

Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting

IMPLEMENTATION OF THE ACTION PLAN ON IMPROVING THE SITUATION OF ROMA AND SINTI (dedicated to the 10th Anniversary of the adoption of the 2003 OSCE Action Plan)

7-8 November 2013 Hofburg, Vienna

General Guidelines

The modalities of the meeting are set out in accordance with the decision of the Permanent Council (PC.DEC/476, 23 May 2002)

1. Aim of the Meeting

This Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting (SHDM) will present ODIHR's 2013 Status Report on the Implementation of the Roma and Sinti 2003 OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti and its key findings. The SHDM will commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Action Plan and take stock of its implementation. Participants will be given opportunity to discuss the lessons learned from realized polices or initiatives and explore the further measures that are needed to improve the situation of Roma and Sinti and to combat persistent forms of racism and discrimination against them. Participants will be encouraged to offer recommendations on how to address more efficiently the existing gaps.

The meeting will address the topic through the following three sessions:

- ODIHR 2013 Status Report on the Implementation of the Roma and Sinti OSCE Action Plan: key findings and lessons learned;
- Ten years of implementing the Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti: key trends, developments and challenges;
- Integration of Roma and Sinti with a particular focus on women, youth and children: best practices and ways forward.

Recommendations may be addressed to participating States, OSCE at large, OSCE institutions, including the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, OSCE field operations, other inter-governmental or non-governmental organizations, as well as civil society actors in OSCE participating States. Additional information relevant to the SHDM can be found on ODIHR website at http://www.osce.org/odihr/106276.

2. Participation

Representatives of OSCE participating States, OSCE Institutions, and OSCE field operations, representatives of international governmental organizations, representatives of non-governmental organizations, and other civil society actors will participate in the SHDM. The Partners for Co-operation are invited to attend and contribute with respect to their co-operation and links with the OSCE in the field.

3. Guidelines for the Debates

The intention is to develop a free-flowing discussion based on the keynote speeches, introductory remarks, background information and written statements circulated in advance or during the SHDM. To this end, formal interventions in the form of prepared statements are not envisaged in the course of the SHDM and are discouraged. Prepared statements, background documentation, comments or written materials may be submitted in advance for circulation by the Documents Distribution Centre.

4. Organization

On-line registration for all participants is available at http://meetings.odihr.pl. Participants are requested to register by Wednesday, 23 October 2013. Registered participants will be able to collect their badges as of Thursday, 7 November 2013 from 09:00 in the main entrance hall of the Hofburg Congress Centre. The registration will also be available online after the deadline and during the Meeting on the spot.

In case of any questions, please contact:

Substantive content matters: Ms. Mirjam Karoly at Mirjam.Karoly@odihr.pl or +48 22 5200 789

Organizational matters: Ms. Saida Manieva at <u>Saida.Manieva@odihr.pl</u> or + 48 22 52 00 657 Registration of participants: Ms. Anna Sierant at <u>Anna.Sierant@odihr.pl</u> or +48 22 5200 627 Organization of side events: Mr. Ireneusz Stepinski at <u>Ireneusz.Stepinski@odihr.pl</u> or +48 22 5200 658.

5. Other

Side events may be held over the course of two days during the SHDM. Additional information on the content and objectives of any side event, as well as timing and duration will be available on the SHDM website.