



**806th Plenary Meeting**

PC Journal No. 806, Agenda item 1

**DECISION No. 936  
AGENDA, TIMETABLE AND OTHER ORGANIZATIONAL  
MODALITIES OF THE 2010 HUMAN DIMENSION SEMINAR**

Warsaw, 17 to 19 May 2010

**Strengthening Judicial Independence and Public Access to Justice**

**I. Agenda**

1. Opening of the Seminar
2. Opening plenary: keynote addresses
3. Discussion in four working groups
4. Closing plenary: summing up and closing of the Seminar

**II. Timetable and other organizational modalities**

1. The Seminar will open on Monday, 17 May 2010, at 10 a.m. It will close on Wednesday, 19 May 2010, at 6 p.m.
2. All plenary sessions and working group sessions will be open to all participants.
3. The closing plenary session, scheduled for the afternoon of 19 May 2010, will focus on practical suggestions and recommendations for addressing the issues discussed during the working group sessions.
4. The plenary and working group sessions will take place in accordance with the work programme below.
5. A representative of the ODIHR will chair the plenary sessions.
6. The Rules of Procedure of the OSCE and the modalities for OSCE meetings on human dimension issues (Permanent Council Decision No. 476) will be followed, *mutatis*

*mutandis*, at the Seminar. Also, the guidelines for organizing OSCE meetings (Permanent Council Decision No. 762) will be taken into account.

7. The discussions during the plenary and working group sessions will be interpreted from and into the six working languages of the OSCE.

#### **Working Group I: Judicial Administration with a Special Focus on Judicial Councils**

- Composition of judicial councils, appointment and dismissal of members
- Competencies of judicial councils in judicial administration
- Councils' powers and mechanisms to protect judges from improper influences
- Role of other bodies of judicial self-governance in judicial administration
- Role of the executive and legislature in judicial administration
- Role of court presidents in judicial administration

#### **Working Group II: Selection of Judges: Criteria and Procedure**

- Selection criteria to ensure selection of the most qualified candidates for the judicial profession
- Written examinations and personal interviews, transparent evaluation systems
- Selection procedure, its fairness and transparency for candidates and the public
- Appointment of judges and powers of the appointing authority

#### **Working Group III: Accountability of Judges**

- Judges' accountability and professionalism: discipline and ethical standards
- Immunity for judges, criminal offences applicable to adjudication
- Balancing accountability with the need for independence in adjudication
- Outcome of appeals and judges' accountability: consequences of reversed judgments for the judges

#### **Working Group IV: Public Access to Justice**

- Best practices in ensuring access to justice
- Best practices in ensuring access to courts in rural and remote areas
- Access to legal counsel in civil, administrative and criminal cases

- Legal aid in non-criminal cases: models and mechanisms to facilitate better access to justice
- Enforcement of judgments: challenges and solutions

### **Work programme**

Working hours: 10 a.m.–1 p.m.  
3–6 p.m.

	<b>Monday 17 May 2010</b>	<b>Tuesday 18 May 2010</b>	<b>Wednesday 19 May 2010</b>
<b>Morning</b>	Opening plenary	Working group II	Working group IV
<b>Afternoon</b>	Working group I	Working group III	Closing plenary