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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW

(VENICE COMMISSION)

53rd PLENARY SESSION (Venice, 13-14 December 2002)

SYNOPSIS

The Commission

- held an exchange of views with Ambassador Kocel, Permanent Representative of Poland to the Council of Europe and with Ambassador Aberg, Permanent Representative of Sweden to the Council of Europe, on co-operation between the Committee of Ministers and the Venice Commission;
 - held an exchange of views with Mr Jürgens Member of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, on co-operation with the Assembly;
 - held an exchange of views with Mr Di Stasi, President of the CLRAE Regions Chamber, on co-operation with the CLRAE ;
 - endorsed the joint opinion on the revised electoral code of Azerbaijan;
 - adopted the opinion on proposed constitutional amendments in Kyrgyzstan;
 - adopted the opinion on constitutional reform in Liechtenstein ;
 - endorsed the comments by Messrs Rose and Vollan on the electoral law of Moldova and instructed the Secretariat to draw up a consolidated opinion on this matter which will be forwarded to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe before 15 January 2003 ;
 - adopted the opinion on the implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights ;

- endorsed the comments by Mr van Dijk on the reply of the Croatian government to the opinion adopted previously by the Venice Commission on the draft constitutional law on rights of national minorities in Croatia;
- was informed by Mrs S. Bagic, on the situation concerning the adoption of the law on the rights of national minorities in Croatia ;
- held an exchange of views with Mrs Baekova, president of the Constitutional Court of Kyrgyzstan on future co-operation with Kyrgyzstan;
- held an exchange of views with Mr Igo Luksic, member of the Parliament of Montenegro, on progress on the drafting and adoption of the Constitutional Charter for Serbia and Montenegro and on future co-operation between Montenegro and the Commission;
- accepted the request, presented by the Ukrainian authorities, on future co-operation in the field of constitutional reforms in Ukraine;
- was informed on recent constitutional developments in Observer States and possible future co-operation;
- was informed on recent constitutional developments in Albania, in Armenia, in Cyprus in particular on the proposal by the United Nations Secretary General, in France, in Latvia, in Portugal, in Switzerland and in Turkey;
- confirmed the date of its next Plenary session : 14-15 March 2003.

G. BUQUICCHIO

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