



## **Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting**

**NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS**  
**(ombuds institutions, commissions, institutes and other mechanisms)**  
**14-15 April, 2011**  
**Hofburg, Vienna**

### **General Guidelines**

**The modalities of the meeting are set out in accordance with the decision of the Permanent Council (PC.DEC/476, 23 May 2002)**

#### **1. Aim of the Meeting**

The Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on National Human Rights Institutions (ombuds institutions, commissions, institutes and other mechanisms) will provide an opportunity for dialogue and exchange of views between participating States, National Human Rights Institutions (NHRIs) and civil society actors on the existing good practices and challenges NHRIs face in exercising the mandate effectively and efficiently.

The meeting will address the topic of National Human Rights Institutions through the following three sessions:

- National Human Rights Institutions - their role in promoting and protecting human rights
- National Human Rights Institutions and governments
- National Human Rights Institutions and civil society

Recommendations may be addressed to the participating States, the OSCE as a whole, OSCE institutions including the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights, OSCE field operations, other inter-governmental or nongovernmental organizations, as well as civil society actors and National Human Rights Institutions in OSCE participating States.

#### **2. Participation**

Representatives of OSCE participating States, OSCE Institutions, and OSCE field operations, representatives of international governmental organizations, representatives of non-governmental organizations and other civil society actors will participate in the Meeting. The Partners for Co-operation are invited to attend and contribute with respect to their co-operation and links with the OSCE in the field.

#### **3. Guidelines for the Debates**

The intention is to develop a free-flowing discussion based on the keynote speeches, introductory remarks, background information and written statements circulated in advance or during the Meeting. To this end, formal interventions in the form of prepared statements are not envisaged in the course of the Meeting and are discouraged. Prepared statements, background documentation, comments or written materials may be submitted in advance for circulation by the Documents Distribution Centre.

#### **4. Organization**

On-line registration for all participants is available at <http://meetings.odihr.pl>. Participants wishing to attend are requested to register by Thursday, 30 March 2011, 18:00. Please note that the online registration system will for technical reasons be unavailable from 30 March, 19:00, until 4 April, 8:00.

In case of any questions, please contact Ms. Anna Sierant at [Anna.Sierant@odihr.pl](mailto:Anna.Sierant@odihr.pl) or at tel.: +48 22 52 00 627 or Mr. Ireneusz Stepinski at [Ireneusz.Stepinski@odihr.pl](mailto:Ireneusz.Stepinski@odihr.pl) or at tel.: +48 22 52 00 658. Advance registration will be available on 14 April 2011, from 9.00 in the Hofburg Congress Centre, in the main entrance hall. Registration during the Meeting is available at the same place.

#### **5. Other**

Side events may be held in the course of the two days. Additional information on the content and objectives of any side event, as well as timing and duration will be made available shortly on the website of the Meeting.