

Supplementary items debated in plenary, gender report presented



The supplementary items Unrestricted Access of Members of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly Attending Official OSCE Events and Other Activities, principally sponsored by Filippo Lombardi (Switzerland), and The Need to Equip Passenger Aircraft with Additional Technical Means for Monitoring Conditions on Board in Real Time, principally sponsored by Nikolay Kovalev (Russian Federation), were adopted in plenary session Monday.

Lombardi's resolution states that travel restrictions resulting from sanctions regimes have a negative impact on parliamentary diplomacy and calls on OSCE participating States to refrain from applying these restrictive measures on members of parliament. Kovalev's resolution emphasizes the vulnerability of passenger aircraft to terrorist attack and urges the adoption of on-board photographic and audio-visual monitoring equipment to prevent such attacks.

The plenary session also included a report by OSCE PA Special Representative on Gender Issues Hedy Fry (MP, Canada). Fry said that no country is moving fast enough when it comes to gender issues. She focused specifically on the issue of migration, noting that women and children make up 50 per cent of refugees, and when migrating they are particularly vulnerable. Fry urged the development of gender-sensitive strategies in dealing with the migration crisis.

Committees complete work and elect leaders for 2016-2017

The First Committee on Monday amended and adopted the items on the Possible Contributions of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly to Developing Effective Response to Crisis and Conflicts, principally sponsored by Doris Barnett (Germany); The Conflict in Georgia, principally sponsored by David Ushupashvili (Georgia); Reconsolidating European Security as a Common Project, principally sponsored by Filippo Lombardi (Switzerland); The Republic of Moldova, principally sponsored by Arta Dade (Albania); and Enhanced Co-operation and Confidence-Building Measures in the Baltic Sea Region, principally sponsored by Juergen Klimke (Germany).

The committee completed its work with the election of officers. Roger Wicker (United States) and Margareta Cedersfelt (Sweden) were re-elected Chair and Rapporteur, respectively, and Guglielmo Picchi (Italy) was elected Vice-Chair.

The Third Committee amended and adopted the supplementary items

Law Enforcement Co-ordination to Prevent Child Sexual Exploitation and Trafficking by Known Sex Offenders, principally sponsored by Chris Smith (United States); A Call for OSCE Action to Address Violence and Discrimination, principally sponsored by Ben Cardin (United States); The Rights of Refugees, principally sponsored by Michel Voisin (France); The Security Challenges of Migration, principally sponsored by Ivana Dobesova (Czech Republic); Integrating Gender-Based Analysis and Gender Mainstreaming in the Response to the Migrant and Refugee Crisis, principally sponsored by Hedy Fry (Canada).

The Third Committee concluded its work by electing a new Committee Chair Ignacio Sanchez Amor (Spain), and a new Rapporteur, Kyriakos Kyriakou-Hadjjiyanni (Cyprus). Vice-Chair Ivana Dobesova (Czech Republic) was re-elected by acclamation.

Side meetings focus on nuclear disarmament, PA working practices



Side meetings Monday focused on nuclear disarmament and enhancing the OSCE PA's working practices. The working lunch of Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament was

chaired by Hedy Fry (Canada) and featured remarks by OSCE PA Vice-President Christine Muttonen (Austria), Co-President of PNND Paul Dewar, Deputy Head of the Swiss OSCE PA Delegation Margaret Kiener Nellen, and PNND French Director Jean-Marie Collin. Co-sponsored by PNND and the Austrian, Canadian and Swiss delegations to the OSCE

PA, the event focused on prospects for global nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament.

The PA's Sub-Committee on Rules of Procedure and Working Practices, chaired by Peter Bowness (United Kingdom), heard a presentation by PA President Ilkka Kanerva, who discussed his recently published report, "Our common vision for the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly: Supporting OSCE principles and facilitating parliamentary dialogue."

Programme ~ Tuesday, 5 July

- 09.00 – 11.00 Elections for President and Vice-President
(King David IV – Hall 11)
- 09.00 – 12.00 Plenary Session (Queen Tamar Hall – Hall 11)
- 12.00 Adjournment immediately followed by a reception offered by the President of the OSCE PA