

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS

RESOLUTION (85) 8

ON CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE *OMBUDSMEN* OF MEMBER STATES AND BETWEEN THEM AND THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE¹

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 23 September 1985
at the 388th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers, under the terms of Article 15.a of the Statute of the Council of Europe,

Recalling that the maintenance and further realisation of human rights and fundamental freedoms is one of the principal tasks assigned to the Council of Europe under its Statute ;

Considering that the work and opinions of the *Ombudsmen* of member states contribute significantly to the protection of individuals in relation to acts of the administrative authorities and thereby serve to strengthen the protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms ;

Believing that the organisation of regular conferences with the *Ombudsmen* of member states, with the participation of members of the relevant national and Council of Europe bodies dealing with human rights, would give impetus to the further realisation of human rights ;

Bearing in mind the desirability of improved information of the *Ombudsmen* on the relevant activities of the Council of Europe in the field of human rights,

Decides :

a. to institute in the framework of the Council of Europe regular conferences with the *Ombudsmen* of member states to consider and exchange views and experiences on the protection of human rights in relation to acts of the administrative authorities ;

b. to instruct the Secretary General to invite representatives of the relevant national and Council of Europe bodies dealing with human rights to attend such conferences with a view to facilitating exchanges of views on questions of mutual interest ;

c. to invite the Secretary General to ensure, by all appropriate means, that the *Ombudsmen* are informed on a regular basis of the case-law of the organs of the European Convention on Human Rights and of other relevant material concerning the protection and promotion of human rights.

1. The term *Ombudsmen* in this resolution relates to *Ombudsmen*, parliamentary commissioners, mediators and persons discharging similar functions.