



Strasbourg, 21 May 2010

**CDL-EL-OJ(2010)002ann**  
Or. Fr.

**EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW**  
**(VENICE COMMISSION)**

**33<sup>rd</sup> MEETING OF THE  
COUNCIL FOR DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS**

**Venice, 3 June 2010 at 9.30 a.m.**

**DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA**

## **1. Adoption of the agenda**

The Council is invited to adopt its agenda as it appears in this document.

## **2. Communication by the Secretariat**

The Secretariat will inform the Council on the following items:

- Armenia : progress of work in view of drafting an opinion on the revised electoral code ;
- Azerbaijan : the implementation of an action plan for the parliamentary elections in November 2010 ;
- Georgia : assistance to the Central Election Commission from 15 to 29 April 2010 in view of the local elections which will take place on 30 May 2010.

## **3. Evaluation of the electoral process**

At the October 2009 meeting, Mr Gross presented a draft report on the time line and an inventory of political criteria for assessing an election. This document was then submitted to the members of the Council for comment. Mr Gross will present a revised version of this report to the Council with a view to its adoption (CDL-EL(2010)...).

## **4. Out-of-country Voting**

The Secretariat will inform the Council on progress of work on out-of-country voting. The Council may be invited to take note of the document on the legal provisions on this subject ([CDL-EL\(2010\)013](#)), as well as the summary table ([CDL-EL\(2010\)014](#)).

## **5. Equal access to local and regional elections**

At its 17<sup>th</sup> plenary session (13-15 October 2009), the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe adopted Recommendation 273(2009) on equal access to local and regional elections.

The Committee of Ministers forwarded this recommendation to the Venice Commission for information and possible comments. The draft reply ([CDL-EL\(2010\)020](#)) is submitted to the Council for adoption.

## **6. Belarus**

Following a request from the Political Affairs Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly, a draft joint opinion by the Venice Commission and OSCE/ODIHR on the recent amendments to the Electoral Code of Belarus was prepared on the basis of comments by Messrs Kask (Venice Commission member, Estonia), Middleton (OSCE/ODIHR expert) and Vulchanov (Venice Commission expert) ([CDL-EL\(2010\)019](#), see [CDL-EL\(2009\)001](#) and [CDL-EL\(2010\)018](#)). This opinion is submitted to the Council for adoption.

## **7. Georgia**

Following a request from the Georgian authorities, a draft joint opinion by the Venice Commission and OSCE/ODIHR was prepared on the Electoral Code of Georgia as amended to 28 December 2009 ([CDL-EL\(2010\)015](#), see documents [CDL-EL\(2010\)009](#) and [CDL-EL\(2010\)008](#)), on the basis of comments by Messrs Jaklic (Venice Commission member,

Slovenia), Masters (Venice Commission expert) and Pilgrim (OSCE/ODIHR expert). This opinion is submitted to the Council for adoption.

## **8. Moldova**

Following a request from Mr Ghimpu, Acting President and Speaker of the Parliament of Moldova, a draft joint opinion by the Venice Commission and OSCE/ODIHR was prepared on the draft amendments ([CDL-EL\(2010\)012](#)) to the Electoral Code of Moldova ([CDL\(2008\)082](#)) on the basis of comments by Messrs Bisson (OSCE/ODIHR expert) and Vollan (Venice Commission expert). The draft has already been forwarded to the authorities as parliamentary debates were to be held on this question and it was considered to be urgent. The opinion is submitted to the Council for adoption.

## **9. Montenegro**

In the framework of adapting laws to the new Constitution, the Parliament of Montenegro prepared a draft law amending the law on the election of councillors and members of Parliament, which concerns in particular the protection of minorities. ([CDL-EL\(2010\)010](#) and [011](#)). The Parliament has requested an opinion on this draft from the Venice Commission. The Council is invited to adopt the draft opinion, drawn up jointly with OSCE/ODIHR ([CDL\(2010\)032](#)).

## **10. Ukraine**

The Secretariat will inform the Council of progress of co-operation with Ukraine in the preparation of a unified electoral code and in particular the meeting which took place in Kyiv on 28 April 2010.

## **11. Other developments and future activities**

A draft report on the figure based management of an election fraud should be submitted to the Council at one of its forthcoming meetings.

The Council will be informed about the participation of the Venice Commission in the work of the Committee of Experts on the participation of people with disabilities in political and public life (CAHPAH-PPL).

Members are invited to make proposals for future activities.

## **12. Co-operation with OSCE/ODIHR**

The Council will hold an exchange of views with the representatives of OSCE/ODIHR on the possibilities of future co-operation.

## **13. Date of the next meeting**

It is proposed to hold the next meeting on Thursday, 14 October 2010 at 10.00 a.m.