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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW
(VENICE COMMISSION)

93rd PLENARY SESSION
(Venice, 14-15 December 2012)

SYNOPSIS

The Commission

- Paid tribute to the late Mr Lluís Maria de Puig, former President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;
- Held an exchange of views with Ms Valgerður Bjarnadóttir, Member of Parliament and Chair of the Constitutional and Supervisory Committee of **Iceland** on the process of constitutional reform in that country and on the preparation of the Commission's opinion on the constitutional amendments;
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Ranko Krivokapić, Speaker of the Parliament of **Montenegro**, and adopted the opinion on draft constitutional amendments relating to the judiciary;
- Held an exchange of views with Ms Mona-Maria Pivniceru, Minister of Justice and with Mr Ion Gâlea, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of **Romania**, and adopted the opinion on the constitutional situation in Romania, prepared at the request of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe and of the Government of Romania and following its consideration by the Sub Commission on Democratic Institutions on 13 December 2012;
- Adopted the *amicus curiae* brief on the so-called "Lustration Law" of "**the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**";
- Held an exchange of views with Mr Mustapha Ben Jaafar, President of the National Constituent Assembly of **Tunisia**, on progress in the preparation of the new Constitution and of the future elections, as well as on co-operation with the Venice Commission notably on the electoral law;
- Adopted the joint opinion by the Venice Commission and the OSCE/ODIHR on amendments to the electoral law of the Republic of **Uzbekistan**;
- Adopted the report on "**Limitation of Mandates and Incompatibility of Political Functions**";
- Endorsed the compilation of Venice Commission opinions and studies concerning **Freedom of Association**;
- Was informed on follow-up to: the Opinion on the draft Law on Principles of the State Language Policy of Ukraine; the Joint Opinion on the draft Law on Election of People's Deputies of **Ukraine** and the Opinion on Legal Certainty and the Independence of the Judiciary in **Bosnia and Herzegovina**;
- Was informed on the preparation of an opinion on the Constitution of **Monaco** for the Plenary Session of June 2013, at the request by the Monitoring Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;
- Was informed on progress in the assistance to the authorities of **Azerbaijan** in the preparation of a law on defamation;
- Was informed on a request by the authorities of **Georgia** for an opinion on the draft Law on the Courts of General Jurisdiction;
- Was informed on recent constitutional developments in **Ireland, Libya and Ukraine**;
- Was informed on co-operation with **Morocco**;

- Was informed on constitutional developments in the Commission's Observer States, **Canada and the United States**;
- Held an exchange of views with representatives of the **Committee of Ministers**, the **Parliamentary Assembly** and the **Congress of Local and Regional Authorities** of the Council of Europe;
- Was informed on the results and conclusions of the **meeting between the Enlarged Bureau of the Venice Commission and the Presidential Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly**;
- Confirmed the dates of its 2013 sessions as follows: 8-9 March 2013; 14-15 June 2013; 11-12 October 2013; 6-7 December 2013.