

**STATEMENT BY THE DELEGATION OF GREECE
- RIGHT OF REPLY-**

Working Session 15: Tolerance and non-discrimination II (continued), including Roma and Sinti issues, including implementation of the OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti (28.09.2016)

In reply to the intervention by an esteemed NGO Representative and some other remarks, I would like to clarify that the Greek Roma are covered by the framework of human and civil rights as the rest of the Greek population.

Furthermore, Greece in order to improve the situation of Roma and Sinti, launched in 2011 the National Roma Inclusion Strategy, aiming at combating discrimination and social exclusion by adopting or further developing a comprehensive approach to the inclusion of the Roma in the crucial areas of access to education, employment, health care and housing.

A Mechanism for monitoring and evaluating the implementation of National Roma Inclusion Strategy was developed at the end of 2015, with the aim to ensure the effective and efficient implementation of the National Roma Social Integration Strategy at local, regional and national level, as well as to evaluate the impact of Roma integration actions.

A database for the mapping of the Roma settlements, systematically updated by the local authorities, is in operation and will contribute to any housing interventions. Its aim is the assessment of the state of the settlements and the identification of specific needs of the Roma inhabitants.