



HOLY SEE

2009 HDIM, Warsaw

**Combating Racism, Xenophobia, and Discrimination, also focusing on
Intolerance and Discrimination of Christians and Members of other Religions**
(Working Session 10: 5 October 2009)

The Holy See recommends that:

- 1) The OSCE clearly acknowledge that the problem of intolerance and discrimination against Christians and member of other religions is one of the core concerns in the framework of its commitment to tolerance related issues, and that raising the awareness of this fact is critical to the progress we hope to achieve in this regard.
- 2) Participating States assess their legislation in view of fighting discrimination and intolerance against Christians (labour law, equality law, freedom of expression and assembly, laws related to religious communities, the right to conscientious objection, etc...).
- 3) Participating States and OSCE institutions build stronger relationships with representatives of Christian churches and NGOs working specifically in the field of intolerance and discrimination against Christians and members of other religions.
- 4) Participating States and NGO institutions pro-actively encourage the media not to spread prejudices against Christians and members of other religions.
- 5) The OSCE institutions devote more concerted attention to the issue of discrimination against Christians in their reports on human rights offenses, in particular on hate crimes and hate events, and further develop the TANDIS page with more specific information in this regard.
- 6) The OSCE organize a follow-up to the Roundtable on Discrimination against Christians held in March 2009 in order to deepen its outcome and promote the expansion of tolerance and respect among all persons towards Christians.
- 7) Participating States pay closer attention to the problem of discrimination against Christians, by collecting data and reporting cases of intolerance to the OSCE institutions in cooperation with Christian communities.