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NATO Parliamentary Assembly

FIFTIETH ANNUAL SESSION

MINUTES

of the

PLENARY SITTING

Sala Grande, Palazzo del Cinema, Lido, Venice, Italy
Tuesday 16 November 2004

The Session was opened at 9.10 a.m. on Tuesday 16 November 2004, with the Hon Doug Bereuter (United States), President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, in the Chair.

1. Opening of the Sitting

The President declared the 50th Annual Session of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly open and welcomed guests and members.

2. Address by Mr Giancarlo Galan, President of the Veneto Region

Mr Galan addressed the Assembly.

The President thanked Mr Galan.

3. Address by the Hon Doug Bereuter, President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly

The President addressed the Assembly.

4. Address by Mr Marcello Pera, Speaker of the Italian Senate

Mr Pera addressed the Assembly.

The President thanked Mr Pera.

5. Address by Ambassador Alessandro Minuto Rizzo, Deputy Secretary General of NATO, followed by a question and answer period

Ambassador Rizzo addressed the Assembly and answered questions from **Mr Erdem** (Turkey) and **Mrs Kalantzakou** (Greece).

The President thanked Ambassador Rizzo.

6. Address by General James L. Jones, Supreme Allied Commander, Europe (SACEUR), followed by a question and answer period

General Jones addressed the Assembly, and answered questions from **Mr Palombo** (Italy), **Lord Clark** (United Kingdom), **Mr KIRSTEINS** (Latvia), **Mr Jagland** (Norway), **Mr Møller** (Denmark), **Mr Batu** (Turkey) and **Mr Papantoniou** (Greece).

The President thanked General Jones.

7. Address by Mr Roberto Antonione, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs

Mr Antonione addressed the Assembly.

The President thanked Mr Antonione.

8. Presentation by Mr Peter Schieder, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

Mr Schieder addressed the Assembly.

The President thanked Mr Schieder.

9. Address by Mrs Elsa Papadimitriou, Vice-President of the Assembly of the Western European Union

Mrs Papadimitriou addressed the Assembly.

The President thanked Mrs Papadimitriou.

10. Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the Assembly

There being only one nomination for the post of **President of the Assembly, Mr Pierre Lellouche (France) was elected, by acclamation.**

Mr Lellouche addressed the Assembly.

The President thanked Mr Lellouche.

The President announced that six candidates had been nominated for five positions of Vice-President:

- Mr Banás (Slovakia)
- Mr Erdem (Turkey)
- Mr Forcieri (Italy)
- Mr Koenders (Netherlands)
- Mr Lupoi (Romania)
- Mr Nolin (Canada)

Being the only candidate for the Bureau from the delegations from North America, **Mr Pierre Claude Nolin (Canada) was elected a Vice-President of the Assembly, by acclamation**, in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 5 of the Rules of Procedure.

Concerning the four remaining positions to be fulfilled, **the President** recalled that, when the Assembly decided to create, in Bratislava, in May 2004, a fifth vice-presidency, the position was intended to facilitate representation from the new Member countries.

Consequently, at its meeting on 15 November 2004, the Standing Committee confirmed that the new post of Vice-President should be for a candidate from a new Member country. Therefore,

- There being three nominations for three positions, **Mr Vahit Erdem (Turkey), Mr Giovanni Lorenzo Forcieri (Italy) and Mr Bert Koenders (Netherlands) were elected by acclamation;**
- There being two nominations for the remaining post of Vice-President, Mr Jozef Banás (Slovakia) and Mr Mihail Lupoi (Romania), the Assembly would proceed to a secret ballot, in accordance with Article 5, paragraph 3 of the Rules of Procedure.

The tellers were Mr György Juhász (Slovakia), Mr Aureliu Leca (Romania), Mrs Diana Strofová (Slovakia) and Mr Marcu Tudor (Romania).

Members of the Assembly voted by secret ballot.

The President announced the ballot result:

Mr Jozef Banás (Slovakia) was elected Vice-President of the Assembly.

Mr Jozef Banás addressed the Assembly.

The President thanked Mr Banás.

11. Presentation of the Report of the Secretary General of the Assembly on the Priorities and Activities of the Assembly [206 SC 04 E rev. 1]

The Secretary General of the Assembly presented his report on the Priorities and Activities of the Assembly and the Provisional Agenda for 2005.

The President thanked the Secretary General.

12. Approval of the decision of the Standing Committee pursuant to Article 3, paragraph 1 of the Rules of Procedure, to grant Parliamentary Observer status to the Parliament of Kazakhstan

The **President** submitted the decision taken by the Standing Committee to the final approval of the Assembly.

The decision was agreed to.

- 13. Presentation on the report of Mr Lothar Ibrügger, Treasurer of the Assembly for 2003 [148 FIN 04 E rev. 1]. Approval of the Report, the Audited Financial Statements for 2003 [177 FIN 04 E] the Audited Provident Fund Financial Statement for 2003 [35 FIN 04 E] and Vote on the Draft Budget of the Assembly for 2005 [77 FIN 04 E]**

The Treasurer presented his Report, the Audited Financial Statements for 2003, the Audited Provident Fund Financial Statements for 2003 and the Draft Budget of the Assembly for 2005.

Mr van Gennip (Netherlands) spoke.

The Report of the Treasurer [148 FIN 04 E rev. 1] was adopted.

The Audited Financial Statement for 2003 [177 FIN 04 E] was adopted and the Audited Provident Fund Financial Statements for 2003 [35 FIN 04 E] were adopted.

The Draft Budget of the Assembly for 2005 [77 FIN 04 E] was agreed to.

The President thanked the Treasurer.

- 14. Vote on the draft amendment to the Rules of Procedure [231 SESA 04 E]**

The President submitted to the Assembly for final approval the draft amendment to the Rules of Procedure, adopted by the Standing Committee.

The amendment was agreed to.

- 15. Presentation by Mr Bert Koenders, General Rapporteur of the Political Committee; debate and Vote on the draft Resolution on *Reinvigorating the Transatlantic Security Dialogue* [192 PC 04 E rev. 1]**

Mr Koenders (Netherlands), General Rapporteur of the Political Committee, presented the draft Resolution on *Reinvigorating the Transatlantic Security Dialogue* [192 PC 04 E rev. 1].

Mr Marino (Italy) and **Mr Palombo** (Italy) spoke.

The **General Rapporteur** replied.

Paragraphs 1 to 15 were agreed to.

Sub-paragraphs 16.a. to 16.f. were agreed to.

Mr Nolin (Canada) moved Amendment No. 1, as follows:

“At the end of paragraph 16.g., replace the words “export controls ‘with teeth’”, by the words “legally binding export controls;”

The General Rapporteur supported the amendment.

Amendment No. 1 was agreed to.

Sub-paragraph 16.g., as amended, was agreed to.

Sub-paragraphs 16.h. to 16.j. were agreed to.

The draft resolution on *Reinvigorating the Transatlantic Security Dialogue*, as amended, was agreed to.

16. Presentation by Mr Pierre Claude Nolin, Chairman of the Science and Technology Committee; debate and Vote on the draft Resolution on *Confronting Nuclear Proliferation* [194 STC 04 E rev. 3]

Mr Nolin (Canada), Chairman of the Science and Technology Committee, presented the draft Resolution on *Confronting Nuclear Proliferation* [194 STC 04 E rev. 3].

Mr Gapes (United Kingdom) spoke.

Mr Nolin replied.

Paragraphs 1 to 5 were agreed to.

Mr Lellouche (France) moved Amendment No. 1, as follows:

Leave out paragraph 6 and insert the following new paragraph:

“**Remaining concerned** by the risks of proliferation presented by Iran’s nuclear programme and activities, nonetheless **welcomes** Iran’s recent announcement to suspend its uranium enrichment activities and **calls on** the Iranian Government to comply permanently with the relevant IAEA provisions;”

Mr Nolin supported the amendment.

Amendment No. 1 was agreed to.

Paragraphs 7 to 12 were agreed to.

The draft Resolution on *Confronting Nuclear Proliferation*, as amended, was agreed to.

17. **Presentation by Mr Pierre Lellouche, General Rapporteur of the Defence and Security Committee; debate and Vote on the draft Resolution on *NATO Operations in Afghanistan* [193 DSC 04 E rev. 1].**

Mr Lellouche (France), General Rapporteur of the Defence and Security Committee, presented the draft Resolution on *NATO Operations in Afghanistan* [193 DSC 04 E rev. 1].

The draft Resolution on *NATO Operations in Afghanistan* [193 DSC 04 E rev. 1] was adopted.

18. **Presentation by Mr Jos van Gennip, General Rapporteur of the Economics and Security Committee; debate and Vote on the draft Resolution on *Post-conflict Reconstruction and Development: The Challenge in Iraq and Afghanistan* [202 EC 04 E rev. 1].**

Mr van Gennip (Netherlands), General Rapporteur of the Economics and Security Committee, presented the draft Resolution on *Post-conflict Reconstruction and Development: The Challenge in Iraq and Afghanistan* [202 EC 04 E rev. 1].

Mr Cohen (United Kingdom), and **Mr Clapham** (United Kingdom) spoke.

The General Rapporteur replied.

The draft Resolution on *Post-conflict Reconstruction and Development: The Challenge in Iraq and Afghanistan* [202 EC 04 E rev. 1] was agreed to.

19. **Presentation by Alice Mahon, Chairperson of the Committee on the Civil Dimension of Security; debate and Vote on the draft resolution on *Trafficking in Children* [187 CC 04 E rev. 1].**

Mrs Alice Mahon (United Kingdom), Chairperson of the Committee on the Civil Dimension of Security, presented the draft Resolution on *Trafficking in Children* [187 CC 04 E rev. 1].

Mr Berzins (Latvia) spoke.

The draft Resolution on *Trafficking in Children* [187 CC 04 E rev. 1] was agreed to.

20. Closure of the Session

The President thanked the Italian hosts, local staff, security staff, the Secretariat, the United States House of Representatives staff, and his personal staff.

The Session was closed at 2.30 p.m.
