

COMPILATION OF WRITTEN RECOMMENDATIONS

(Covering Working Sessions 16-17)

This compilation contains recommendations submitted to the HDIM Documentation Centre in accordance with the established procedure. The compilation is organized by Working Sessions and by what was submitted by Delegations / International Organizations / NGOs to participating States and, separately, to OSCE Institutions / Field Missions or other International Organizations. Recommendations are compiled in original language.

Please note that the deadline for submitting Recommendations to the HDIM Documentation Centre is Thursday, 8 October 2009.

Thursday, 8 October 2009

**WORKING SESSION 16: Discussion of human dimension activities
(with special emphasis on project work)**

Recommendations to International Organizations:

**The Russian Federation
to the OSCE/ODIHR:**

подход к наблюдению за выборами во всех государствах – участниках ОБСЕ должен быть одинаковым и базироваться на универсальных принципах:

- уважение прав суверенных государств,
- невмешательство во внутренние дела,
- беспристрастность,
- открытость всех стадий наблюдения,
- оказание действенной помощи в организации избирательного процесса.

Поэтому могу предложить БДИПЧ ОБСЕ использовать Декларацию (о принципах международного наблюдения за выборами и референдумами в государствах СНГ) в качестве основы для подготовки с участием экспертов всех заинтересованных структур ОБСЕ и государств – участников современного актуализированного документа по международному наблюдению за выборами в рамках ОБСЕ.

Thursday, 8 October 2009

WORKING SESSION 17: Democratic Institutions

Recommendations to participating States:

Council of Europe

- Firstly the appropriateness of specific legal requirements relating to internal governance need to be reviewed with a view to lightening the burden placed on NGOs and removing any scope for imposing requirements at registration or grant of legal personality which are not prescribed in the law.
- Secondly inappropriate obstacles to the full participation of children and non-citizens in the decision-making of NGOs ought to be removed.
- Thirdly restrictions on the freedom of NGOs to adapt their internal rules and structures and to establish and close branches without discrete legal personality should be removed.
- Fourthly the basis for public authorities to challenge the decision-making of NGOs should be limited to circumstances in which there is a legitimate public interest to be protected.
- Fifthly public officials should have no general authority to attend the meetings of NGO decision-making bodies without an invitation.
- Sixthly there is a need to ensure that the scope of obligations relating to the auditing of accounts and reporting on activities is clarified and does not place an undue burden on NGOs.
- Seventhly public authorities should not use their powers to grant or withdraw funding or the participation of officials in meetings of NGO decision-making bodies to exercise undue influence on the decisions being taken by NGOs.
- Finally, the organs of the Council of Europe need to make stronger efforts to raise awareness throughout Europe of Recommendation CM/Rec(2007) 14, particularly through promoting its widespread dissemination and supporting training activities for NGOs and public authorities.

Almaty Confederation of NGOs ‘Ariptes’

To the Republic of Kazakhstan:

- Продолжать работать в области предоставления гарантированного участия женщин в политической жизни страны на уровне принятия решений. Добиваться, чтобы все политические партии при выставлении кандидатов в депутаты на очередных выборах предоставляли список кандидатов женщин не менее 30 %, что рекомендовано в Стратегии гендерного равенства Казахстана.

Islamic Renaissance Party of Tajikistan

To the Republic of Tajikistan:

1. – принятию парламентом республике^у внесенный сокращенный вариант поправок и изменений в Закон о выборах МО РТ.
2. – проводить в 2010 году прозрачные, свободные и демократичные выборы:

Youth Center for Democratic Initiatives

- Provide security and protection measures to the domestic observation missions, thus granting them a special status during the whole period of elections. That would then push OSCE states adopt regulatory changes, such as providing immunity from prosecution for fulfilling their observation duties or other measures guaranteeing the security of observers and their access to justice.
- Establish ongoing communication between the domestic and international observation missions and local civil society and human rights groups, as well as require electoral reports and other statements on the progress of democratization be confirmed by independent missions.
- Better assess the level of recruited interpreters and assistants in terms of their educational background, political and legal awareness, and knowledge of the election code, to ultimately select more qualified interpreters and assistants, while not forgetting about the professionalism of foreign observers.
- Conduct training sessions on OSCE/ODIHR observation standards, OSCE commitments, and OSCE/ODIHR code of conduct for observers, interpreters and assistants. Also, have the local observation groups provide orientation for the OSCE/ODIHR long-term and short-term observers to eliminate their unawareness of local issues:

Western Thrace Minority University Graduates Association

We call upon the Greek State:

- To take all necessary steps in line with the international standards in order to ensure the effective participation of the Turkish Minority of Western Thrace to the political life in Greece.
- To withdraw the 3% electoral threshold for an independent candidate to be elected and abolish the division of local districts into enlarged electoral districts which are now implemented in the prefectures of Rhodopi and Xanthi.

Canada

- Continued cooperation on elections between ODIHR and the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly is essential. We have seen some progress on this in recent months. Speaking with one voice on election reports helps reinforce the credibility and impact of the OSCE.
- There is a need to address the appropriate staffing of ODIHR to ensure they can provide strong expert support to OSCE Field Missions. This is a shared responsibility of both ODIHR and participating States (in their secondments to the OSCE).

Recommendations to International Organizations:

Almaty Confederation of NGOs ‘Ariptes’

To the OSCE:

- ОБСЕ продолжать обучение специалистов в области мониторинга и наблюдателей, как международных, так и внутренних.

To the OSCE/ODIHR:

- БДИПЧ/ОБСЕ помогать с литературой по демократическим выборам странам центрально-азиатского региона