

Statement

in 2009, Kosovo Government approved Governmental Action Plan of the Strategy for the Integration of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian Communities in the Republic of Kosovo 2009-2015 ("the Strategy"); Strategy covers different issues related to the needs of the minority groups including majority of the topics that are raised in this OSCE HDIM.

Taking in regard:

- Weak and inefficient implementation of the Action Plan of the Strategy, the lack of clear indicators and clear timeframes, of responsible entities or institutions, and of lessons learnt during the implementation of this document;
- Recent adoption of the very ambitious, "Prioritization document" made by Kosovo Government / Office for Good Governance (OGG), that is unclear, not specific, not concrete, and that is not feasible and implementable by the end of 2015;
- Continuous lack of coordination and interaction between central-level and local-level institutions, and the lack of action or quality outputs by the mechanisms foreseen;
- Insufficient inclusion of civil society in the coordination and implementation of relevant activities of the Action Plan;
- Lack of solid municipal policies for inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians, along with lack of coordination at the local level;
- Need for government commitments for support of the inclusion of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptians that should exist after the end of 2015, when the current Action Plan expires;
- Current mechanisms for coordination, monitoring and reporting do not have any accountability for the failure to report on implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan; and
- Developments for Roma and sinti inclusion developed within the European Union, and in particular the EU framework for National Strategies and the [EU Council of Ministers recommendation of 9 December 2013 on effective Roma integration measures in the Member States](#).

Recommendations

On Implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan 2009-2015

- An updated "**needs assessment**" of the three communities should be prepared
- Communication with, and support to municipal authorities to implement activities aiming to improve the situation of Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian communities should be immediately enhanced.
- The adoption and the implementation of Local Action Plans should be supported

- To ensure transparency and increased coordination between institutions and civil society
- The process for drafting a new, *post-2015* Kosovo Policy for inclusion of the communities should be immediately initiated and the focus of the new policy document should refer to the key areas identified in the [Council Recommendation of 9 December 2013 on effective Roma integration measures in the Member States.](#)
- The final draft of the new Kosovo policy, with a precisely set budget, should be submitted to the Kosovo Assembly for adoption
- A Permanent Office in charge of the co-ordination of the implementation of the new policy document and legal framework, should be established in the Office of the Prime Minister
- Municipal Mayors should be responsible of – and accountable for – the implementation of the central and local policies, at the local level
- Each municipality should establish a permanent Municipal Working Group for implementation of the LAP, involving NGOs, and communities' representatives.
- New policies should be long term, up to 2020