



Strasbourg, 15 June 2021

GEC (2021) Bureau 4

GENDER EQUALITY COMMISSION
8th Bureau meeting

Monday, 14 June 2021

Draft Report

1. Preparation of the 20th GEC meeting (November 2021)

- 1) The Secretariat (Adrienne Looby) informed the members that as there was no new information available regarding travel restrictions for the latter part of the year, it was proposed to organise the November GEC meeting in a hybrid format. The convocation for the meeting will be sent out in early October, and by then it will be possible to confirm the format of the meeting. The Bureau hoped that it would be possible to have a meeting in person but agreed to plan for a hybrid format.
- 2) Further to the discussion at the previous Bureau meeting regarding the length of meetings, the Bureau exceptionally decided that the next GEC meeting would take place over three full days **beginning on Tuesday, 23 November 2021 (morning) and finishing on Thursday, 25 November 2021 (afternoon)**. This would allow sufficient time for discussion on the agenda items such as the draft Committee of Ministers recommendation on migrant women, future work on men and boys, promotion of the Committee of Ministers recommendation on preventing and combating sexism and on COVID-19.
- 3) As the November GEC meeting falls on the first day of the 16 days of activism to combat violence against women (25 November), the Secretariat proposed replacing separate exchanges of views with a high-level debate on the issue of combating violence against women. The panel would comprise the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, the Minister for Family and Equal Opportunities of Italy and the President of GREVIO. The Bureau agreed to this proposal and instructed the Secretariat to contact the panellists.

- 4) It was further proposed to ask GEC members and secretariat to submit any reports about future Presidencies, participation in meetings or ongoing work to the Secretariat prior to the next meeting. The Secretariat would then make these contributions available to all GEC members. The Bureau agreed to this proposal and said that if there was time available during the meeting, then members will be invited to give further information orally, if they so wished.

2. Any other business

- 5) The Secretariat (Cécile Gréboval) informed the Bureau that the consultation procedure on the draft recommendation on migrant women had begun and a consolidated version of the draft document will be prepared and made available over the summer. This version would be discussed by the GEC-MIG at its 5th and final meeting on 30 September - 1 October, following which a final version would be forwarded to the GEC members for discussion and adoption at November's meeting.
- 6) The Secretariat (Daniele Cangemi) informed the Bureau that the revised GEC terms of reference for 2022-2025, which had been circulated to the members, had been approved by the Secretary General with minor changes and will be transmitted to the Committee of Ministers shortly. He also informed the Bureau that the Italian authorities had expressed their interest in holding the annual GEC conference in the Spring of 2022 within the framework of their Presidency of the Committee of Ministers. The forthcoming Italian Presidency is particularly interested in the aspect of conciliation of private and professional life.

3. **Date of the next Bureau meeting:** Monday, 20 September 2021 – 3:00 – 4:00 pm
(Strasbourg time)

Participants:

Bureau: Andreia Lourenço Marques (Chair), Basim Al-Alousi (the Netherlands), Kateryna Levchenko (Ukraine)

Secretariat: Daniele Cangemi, Caterina Bolognese, Cécile Gréboval, Adrienne Looby, Laurène Thil