



**SUPPLEMENTARY
M E E T I N G**

**SUPPLEMENTARY HUMAN DIMENSION MEETING
on the
Prevention of Torture**

6-7 November, 2003
Hofburg, Vienna

The Modalities for this meeting are set out in accordance with the decisions of the Permanent Council (PC.DEC/241, PC.DEC/428 and PC.DEC/476).

I. AIM OF THE MEETING

The OSCE participating States have strongly condemned all forms of torture as one of the most flagrant violations of human rights and human dignity (Budapest 1994) and have committed themselves to the eradication of torture and cruel, inhuman and degrading treatment or punishment throughout the OSCE region (Istanbul 1999).

To achieve this goal, the OSCE participating States have committed themselves to take effective legislative, administrative, judicial and other measures to prevent and punish torture and ill treatment (Vienna 1989).

The aim of this meeting is to discuss the legislative, administrative, judicial and other measures that OSCE participating States have taken to prevent and punish torture. The meeting will focus on the measures that have been taken by OSCE participating States under three main headings:

- The provision of procedural safeguards during detention
- The prohibition on the use of evidence obtained by torture
- The effective investigation and prosecution of acts of torture

The meeting will seek to assess the progress made by participating States and to identify recommendations based upon best practices across the OSCE region. Recommendations may be addressed to the OSCE participating States, OSCE institutions, including the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights and OSCE field operations.

II. LANGUAGES

Translation will be provided in the six working languages of the OSCE.

III. PARTICIPATION

Representatives of the OSCE participating States, in particular State authorities, members of the legal profession, OSCE institutions and field activities; representatives of international organizations and representatives of non-governmental organizations will participate in the Meeting.

The 'partners for co-operation' and the 'Mediterranean partners for co-operation' are invited to attend and to contribute with respect to their co-operation and links with the OSCE in the field.

The intention is to develop a free-flowing discussion out of which recommendations to the OSCE and its participating States may emerge. To this end, **formal interventions in the form of prepared statements are not envisaged in the course of the meeting and are discouraged.** However, prepared statements or other written materials may be submitted in advance for circulation by the Documents Distribution Centre.

IV. ORGANIZATION

Advance registration will be available on Thursday, 6 November from 10.00 - 15.00 in the Hofburg Palace, in the main entrance hall. In addition, registration during the meeting is available in the same place.