



GENERAL COMMITTEE ON POLITICAL AND HOME AFFAIRS
REPORT – BUCHAREST, OCTOBER 27, 2009

After adopting the agenda, the Political Committee re-elected Ms. Laura Ravetto, MP (Italy) as Chairperson of the Committee and Mr. Valerii Kamchatnyi, MP (Ukraine) as Deputy Chairperson of the Committee.

The Committee discussed the role of ICT technologies in the relationship between parliaments and civil society: the experience of CEI countries.

The Chair illustrated the Italian case, with special reference to the new Chamber of Deputies' website, and stressed the increasing role played by the dissemination of information for parliamentary activities, which aim at strengthening the values of transparency, accountability, free access and participation.

The Italian website has 4 million pages, and, in the first nine months of the current year had 12.5 million "hits". It is the third most popular website in Italy after that of the Ministry of the Economy and the Ministry of Education.

The Chair also reported on the section devoted to individual MPs, on the newly introduced YouTube Channel as well as on the Chamber's own Satellite Television Channel

The Committee was then informed on the establishment of the **Technical Secretariat for Monitoring CEI Projects** which will be hosted within the website of the Italian Chamber of Deputies, under the authorization of the Speaker. This Secretariat will act as a focal point for CEI parliamentary activities with a view to further strengthening the parliamentary dimension of the organization. *(Ms Ravetto's presentation on the Technical Secretariat is annexed.)*

The debate developed with the contributions of representatives of all the delegations attending the Committee's meeting (Ukraine, Albania, Belarus, Bulgaria, Italy, Romania, Montenegro, the Czech Republic) illustrating their experiences with the use of ICT in parliaments.

All those who took the floor welcomed the Italian initiative.

(In the annex you will find the contribution by the Hungarian delegation)