



TC-CP(2021)LD1

29 November 2021

Consultation of the Parties
Council of Europe Convention on Access to Official Documents
(CETS No. 205) – the Tromsø Convention

Decisions made at the 1st meeting

Strasbourg, 29 November 2021

The decisions are listed according to the relevant item of the agenda of the meeting.

Item 1: Opening of the meeting

The meeting was opened by Mr Christos Giakoumopoulos, Director General, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law and chaired by the Secretariat until the Chair was elected.

Item 2: Adoption of the agenda and order of business

The Consultation of the Parties adopted the agenda and the order of business as they appear in documents TC-CP(2021)OJ01 and TC-CP(2021)OT1.

Item 3: Adoption of the Rules of Procedure of the Consultation of the Parties

Pursuant to Article 12, paragraph 3 of the Convention the Consultation of the Parties adopted its Rules of Procedure as they appear in document TC-CP(2021)01.

Item 4: Election of the Chair and the Vice-Chair of the Consultation of the Parties

Pursuant to Rule 4 of its Rules of Procedure the Consultation of the Parties elected Ambassador Rasmus LUMI (Estonia) as its Chair and Ms Ganna KRASNOSTUP (Ukraine) as its Vice-Chair for a term of office of one year starting on 29 November 2021, renewable once.

Item 5: Information regarding the election of the members of the Council of Europe Access Info Group

The Consultation of the Parties:

- took note of the fact that nine Parties have submitted candidates for the election of the members of the Group and that two Parties are in the process of finalising their submissions;
- agreed that it was not possible to hold the election in view of the fact that according to Article 11, paragraph 3, of the Convention, the Group shall consist of a minimum of 10 and a maximum of 15 members and that a maximum of one member may be elected from the list proposed by each Party; took note that the Directorate of Legal Advice and Public International Law had confirmed that it would be against the letter of the Convention to interpret these provisions in a way that permits the Group to be established with nine members only;
- agreed that the candidates already submitted are considered as duly registered for purposes of holding the election of the members of the Group at the time when at least one more Party has submitted candidates for the election;
- invited the two Parties which are in the process of finalising their submissions of candidates to nominate their candidates by 31 January 2022, in accordance with Rule 6 of the Resolution CM/Res(2021)2 on rules on the election procedure of the members of the Group of Specialists on Access to Official Documents;
- asked the Secretariat, in the absence of the submission of candidates by at least one more Party by 31 January 2022, to transmit to the Consultation of the Parties proposals regarding possible measures to make the monitoring mechanism of the Convention operational, following consultations with the Directorate of Legal Advice and Public International Law.

Item 6: Information regarding the preparation of reports of the Parties under Article 14, paragraph 1, of the Convention

The Consultation of the Parties took note that two Parties had transmitted to the Secretariat their reports under Article 14, paragraph 1 of the Convention. It agreed to invite the Parties which have not yet transmitted their reports to the Secretariat to do so by 31 January 2022.

Item 7: State of signatures and ratifications of the Tromsø Convention

The Consultation of the Parties took note that Spain had signed the Convention on 23 November 2021.

Item 8: Other Business

No other business was discussed.

Item 9: Adoption of the list of decisions

Pursuant to Rule 10.4 of its Rules of Procedure the Consultation of the Parties adopted the present list of decisions.