



Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting

DEMOCRATIC ELECTIONS AND ELECTION OBSERVATION

**12-13 July 2012
Hofburg, Vienna**

To civil society

Please find attached the agenda and general guidelines relating to the upcoming OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Democratic Elections and Election Observation. This Meeting will take place in Vienna from 12th to 13th of July 2012.

Additional information relevant to this Meeting can be found on ODIHR website at <http://www.osce.org/odihr>.

This Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting (SHDM) will provide a platform to discuss best practices in follow-up and implementation of the OSCE commitments on democratic elections and explore strategies and key issues in election observation. The SHDM will also address such election-related matters as universal and equal suffrage rights, legal framework, media, campaign financing, and gender.

The meeting will address the topic through the following three sessions:

- Democratic elections in context of OSCE election-related commitments and their implementation;
- Election observation and the electoral cycle: before, during and after election day;
- Follow-up to OSCE/ODIHR mission report recommendations and engagement with participating States.

Civil society representatives whose activities directly relate to the topic of the Meeting and wish to attend are requested to register on-line at <http://meetings.odihr.pl> by **Wednesday, 27 June 2012**. Civil society representatives are invited to forward this information to other relevant actors in the given field.

Please note that registered participants can pick up their badges for the meeting venue on Thursday, 12 July 2012 from 9.00 at the Hofburg Congress Centre in the main entrance hall. Participants may display information materials on the tables in the lobby of the main meeting room. They may also distribute documents during the Meeting by giving one copy of each document (maximum 3 pages in length) to staff of the Document Distribution Centre. Participants are encouraged to intervene during the Working Sessions while limiting their statements to the specific issues at hand thereby contributing to a genuine discussion.

Unfortunately, the OSCE/ODIHR is not in a position to provide any financial assistance to participate in the Meeting. For your convenience, please find attached a list of hotels in Vienna. Participants are kindly requested to make their own hotel arrangements.

For more information please contact:

Substantive content issues: Ms. Nicola Schmidt, at Nicola.Schmidt@odihr.pl or +48 22 52 00 672.

Organizational matters: Ms. Saida Manieva at email Saida.Manieva@odihr.pl or at tel.: +48 22 52 00 657.

Registration: Ms. Anna Sierant at email Anna.Sierant@odihr.pl or at tel.: +48 22 52 00 627.

Side events organization: Mr. Ireneusz Stepinski at email Ireneusz.Stepinski@odihr.pl or at tel: +48 22 52 00 658.