



**Delegation of Greece**

Warsaw, 12 May 2006

**THE HUMAN DIMENSION SEMINAR**  
**“Upholding the Rule of Law and**  
**Due Process in Criminal Justice Systems”**  
Warsaw, 10-12 May 2006

**“Recommendations proposed by the Hellenic Delegation**  
**after listening to the interventions in the Seminar”**

- Already from the first day of this Seminar, it became clear that whatever measure is taken to safeguard the legal framework for Upholding the Rule of Law and due process in criminal justice systems, it may prove meaningless if the penal process exceeds a certain time-frame and limits. Therefore, OSCE Participating States should be encouraged to introduce amendments in their Penal Procedures aiming at limiting the duration of various stages of the penal procedure.
- They should also be encouraged to provide for the compensation of the citizen should a reasonable, stipulated in the relevant legislation, duration of the trial be exceeded.
- Furthermore, the assistance of an accused person in a criminal case should be guaranteed and provided at all stages, that is the pre-trial, the preliminary investigations and, of course, during the court proceedings.
- Defence lawyers should be provided the necessary conditions and enjoy respect and independence in the exercise of their functions during detention, trial and incarceration periods alike.
- Measures, e.g. creation of a fund, should be taken to cover the trial cost of those who cannot afford it.
- All accused persons should be protected in an holistic manner and be supported by legislative, administrative and social means.