



AS/Soc (2023) CB02

21 March 2023

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

Synopsis

of the meeting held in Marrakech (Morocco) on 16-17 March 2023

The Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, meeting in Marrakech (Morocco) on **Thursday, 16 March 2023 (9:30 am – 5 pm)**, with Ms Olena Khomenko (Ukraine, EC/DA), Second Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Exchange of views with the authorities of Morocco:** heard welcome addresses delivered by Mr Rachid Talbi El Alami, Speaker of the House of Representatives and Ms Salma Benaziz, Chairperson of the Moroccan delegation to PACE;
- **Safeguarding democracy, rights and the environment in international trade** (*Rapporteur: Mr Geraint Davies, United Kingdom, SOC*): held a public hearing with the participation of Mr Abdelouahed Rahal, General Director of Commerce of the Ministry of Industry and Commerce, and Mr Mustafa Merizak, Co-ordinator of the Standing Committee for the Promotion of the Culture of Human Rights and the Consolidation of Democratic Construction, considered a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution, as amended, and a draft recommendation, as amended, with a view to presenting the report for debate during the second part-session of the Assembly;
- **Public health emergency: the need for a holistic approach to multilateralism and health care** (*Rapporteur: Ms Selin Sayek Böke, Türkiye, SOC*): in the Rapporteur's absence, held a public hearing with the participation of Ms Latifa Belakhel, Head of Division for non-transmissible diseases, Ministry of Health and Social protection, and Mr Chakib Nejari, Professor of epidemiology and public health, Vice-President of the Health Pole, Euromed University (Fez), and considered a preliminary draft report;
- **Committee's work programme and priorities:** considered and unanimously approved a draft motion for a resolution on "Promoting universal health coverage" for tabling on behalf of the Committee, proposed by Ms Heike Engelhardt (Germany, SOC) and presented by Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) in her absence;
- **Deliberate germline editing in human beings** (*Rapporteur: Mr Stefan Schennach, Austria, SOC*): considered a preliminary draft report;
- **Youth and the media** (*Rapporteur: Ms Ruth Jones, United Kingdom, SOC*): approved an oral opinion and took note that the Rapporteur was proposing one amendment to the draft resolution;
- **Analysis and guidelines for a sustainable and socially fair energy transition** (*Rapporteur: Mr Antón Gómez-Reino, Spain, UEL*): in the Rapporteur's absence, held a public hearing with the participation of Ms Rajae Chafil, Climate Change Competence Centre of Morocco (4C Maroc), member of the special Commission on the New Development Model, and Mr Radouan Yessouf, Assistant Director of the Centre for Strategy and Development of the Moroccan Agency for Energy Efficiency, and considered an introductory memorandum;
- **Committee's work programme and priorities:**
 - appointed rapporteurs as follows:
 - ✓ Children in the world of work: eradicating harmful child labour (*for report*) – Ms Eka Sepashvili (Georgia, EC/DA)
 - ✓ The situation of Ukrainian civilians, including children, forcibly displaced or transferred to the Russian Federation or Ukrainian territories under the *de facto* control of the Russian Federation (*for opinion*) – Ms Carmen Leyte (Spain, EPP/CD)

- ✓ Precarious and irregular work situations of migrant seasonal workers and domestic migrant workers (*for opinion*) – Mr Pedro Cegonho (Portugal, SOC)
- and heard a declaration of absence of conflict of interest from each newly-appointed rapporteur;
- heard back from the Committee representatives to external events as follows:
 - ✓ European Committee on Democracy and Governance (CDDG) – Working Group on Governance (GT-G), 2-3 February, Strasbourg – Mr Armen Gevorgyan (Armenia, EC/DA)
 - ✓ Working Group on Deliberative and Participatory Democracy (GT-DD), 1 March, online – Mr Armen Gevorgyan (Armenia, EC/DA)
 - ✓ European Committee on Democracy and Governance (CDDG) – Working Group on green public administration, 2-3 March, Strasbourg – Mr Armen Gevorgyan (Armenia, EC/DA)
- took note that Mr Armen Gevorgyan (Armenia, EC/DA), PACE General Rapporteur on local and regional authorities, would represent the Assembly at the 2023 Global Parliamentary Forum (GPF), jointly organised by the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, 10-11 April, Washington DC (USA) (*at no cost to the Assembly*);
- appointed its representatives (*subject to the availability of funds*) to external events as follows:
 - ✓ 1st meeting of the Committee of Experts on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law (PC-ENV), 3-4 April, Strasbourg – Mr Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ALDE) as representative and Ms Yuliia Ovchynnykova (Ukraine, ALDE) as alternate representative
 - ✓ OECD Global Parliamentary Network Meeting, 4-5 April, Paris – Mr Hişyar Özsoy (Türkiye, UEL), in his capacity as rapporteur for opinion on the activities of the OECD, and Ms Emine Nur Günay (Türkiye, NR) as members of the *ad hoc* committee of the Bureau of the Assembly to participate in this event (*at no cost to the Assembly*)
- **Other business:** took note of a statement by Ms Liliana Tanguy (France, ALDE) on the tabling of her motion for a resolution on “Strengthening the protection of biodiversity in Europe through sustainable and fair financing of the Bern Convention”;
- **Friday, 17 March 2023 (9 - 11 am)**, with Ms Olena Khomenko (Ukraine, EC/DA), Second Vice-Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:
 - **Political strategies to prevent, prepare for, and face the consequences of natural disasters** (*Rapporteur: Mr Simon Moutquin, Belgium, SOC*): considered a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation, with a view to presenting the report for debate during the second part-session of the Assembly, and authorised the rapporteur to carry out a fact-finding visit to Türkiye and affected regions in April 2023;
 - **Analysis and guidelines to guarantee the right to housing and to decent housing** (*Rapporteur: Ms Selin Sayek Böke, Türkiye, SOC*): in the Rapporteur’s absence, held a public hearing with the participation of Mr Radoine Hassan, Director of the School of Architecture, Planning and Design (SAP+D) at Mohammed VI Polytechnic University, and Ms Hind Benzha, Director of Property Development, Ministry of Development of the National Territory, Urban Development, Housing and City Policy;
 - **Changes in Sub-Committees:** approved the following changes:
 - Sub-Committee on Children**
 - ✓ Ms Denitsa Sacheva (Bulgaria, EPP/CD) became a full member
 - ✓ Ms Zdravka Bušić (Croatia, EPP/CD) became a full member
 - ✓ Ms María Fernández (Spain, SOC) became the alternate of Ms Carmen Leyte
 - Sub-Committee on European Social Charter**
 - ✓ Ms Denitsa Sacheva (Bulgaria, EPP/CD) became a full member
 - Sub-Committee on Public Health and Sustainable Development**
 - ✓ Ms Zdravka Bušić (Croatia, EPP/CD) became a full member
 - ✓ Mr Antón Gómez-Reino (Spain, UEL) became a full member

Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize

- ✓ Ms María Fernández (Spain, SOC) became the alternate of Ms Carmen Leyte
- **Other business:** took note of the call for nominations for the 2023 Václav Havel Prize and of the deadline of 30 April for the submission of nominations, and of the statements by Mr Armen Gevorgyan (Armenia, EC/DA) and Ms Sevinj Fataliyeva (Azerbaijan, EC/DA) on national developments;
- **Friday, 17 March 2023 (11:45 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.):**
- visited the Mohammed VI Water Museum “Aman”;
- **Date and place of next meetings:**

Plenary committee

- Second part of the 2023 session of the Assembly, 24-28 April, Strasbourg
- Monday, 22 May 2023, Paris (Council of Europe Office)
- Third part of the 2023 session of the Assembly, 19-23 June, Strasbourg
- Tuesday, 19 September 2023, Paris (Council of Europe Office)
- Fourth part of the 2023 session of the Assembly, 9-13 October, Strasbourg
- Wednesday, 6 December 2023, Paris (Council of Europe Office)

Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize

- Second part of the 2023 session of the Assembly, 24-28 April, Strasbourg (*date to be confirmed; to be held in camera*)
- Third part of the 2023 session of the Assembly, 19-23 June, Strasbourg (*date to be confirmed*)

Sub-Committee on Children

- Second part of the 2023 session of the Assembly, 24-28 April, Strasbourg (*date to be confirmed*)

The Network of Contact Parliamentarians for a healthy environment, meeting in Marrakech and Ben Guerir (Morocco) on Friday (3 - 5 p.m.) and Saturday (10 am – 7 p.m.), 17-18 March 2023, with Mr Rik Daems (Belgium, ALDE), Network Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- heard welcome addresses delivered by Ms Carmen Morte Gómez, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Rabat, and Mr Allal Amraoui, Member of the Network and of the House of Representatives of Morocco;
- **Morocco: Access to drinking water (SDG 6):** held an exchange of views with Mr Abdherrahim El Hafidi, General Director of the Moroccan National Authority of Water and Electricity, Vice-Chair of the African Water Association;
- **Access to clean energy – giving a voice to future generations:** heard statements by Ms Leila Benali, Minister of Energy Transition and Sustainable Development (by video conference), and Mr Hicham El Habti, President of the Mohammed VI Polytechnic University, held a “Climate Fresco” Workshop (with the NGO *Fresque du climat* Morocco) and a discussion with young Europeans and Moroccans;
- held an exchange of views on the preparations for the 4th Summit of the Council of Europe and agreed to continue the discussion during the second part-session, and to extend an invitation to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to an exchange of views on this occasion;
- visited the Green Energy Park, the Smart Building Park and the experimental farm in Ben Guerir;
- **Date and place of next meetings:**
 - Second part-session 2023 of the Assembly, 24-28 April 2023, Strasbourg (*to be confirmed*)
 - Third part-session 2023 of the Assembly, 19-23 June 2023, Strasbourg
 - Monday 18 September 2023, Paris (Council of Europe Office) (*to be confirmed*)
 - Fourth part-session 2023 of the Assembly, 9-13 October, Strasbourg

Tanja Kleinsorge, Aiste Ramanauskaite, Guillaume Parent, Anita Gholami

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
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