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Restricted CDL (2000) SYN 45

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW

(VENICE COMMISSION)

45th PLENARY MEETING (Venice, 15-16 December 2000)

SYNOPSIS

The Commission,

- held an exchange of views with Mr Pietro Ercole Ago, Permanent Representative of Italy to the Council of Europe and Ms Milena Smit, chargé d'affaires a.i. of Slovenia to the Council of Europe on the establishment of a general judicial authority of the Council of Europe;
- held an exchange of views with Mr Erik Jurgens, member of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, on co-operation with the Parliamentary Assembly;
- discussed the draft Albanian Law on the Organisation and functioning of the Council
 of Ministers with representatives of Albania on the basis of the written opinions of the
 rapporteurs;
- was informed about the results of a mission of a Commission delegation to Yerevan
 and adopted the programme of cooperation with Armenia, following the request of the
 Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to cooperate with Armenia;
- was informed about the results of a mission of a Commission delegation to Baku and adopted the programme of cooperation with Azerbaijan, following the request of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe to cooperate with Azerbaijan;
- held an exchange of views with Mr Tonino Picula, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Croatia on the cooperation with this country, particularly in the field of national minorities, and adopted its opinion on the Constitutional Law on the Constitutional Court of Croatia;
- adopted its final report on constitutional reform in Moldova;

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- held an exchange of views with Mr. Vojin Dimitrievic on future cooperation with the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia in the field of constitutional reform;
- adopted its report on the constitutional issues raised by the ratification of the Statute of the International Criminal Court;
- adopted its report on the creation of a general judicial authority within the Council of Europe;
- was informed about the progress of the creation of a UniDem campus in Trieste;
- was informed about the process of devolution in the United Kingdom and constitutional aspects of the recent presidential elections in the United States;
- confirmed the dates for its next Plenary meeting as 9-10 March 2001.

G. BUQUICCHIO

<u>Distribution:</u>
Members
Associate Members
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Permanent Representatives