

SCHEDULE OF SIDE EVENTS

To take place during the:

SUPPLEMENTARY HUMAN DIMENSION MEETING ON: DEMOCRATIC LAWMAKING

The Helsinki Document of 1992 (Chapter IV) called for increasing the openness of OSCE activities and expanding the role of NGOs. In particular, in paragraph (15) of Chapter IV the participating States decided to facilitate during CSCE meetings informal discussion meetings between representatives of participating States and of NGOs, and to provide encouragement to NGOs organizing seminars on CSCE-related issues. In line with this decision, NGOs, governments, and other participants are encouraged to organize side meetings on relevant issues of their choice.

The opinions and information shared during the side event convened by participants do not necessarily reflect the policy of the OSCE/ ODIHR.

Friday, 07 November
<p><i>Title: Support to Democratic Lawmaking and Better Regulation</i></p> <p><i>Convenor: OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje</i></p> <p><i>Time: 12.00 – 13.30</i></p> <p><i>Venue: Bibliotheksaal</i></p> <p><i>Language: English</i></p>

OVERVIEW OF SIDE EVENTS

As submitted by the organizers

06-07 November 2008

Hofburg, Vienna

Friday, 07 November

Title: Support to Democratic Lawmaking and Better Regulation
Convenor: OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje
Time: 12.00 – 13.30
Venue: Bibliotheksaal
Language: English

Summary: At the request of the Macedonian Government, the OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje and the ODIHR undertook in 2007 an assessment of the legislative system. This initiative was supported by the Ministry of Justice and the General Secretariat of the Government as part of domestic efforts towards improving the efficiency of the legislative process. This was seen as crucial in a context of the EU accession process. The assessment report was eventually released in January 2008. It contains recommendations pointing to areas where progress is needed. Subsequently, the Minister of Justice has accepted the OSCE offer of assistance and co-operation in implementing these recommendations. A Board was established, which members have been appointed by various governmental bodies and the Macedonian Assembly. They will attend the side event where a presentation of the recommendations contained in the report will be made by the ODIHR expert, Professor Alan Page, who led the team who drafted it. Discussions will ensue on the implementation of these recommendations, and participants in the side event are welcome to share their thoughts and views on the various aspects addressed by the report and its recommendations.

Refreshments will be provided