



Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting

Promotion of Gender Balance and Participation of Women in Political and Public Life

6-7 May 2010

Hofburg, Vienna

To civil society

Please find attached the agenda and general guidelines relating to the upcoming OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Promotion of Gender Balance and Participation of Women in Political and Public Life. This Meeting will take place in Vienna from 6 to 7 May 2010.

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

The meeting will address issues pertaining to gender balance and participation of women in political and public life by means of the following three areas:

- Promoting gender equality in the OSCE region – progress achieved and challenges ahead
- Empowering women as political party members and as elected officials
- Ensuring gender balance and women's effective participation in public life

The Meeting will provide an important forum for dialogue and exchange of views and good practices among all key stakeholders involved in the work to promote gender balance and participation of women in political and public life. The conference will gather government officials, OSCE delegations, civil society, regional and international organizations, and is therefore seen as an important forum for discussing cross-cutting issues.

Civil society representatives whose activities directly relate to the topic of the Meeting and wish to attend are requested to register by **Wednesday, 21 April 2010**. We encourage participants to register on-line at <http://meetings.odihr.pl> if at all possible.

Civil society representatives are invited to forward this information to other relevant actors in the given field.

Please note that participants can pick up their passes for the meeting venue in advance on Thursday, 6 May 2010 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 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 further information please contact Ms. Anna Sierant at Anna.Sierant@odihr.pl or at tel.: +48 22 52 00 627 or Ms. Jolanta Cichocka at Jolanta.Cichocka@odihr.pl or at tel: +48 22 52 00 733.