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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW

(VENICE COMMISSION)

52nd PLENARY SESSION (Venice, 18-19 October 2002)

SYNOPSIS

The Commission

- held an exchange of views with Mr Peter Schieder, President of the Parliamentary Assembly on co-operation between the Assembly and the Venice Commission;
- held an exchange of views with Ambassador Wegener, Permanent Representative of Germany to the Council of Europe, and with Ambassador Magheru, Permanent Representative of Romania to the Council of Europe, on co-operation between the Committee of Ministers and the Venice Commission;
- held an exchange of views with Mr Raphael Alomar, Governor of the Council of Europe's Development Bank on the Bank's activities and the possibilities of future cooperation with the Commission;
- endorsed the opinion on the draft for an electoral code of Armenia;
- endorsed the opinion on the draft electoral code of Azerbaijan;
- adopted the opinion on the amendments to the Constitution of Republika Srpska;
- adopted the opinion on the draft constitutional law on the rights of national minorities in Croatia;
- held an exchange of views with Mr John Khetsuriani, President of the Constitutional Court of Georgia on the modalities of future co-operation with Georgia in particular with regard to the revision of the Constitution, territorial organisation and electoral law;
- adopted the opinion on the draft law on the judicial power of Latvia and corresponding constitutional amendments;

- adopted the opinion on the draft law on the setting up of an ombudsman institution in Luxembourg;
- endorsed the opinion on the draft law on political parties in Moldova;
- endorsed the opinion on the law on the organisation and conduct of public assemblies of Moldova;
- endorsed the opinion on the law on the status of parliamentarians of the Republic of Moldova;
- was informed on the progress on the drafting of the Constitutional Charter for Serbia and Montenegro;
- was informed on the progress of the study on the execution of judgements of the European Court of Human Rights;
- adopted the explanatory report to the guidelines in electoral matters;
- was informed on constitutional developments in Estonia, Israel and on the Korean Peninsula;
- welcomed the intention of the Government of Israel to accede to the Venice Commission as a full member;
- approved the agreement of co-operation with the Research Group on Transition and the Law RGTL (Public Policy Center Auvergne University);
- confirmed the dates of its next plenary session as 13-14 December 2002.

G. BUQUICCHIO

Distribution: Members Associate Members Observers Permanent Representatives