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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

2nd meeting of the Joint Council on Constitutional Justice

(Oslo, 9 May 2003)

DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA

Opening speech by Chief Justice Tore Schei, Supreme Court of Norway

1. Adoption of the Agenda

2. Communication by the Secretariat

The Secretariat will inform the participants about the training session for liaison officers held the previous day and about new appointments of liaison officers.

3. Updating of data on the participating courts

The liaison officers will be invited to inform the Secretariat of any changes to data contained in the list of constitutional courts (CDL-JU (2003) 2), the list of liaison officers (CDL-JU (2003) 3) and the list of web sites of constitutional courts and equivalent bodies (CDL-JU (2003) 4).

4. Co-operation of Constitutional Courts on the Internet: Venice Forum

The Secretariat will present document CDL-JU (2003) 5 on requests via the Venice Forum and replies given by other liaison officers.

5. Co-operation activities

5.a Series of seminars with Constitutional Courts (CoCoSem)

The Secretariat will inform the participants about seminars held since the last meeting and about future seminar projects (CDL-JU (2003) 6) and the programme of CoCoSems for 2003.

5.b Co-operation with the Association of Constitutional Courts using the French Language (ACCPUF)

Ms Pauti, the Secretary General of ACCPUF, will be invited to inform the participants about the development of the relations between the ACCPUF and the Commission.

5.c Co-operation with Constitutional Courts and equivalent bodies in Southern Africa

The Secretariat will inform the participants about the programme of co-operation between the Venice Commission and constitutional and supreme courts of the Southern African Region funded by the Norwegian and Swiss governments and, in particular about the integration of the case-law of these courts into the CODICES database.

5.d Co-operation with the Conference of Constitutional Justice of Ibero-America, Spain and Portugal

The Secretariat will inform the participants about prospects of co-operation with the Conference of Constitutional Justice of Ibero-America, Spain and Portugal.

5.e. Co-operation with the Conference of the Constitutional Control Organs of the Countries of Young Democracy (CCCOCYD)

The participants will be consulted on the draft agreement between and the Conference of the Constitutional Control Organs of the Countries of Young Democracy and the Venice Commission (CDL-JU (2003) 9).

5.f Co-operation with the Constitutional Court of Belarus

The Secretariat will inform the participants on co-operation with the Constitutional Court of Belarus in light of the request for such co-operation by the Conference of the European Constitutional Courts (Resolution IV of the Council of Presidents, 16 May 2002, http://www.confcoconsteu.org/en/congress/resolution_vii.html).

6. Publication of the Bulletin on Constitutional Case-Law

6.a Regular Bulletin

Bulletin 2002/1 will be presented to the participants. Bulletin 2002/2 will be under preparation. The liaison officers will be reminded that the deadline for contributions to Bulletin 2003/1 is the end of May 2003.

Following staff changes, the Secretariat will inform the participants about the persons responsible in the Secretariat dealing with contributions the Bulletin. Consequently, document CDL-JU (2003) 11 contains revised instructions for the sending of contributions to the Secretariat by e-mail.

6.b Special Bulletins

The Special Bulletins on "Leading Cases 1" and "The relations between the constitutional courts and the other national courts, including the interference in this area of the action of the European courts" will be presented. The Secretariat will inform the participants on the progress of the Special Bulletin "Leading Cases 2".

7. Publication of CODICES

7.a Presentation of a new version of CODICES

The Secretariat will present the current version 4.3 2002/1 of CODICES (<http://codices.coe.int> and CD-ROM) and inform the participants about the future version 5.0 of CODICES on the basis of the LivePublish software which is to replace the Folio Views software.

7.b Inclusion of full texts of decisions into the CODICES database

The liaison officers will be invited to provide or to continue to provide full texts of decisions in electronic form (e-mail, diskette). Document CDL-JU (2003) 12 shows updated statistics on available full texts in CODICES sorted by language and by country.

7.c Indexing of constitutions in CODICES

The Secretariat will inform the participants about the progress of the project of indexation of the constitutions article by article (see document CDL-JU (2003) 7).

7.d Updating of Constitutions, Laws on the Courts and Descriptions within CODICES

The liaison officers will be invited to inform the Secretariat of necessary changes in Constitutions, Laws on the Courts and Descriptions as compared to the texts contained in CODICES.

8. Data input mask

8.a CD-Rom input mask V1.8 T14

The Secretariat will inform the participants about the problems linked to Version 1.6T T13 of the Input Mask. The Secretariat will present version 1.8 T14. This version will be made available to the liaison officers on future versions of the CODICES CD-ROM.

8.b Internet input mask

The Secretariat will seek comments by the liaison officers on the data input mask available for the liaison officers on the restricted web site of the Venice Commission (<http://venice.coe.int/ju/codices>).

9. Amendments to version 14 of the Systematic Thesaurus

The participants will be invited to approve the proposals by the Working Group on the Systematic Thesaurus for version 15 of the Systematic Thesaurus (CDL-JU (2003) 13 prov. - document to be produced after the meeting of the Working Group on 8 May on the basis of proposals in document CDL-JU (2003) 10).

The Secretariat will present the revised dictionaries of keywords of the Alphabetical Index including cross-references (CDL-JU (2003) 14 and 15).

10. Library of the Centre on Constitutional Justice

The participants will receive the updated list of documents available at the library of the Centre on Constitutional Justice (CDL-JU (2003) 8). This list is also available on the public and restricted web sites of the Venice Commission (<http://venice.coe.int> and <http://venice.coe.int/ju>).

Liaison officers from Courts for which the Library does not yet contain the digest or other publications by the Courts (also in original language) will kindly be invited to assist the Secretariat in obtaining these resources for the benefit of the users of the library.

11. Other business

12. Date and place of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Sub-Commission on Constitutional Justice could take place in Spring 2004.

LIST OF DOCUMENTS

CDL-JU (2003) 2:

List of Constitutional Courts

CDL-JU (2003) 3:

List of liaison officers

CDL-JU (2003)4:

List of websites of Constitutional Courts and Equivalent Bodies

CDL-JU (2003) 5:

Venice Forum

CDL-JU (2003) 6:

Synopsis of CoCoSem Seminars held in co-operation with Constitutional Courts

CDL-JU (2003) 7:

Indexation of Constitutions article by article

CDL-JU (2003) 8:

List of documents available at the Library of the Centre on Constitutional Justice

CDL-JU (2003) 9:

Draft Agreement between the Conference of the Constitutional Control Organs of the Countries of Young Democracy (CCCOCYD) and the Venice Commission

CDL-JU (2003) 10

Proposals to the Working Group V15

CDL-JU (2003) 11:

Revised instructions for sending contributions by e-mail to the Secretariat

CDL-JU (2003) 12

Inclusion of full texts of decisions into the CODICES database

CDL-JU (2003)13:

Proposals by the Working Group V15

CDL-JU (2003) 14:

Alphabetical index of keywords: French-English dictionary

CDL-JU (2003) 15:

Alphabetical index of keywords: English-French dictionary

PREVIOUS DOCUMENTS

- Report of the 1st meeting of the Joint Council on Constitutional Justice (Larnaca) [CDL-JU-PV (2002) 1]
- Systematic Thesaurus version 14 [CDL-JU (2002) 16]
- Bulletin on Constitutional Case-Law 2002/1
- CD-Rom 2002/1
- Special Bulletin - Leading Cases 1 - Relations