

**Human Dimension Implementation Meeting**

**TOLERANCE AND NON DISCRIMINATION**

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF GREECE**

**- RIGHT OF REPLY- (Working Session 10)**

I would like to reassure the distinguished representative of the United States that Greece is continuing and enhancing inclusive policies and positive measures in favour of Greek citizens that are members of the Muslim minority, the only group of persons qualified as "minority".

These policies aim at furthering their integration in social, economic, political and other structures on both local and national level. Even in the current challenging economic situation, we continue to seek further ways and means to meet the needs of the members of the Muslim minority and enhance their progress, prosperity and well- being.

Concerning the Greek Roma I would like to clarify that they are covered by the framework of human and civil rights as the rest of the Greek population. In 2011, Greece launched the National Strategy Framework for Roma aiming at combating discrimination and social exclusion of the Roma by adopting or further developing a comprehensive approach to Roma integration in the areas of education, employment, health care and housing. Based upon the abovementioned Framework, relevant Regional Strategies have been adopted in the administrative Regions of Greece.