



Strasbourg, 29 November 2011

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Or. Fr.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

39th MEETING
OF THE COUNCIL FOR DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS

Venice, 15 December 2011 at 10 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:

- follow up to the joint opinion by the Venice Commission and the OSCE/ODIHR on the Draft Law on Election of People's Deputies of Ukraine ([CDL-AD\(2011\)037](#)) and in particular, the visit of a Venice Commission delegation to Ukraine on 31 October 2011;
- assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly election observation missions in Bulgaria (23 October 2011) and in Kyrgyzstan (30 October 2011);
- participation in the Extraordinary meeting on the 20th anniversary of the Inter American Union of Electoral Organizations (UNIORE) (Mexico City, 10-11 November 2011);
- participation in a Round Table on the electoral legislation of Tajikistan (Dushanbe, 12-13 December 2011);
- participation in a workshop on the latest amendments to the Electoral Code of Armenia (Yerevan, 12-13 December 2011);
- participation in a meeting of the Political Affairs Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly (Paris, 14 December 2011) on the issue of measures to improve the democratic character of elections in the Council of Europe member states.

3. Albania

Following a request from the Secretary General of the Council of Europe for an opinion on the modifications to be made to the electoral law and the electoral practice in Albania in the light of recent experience, the Venice Commission and the OSCE/ODIHR prepared a joint draft opinion on this issue on the basis of comments by Messrs van Dijk, Kask, Konrad Olszewski (expert, Poland) and Ms Marianna Skopa (OSCE/ODIHR expert) ([CDL\(2011\)093](#)); see also the electoral code, [CDL-REF\(2011\)038](#). This draft opinion is submitted to the Council for adoption. The Council will be informed of the visit of a Venice Commission delegation to Albania.

4. Georgia

On 12 September 2011, Mr Mikheil Machvariani, First Deputy Chairman, Parliament of Georgia, requested an opinion from the Venice Commission on the draft Electoral Code of Georgia (see the revised draft code, [CDL-REF\(2011\)044rev](#)). The Venice Commission and the OSCE/ODIHR prepared a joint draft opinion, on the basis of comments by Messrs Gonzalez Oropeza, Hamilton, Jaklic and Jessie Pilgrim (OSCE/ODIHR expert) ([CDL\(2011\)094](#)). This draft opinion is submitted to the Council for adoption. The Council will be informed of the visit of a Venice Commission delegation to Georgia.

5. Interpretative Declaration to the Code of Good Practice in Electoral Matters on the participation of people with disabilities in elections

The Council for Democratic Elections at its 34th meeting and the Venice Commission at its 84th Plenary Session (October 2010) adopted a declaration on the participation of people with disabilities in elections ([CDL-AD\(2010\)036](#)).

A revised version, which takes into account the recent work of the Committee of Experts on the participation of people with disabilities in political and public life (CAHPAH-PPL), was discussed by the Council and the Venice Commission in June 2011 ([CDL\(2011\)041](#)).

Following the adoption of Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2011\)14](#) of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the participation of persons with disabilities in political and public life, a new version of the interpretative declaration has been prepared ([CDL\(2011\)041rev](#)). This document is submitted to the Council for adoption.

6. Co-operation with Northern Africa

The Secretariat will inform the Council on Venice Commission co-operation with Northern Africa, and in particular the legal assistance to the Parliamentary Assembly election observation missions in Tunisia (23 October 2011) and in Morocco (25 November 2011).

7. Future activities

The Secretariat will inform the Council on planned future activities in particular the study on the abuse of administrative resources.

8. Co-operation with OSCE/ODIHR

An exchange of views will take place with the representatives of the OSCE/ODIHR on the possibilities of future co-operation.

9. Date of the next meeting

It is proposed to hold the next meeting on Thursday, 15 March 2012 at 10.00 a.m.