



Strasbourg, 28 November 2007

CDL-EL-OJ(2007)004ann
Or. Fr.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

**23rd MEETING OF THE
COUNCIL FOR DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS**
Venice, 13 December 2007 at 10 a.m.

DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Council is invited to adopt its agenda as it appears in document CDL-EL-OJ(2007)004ann.

2. Moldova

In 2006, the Venice Commission and OSCE/ODIHR prepared a joint opinion (CDL-AD(2006)001) on the Electoral Code of Moldova as amended on 22 July and 4 and 17 November 2005. Since then the electoral Code has been modified on several occasions. A new draft joint opinion by the Venice Commission and OSCE/ODIHR ([CDL-EL\(2007\)042](#)) on the Code up-dated on 27 March 2007 and forwarded by the Moldovan authorities ([CDL-EL\(2007\)019](#)) has therefore been prepared on the basis of comments by Messrs Darmanovic, Kask, Vollan and Karapetyan. This draft opinion is submitted to the Council for adoption.

3. United Kingdom

Following a request from the Parliamentary Assembly concerning the United Kingdom electoral law, more particularly on enrolment on electoral lists and postal voting, a draft opinion ([CDL-EL\(2007\)035](#)) has been drawn up on the basis of comments by Messrs Closa Montero and Mifsud Bonnici (cf. [CDL-EL\(2007\)024](#), [CDL-EL\(2007\)021](#) and [CDL-EL\(2007\)026](#)). A Commission delegation visited the United Kingdom on 10 December 2007 to discuss the question with the authorities in particular with the United Kingdom Electoral Commission. Mr Closa Montero will inform the Council on this visit. The draft opinion is submitted to the Council for adoption.

4. Code of good practice for political parties

In April 2007 the Parliamentary Assembly decided to prepare a code of good practice for political parties. At its June 2007 meeting, the Council examined the comments of the reporting members, Messrs Closa Montero and Colliard, on the question of the drawing up of such a code (see documents [CDL-EL\(2007\)044](#), [CDL-EL\(2007\)012](#) and [CDL-EL\(2007\)013](#)).

5. Cancellation of election results

The UniDem Seminar on the cancellation of election results will take place on 25-26 April 2008 in Skopje. This seminar is mainly aimed at members of Constitutional and Supreme Courts competent in the matter of electoral disputes.

Mr Kask has prepared a questionnaire which will be sent to participants in the Seminar ([CDL-EL\(2007\)043](#)). This questionnaire will also serve as a basis for a comparative study which will be submitted to the Commission following the Seminar.

The Secretariat has prepared a practical case ([CDL-UD\(2007\)003](#)) which will be submitted to the participants in the Seminar.

The Council is invited to adopt the questionnaire and the practical case.

6. State of human rights and democracy in Europe

Further to Parliamentary Assembly Recommendation 1791(2007) and Resolution 1547(2007) on the state of human rights and democracy in Europe and the conclusions of the general rapporteurs at the Forum for the future of democracy, the Council is invited to examine the document entitled "State of human rights and democracy in Europe – subjects for future activities" ([CDL\(2007\)123](#)).

7. Code of good practice on referendums

Mr van den Brande will inform the Council of the adoption by the Parliamentary Assembly Permanent Commission of Recommendation 1821(2007) and Resolution 1592(2007) on the code of good practice on referendums.

8. Other developments in electoral matters

- Armenia

The Secretariat will inform the Council on the activities arranged in view of the Presidential elections on 19 February 2008 as well as on the revision of the electoral code – training sessions for staff of the Central Electoral Commission and for Non-Governmental Organisations, as well as a Seminar for judges on electoral disputes.

- Azerbaijan

The Secretariat will inform the Council on the latest developments on the electoral law of Azerbaijan, in particular the Round Tables on Appeals and on the Composition of Electoral Commissions held in Baku on 7-9 November 2007 (see document [CDL-EL\(2007\)011](#)).

- Georgia

The Secretariat will inform the Council on the activities arranged in view of the Presidential elections on 5 January 2008 as well as on the revision of the electoral code – long term assistance to the Central Electoral Commission and to Non-Governmental Organisations.

- Ukraine

The Secretariat will inform the Council on the latest developments on co-operation with Ukraine in the electoral field.

8. Mexico

Ms Maria del Carmen Alanis, President of the Electoral Tribunal of Mexico will inform the Council on electoral questions in Mexico.

9. Future activities

The draft code of good practice for political parties will be developed with a view to its discussion at the March 2008 meeting.

Draft joint opinions on the electoral laws of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Georgia could be submitted to the next meeting, as well as a draft opinion on the financing of political parties in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

10. Co-operation with OSCE/ODIHR

There will be an exchange of views with the representatives of OSCE/ODIHR on the possibilities of future co-operation.

11. Date of the next meeting

It is proposed to hold the next meeting on Saturday 15 March 2008 at 14h30.