

SUPPLEMENTARY HUMAN DIMENSION MEETING

**HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS
AND NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS:
LEGISLATIVE, STATE AND NON-STATE ASPECTS**

**30-31 March 2006
HOFBURG, VIENNA**

AGENDA

- Day 1** **30 March 2006**
- 15.00 - 16.00 **OPENING SESSION:**
- Opening remarks:*
Ambassador Frank Geerkens, Head of the OSCE Chairmanship Unit,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Belgium
Ambassador Christian Strohal, Director of the
OSCE/ODIHR
- Keynote speech:*
Ms. Hina Jilani, Special Representative of the UN
Secretary General on the situation of human rights
defenders
- Technical information* by the OSCE/ODIHR
- 16.00 - 18.00 **Session I: Human rights defenders in the OSCE region:
challenges, obstacles and opportunities**
- Introductory speeches:*
Ms. Natasha Kandic, Director of the International Humanitarian
Law Centre, Belgrade
Mr. Sergei Kovalev, Chairperson of the International Human
Rights and Humanitarian Society “Memorial”, Moscow
- Moderator:* **Mr. Neil Hicks**, Director of the International
Programs and Human Rights Defenders Program, Human Rights
First
- Discussion*
- 18:00 **Reception offered by the OSCE Chairmanship**

Day 2

31 March 2006

09.00 - 12.00

Session II: Synergies and co-operation between state organs, national human rights institutions and human rights defenders

Introductory speeches:

Ms. Albina Radzevičiūtė, Seimas Ombudsman, Lithuania

Ms. Mary Lawlor, Director, Front Line - the International Foundation for the Protection of Human Rights Defenders

Mr. Michel Forst, Acting Chairperson of the Coordinating Committee of European National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights

Moderator: Mr. Neil Hicks

Discussion

12.00 - 14.00

Lunch

14.00 - 16.00

Session III: Human rights defenders: pertinent legislation and implementation of OSCE commitments

Introductory speeches:

Mr. Antoine Bernard, Executive Director of the International Federation for Human Rights, Paris

Mr. Maxim Anmeghichean, Programmes Director of the European Region of the International Lesbian and Gay Association

Moderator: Mr. Neil Hicks

Discussion

16.00 - 16.30

Break

16.30 - 17.30

CLOSING PLENARY:

Report by the Working Sessions Moderator

Comments from the floor

Closing remarks:

Ambassador Bertrand de Crombrugghe, Chairman of the OSCE Permanent Council

Ambassador Christian Strohal, Director of the OSCE/ODIHR

17:30

Close of Day 2