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**Statement by *Suzette Bronkhorst*, Secretary-General of the International Network Against Cyber Hate (INACH), during the Human Dimension sessions of the 2010 OSCE Review**

**Conference, Warsaw, Poland;**

**WEDNESDAY, 6 OCTOBER - 15:00-18:00 WORKING SESSION 8:**

**Tolerance and Non- Discrimination II including the Promotion of gender balance and implementation of the OSCE Action, Plan and relevant commitments, Preventing and responding to hate crimes in the OSCE area & Combating intolerance and discrimination**

Distinguished delegates, ladies and gentlemen,

The history of the OSCE and Cyber Hate started in 2002 when the International Network against Cyber Hate, first introduced the subject at the Human Dimension Implementation meeting here in Warsaw. To our great pleasure our advocacy led in 2004 to the High-level OSCE conference in Paris on the relationship between online incitement and hate crimes, hosted by France.

That same year the 12th ministerial council in Sofia decided to ***follow up the work of the Paris conference and*** decided, e.g., that Participating States should investigate and where applicable, fully prosecute violence and criminal threats of violence incited through the internet.

So far so good. Unfortunately those and many other commitments on cyber hate were hardly acted upon, ODIHR/TnD did great work on supporting NGOs that wanted to work on cyberhate and facilitated, hosted an INACH workshop on training Eastern-European NGOs in dealing with Cyberhate and supplied one year of funding for an Eastern-European INACH member.

From 2004 on, every year at the HDIM, INACH asked for attention for a follow-up to the Paris conference and for making good on the 2004 commitments.

Only in 2010 the OSCE organised two expert meetings as follow up, one in Warsaw and one in Amsterdam. Recommendations resulting from those meetings were mostly repetitions of earlier material. These were sent to the High Level conference on Tolerance issues in Astana, which conference again produced a long list of recommendations. Again, most recommendations were identical to, or adaptations of earlier recommendations.

During the last 8 years, the debate on cyber hate has yielded a lot of OSCE decisions and commitments and recommendations, But very little was actually done while there is a lot possible, especially in the field of education and prevention.

It seems that the problem of Cyber Hate has dropped off the radar screens with some. To get re-acquainted with it we invite you all to come this evening's side-event, **Hate Speech & Freedom of Expression: two sides of the internet**, organized by the Foreign & Commonwealth Office of United Kingdom, the Permanent Mission of the Netherlands to the OSCE and the International Network Against Cyber Hate, 6 pm, in meeting room 3.

As we think that the issue of countering Cyber Hate has become instrumental to dealing with extremism, Hate Crime and discrimination we recommend the OSCE Participating States to:

- Act upon the decisions of the 2004 12th ministerial council in Sofia and the recommendations of the 2010 High Level conference on Tolerance issues in Astana
- Integrate a “dealing with cyber hate” component with all tolerance training programs

Thank you.