informed of projects funded by voluntary contributions and implemented by the Committee
- **Date and place of next meetings:**
 - Plenary committee**
 - Friday (morning), 6 December 2024, Strasbourg (followed by a conference on child abuse)
 - First part-session 2025 of the Assembly (27 – 31 January 2025), Strasbourg
 - Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize**
 - Official presentation ceremony of the Europe Prize, Thursday, 17 October 2024, Terrassa (Spain)
 - Parliamentary Network for a healthy environment**
 - First part of the 2025 session of the Assembly, 27-31 January 2025, Strasbourg
 - Parliamentarian Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine**
 - First part of the 2025 session of the Assembly, 27-31 January 2025, Strasbourg
 - Sub-Committee on Public Health and Sustainable Development**
 - First part of the 2025 session of the Assembly, 27-31 January 2025, Strasbourg
 - Sub-Committee on Children**
 - First part of the 2025 session of the Assembly, 27-31 January 2025, Strasbourg

The Parliamentary Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine, meeting on **Tuesday 1st October 2024**, in Strasbourg, with first Lord Simon Russell (United Kingdom, EC/DA), oldest member present, and then Ms Olena Khomenko (Ukraine, EC/DA), elected Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Bureau of the Network:** elected Ms Olena Khomenko (Ukraine, EC/DA) Chairperson and Ms Miapetra Kumpula-Natri (Finland, SOC) Vice-Chairperson;
- **Ukraine's path to ensuring every child's right to grow in the family environment & International initiatives creating family settings for children deprived of parental care:** held an exchange of views with:
 - Ms Iryna Tuliakova, Head of the Coordination Center, and Kateryna Novokhatnia, First Deputy Head of the Coordination Centre
 - Ms Darya Kasyanova, National Program Development Director at SOS Children's Villages Ukraine, Chairman of the Board at the Ukrainian Child Rights Network (online participation)
 - Ms Olena Khomenko, Member of Parliament of Ukraine, PACE Vice-President and former Rapporteur on the situation of the children of Ukraine
- **The family environment: a crucial component of child well-being:** held an exchange of views with Ms Darya Herasymchuk, Presidential Commissioner for Children's Rights and Child Rehabilitation (online participation);
- **UNICEF initiatives on better care in the turbulent wartime in Ukraine: lessons learnt and reflections:** held an exchanges of views with Ms Jean Choi, Chief of the Child Protection Section of UNICEF (online participation)
- **Date and place of next meeting:**
 - First part of the 2025 session of the Assembly, 27-31 January 2025, Strasbourg

Catherine Du Bernard, Aiste Ramanauskaite, Jannick Devaux, Claire Dubois-Hamdi

cc: Secretary General of the Assembly
 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
 Directors General
 Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
 Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights
 Director of Communication
 Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe