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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW

(VENICE COMMISSION)

65th PLENARY SESSION
(Venice, 16-17 December 2005)

SYNOPSIS

The Commission

- held an exchange of views with Ambassador Gheorghe Magheru, Permanent Representative of Romania to the Council of Europe and Chairman of the Ministers' Deputies, and with Ambassador Ronald Mayer, Permanent Representative of Luxembourg to the Council of Europe and Ambassador Marios Lyssiotis, Permanent Representative of Cyprus to the Council of Europe, on co-operation between the **Committee of Ministers** and the Venice Commission;
- held an exchange of views with Mr Rudolf Bindig and Mr Peter Schieder, Members of the **Parliamentary Assembly** of the Council of Europe, on co-operation with the Assembly;
- was informed about the follow-up to earlier Venice Commission opinions: on the nature of the proceedings before the Human Rights Chamber and the Constitutional Court of **Bosnia and Herzegovina**, on the constitutional situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the powers of the High Representative and on constitutional reforms in **Armenia**;
- held an exchange of views with Mr Ranko Krivokapic, Speaker of the Parliament of Montenegro, and with Mr Velizar Kaludjerovic, member of Parliament and of the Executive board, Socialist People's Party of Montenegro, and adopted, at the request of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, its opinion on the standards applicable to the referendum in **Montenegro**,
- held an exchange of views with Mr Iuri Kliuchkovskiy, Representative of the President of **Ukraine**, and adopted joint opinions with OSCE/ODIHR on the Law of 7 July 2005 on making amendments to the law of Ukraine on elections of people's deputies of Ukraine and on the draft law on the state register of voters of Ukraine ;

- adopted a declaration urging the Ukrainian authorities to fill the vacant positions in the Constitutional Court of Ukraine;
- adopted the joint opinion of the Venice Commission and OSCE/ODIHR on the amendments to the Electoral Code of **Moldova** ;
- adopted the opinion on the Draft Organic Law on making amendments and additions to the Elections Code of **Georgia**;
- adopted the declaration on stability of electoral law;
- examined the preliminary draft study on the remedies to the excessive length of proceedings;
- was informed on possible future co-operation with **Albania**;
- held an exchange of views with Mr Aharon Barak, Prsident of the Supreme Court of **Israel**, on human rights in Israel and the occupied territories;
- held an exchange of views with Ms Svetala Bychkova, Member of the Constitutional Council of **Kazakhstan**, on future co-operation;
- was informed on the recent constitutional developments and co-operation activities in **Kyrgyzstan**;
- was informed on the recent constitutional developments in **Iceland**, **Italy** and **Slovenia** as well as in **Korea**;
- was informed on the results of the meetings of the Enlarged Bureau and of the UniDem Governing Board;
- confirmed the dates of the 2006 sessions (17-18 March; 9-10 June; 13-14 October and 15-16 December 2006).