



Strasbourg, 2 October 2003

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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW (VENICE COMMISSION)

6th MEETING OF THE COUNCIL FOR DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS (Venice, 16 October 2003 at 9 a.m.)

DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

This document will not be distributed at the meeting. Please bring this copy.

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Council is invited to adopt the agenda as it stands in the document CDL-EL-OJ (2003) 6ann.

2. Election of the President

The Council is invited to elect a new President to replace Mr Clerfayt, who left the Parliamentary Assembly.

3. Participation of members and substitute members

The Council may adopt rules concerning the participation of members and substitute members.

4. Organisation of work

Given the increase of the number of items on the agenda, a meeting of a half-day does not allow for the treatment of all the questions in sufficient detail. The following solutions may be considered:

- extension of the length of the meetings to one day (Wednesday afternoon and Thursday morning), and
- use of written procedure: only the amendments presented in writing will be examined at the meeting.

5. Future Activities

- Concerning the recommendations on the electoral law and the electoral administration, the Council could decide :
 - on the intervals between reports concerning a specific country; and
 - on the participation of experts and the representatives of the States concerned at its meetings; this item should be considered with reference to Item 4 (length of meetings)

The following items could be discussed:

- referendums;
- election fraud; and
- restrictions on the right to vote.

6. Electoral systems

The Council is called upon to examine the report by Mr Broquet and Mr Lancelot on Electoral Systems: Table of available solutions and selection criteria (CDL-EL (2003) 6), with a view to adopting it.

7. European Conference of Electoral Management Bodies

The Secretariat will inform the Council on the preparation of the European Conference of Electoral Management Bodies (Strasbourg, 19-20 January 2004).

8. E-enabled Voting and Remote Voting

The Secretariat will inform the Council on the last meetings of the Multidisciplinary Ad Hoc Group of Specialists on legal, operational and technical standards for e-enabled voting (IP1-S-EE) and the Group of Specialists on legal and operational standards for e-enabled voting (EE-S-LOS) as well as the Venice Commission draft study on the compatibility of remote voting with European standards.

It is proposed that Mr Grabenwarter and Mr Micallef represent the Council at the next meeting of the Group of Specialists on legal and operational standards for e-enabled voting (EE-S-LOS) (Strasbourg, 3-5 December 2003).

9. Internet Portal of the Council of Europe

The Secretariat will inform the Council of the creation of a specific site relating to elections on the internet portal of the Council of Europe. That site will be placed under the responsibility of the Council for democratic elections and will include, in particular, information furnished by the Venice Commission, the Parliamentary Assembly and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe.

10. Recommendations on the electoral law and the electoral administration in Armenia

The Council could examine the Recommendations on the electoral law and the electoral administration in Armenia (CDL-EL (2003) 10), prepared by Mr Michael Krennerich (Expert, Germany) (see doc. CDL (2003) 52).