

OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting 2016

Right of Reply Exercised

Response of the Czech Republic to the Statements of the Delegation of the United States and

Ms. Gwendolyn Albert

Working Session 15: Tolerance and non-discrimination, including Roma and Sinti issues

Madame Moderator,

I would like to thank the Delegation of the United States and Ms. Gwendolyn Albert for their comments and recommendations.

Regarding the memorial site for the Roma Holocaust victims in Lety u Písku, as it was emphasized in our national statement, the Czech Government continues negotiations regarding the purchase of the site. The Government has confirmed its intention to purchase the site and resolve the situation as soon as possible. However the success of the negotiations depends also on the willingness of the other side to sell the farm.

Regarding the area of education, mentioned by Ms. Gwendolyn Albert, I would like to recall our national statement, emphasizing that the Czech Republic has recently adopted amendments to the Education Act. Some of the changes are already being implemented since 1 September 2016, the beginning of the school year in the Czech Republic, and should guarantee inclusive education for all children, including Roma.

Regarding the issue of the illegal sterilization of the Romani women and the possibility to redress, I would like to recall our reply that was delivered in the morning session, which should already be available on-line.

Thank you for your attention.