

DELEGATION OF TURKEY

9 October 2006

HUMAN DIMENSION IMPLEMENTATION MEETING (Warsaw, 2-13 October 2006)

Working Session 11: Discussion of Human Dimension Activities

STATEMENT

We have aligned ourselves with the EU statement. This national statement aims to highlight some additional areas of priority for my country in terms of human dimension activities.

We generally support ODIHR's program priorities and project activities that are envisaged for 2007. In the formulation of program priorities, three concepts may require further strengthening in all ODIHR activities: these are equality, participation and civil society development.

The principle of **equality**, more precisely promotion of equality before the law and equal opportunities for all citizens and legal residents, is particularly important in ODIHR's legislative review activities. This may be coined as "*mainstreaming non-discrimination*" in all ODIHR activities.

In terms of democratization, human rights and tolerance activities, we hope to see more focus on **equal participation for all**, including non-electoral participation, to promote inclusive and pluralistic societies.

Civil society capacity development particularly in monitoring implementation of human rights and reporting them as well as advocacy campaigns vis-à-vis the decision-makers and the media should be a clear priority in all fields but in particular in the field of tolerance and non-discrimination. Coalition-building among NGOs should be encouraged and facilitated through roundtables on specific topics organized by the ODIHR.

The **promotion and protection of the rights of migrants**, enshrined in numerous OSCE commitments, is an area where ODIHR could step up its activity, with a clear focus on developments in west of Vienna. Labor exploitation is an area where trafficking and migration units can work together within the human rights context.

Another area where the ODIHR can and should be more active is **integration**. In the Maastricht Ministerial Council Decision on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination, participating States have committed themselves to "*facilitate the integration of*

migrant workers into the societies in which they are legally residing". They also *"called on the ODIHR to reinforce its activities in this respect"*. This is a cross-dimensional area where ODIHR can strengthen cooperation among its own Departments as well as with other institutions, in particular with the High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM). We commend the HCNM for his recent focus on the integration policies regarding "new minorities" in established democracies and hope that his report on the matter recently presented to the Parliamentary Assembly receives the attention of both Governments and civil society.

Regarding human rights and counterterrorism, we support ODIHR's initiative to promote a **multidisciplinary approach to the prevention of radicalization and violent extremism**. This is a complex issue which pertains to diverse practices by the States that in most cases has room for improvement.

In the **Tolerance and Non-discrimination Program**, we would like to see various forms of intolerance and discrimination receiving *equal attention and treatment* both in terms of staffing arrangements and prioritization. We welcome the organization of the second Muslim NGO roundtable in May in Warsaw and hope to receive its full report soon. The program's focus on data collection on hate crimes, law enforcement and education enjoys our support. Perhaps more work needs to be done in the field of legislative review with a view to assisting participating States to enact appropriate *non-discrimination legislation*. We support a more structured *early-warning function* for ODIHR in the prevention of hate-motivated conflicts and crises through intensifying its efforts to closely follow and report on racist, xenophobic, anti-Semitic, anti-Muslim and other hate-motivated incidents and trends. We welcome the ODIHR's upcoming Report on Challenges and Responses to Hate-Motivated Incidents in the OSCE region.

Finally, the establishment of a **new Human Dimension Committee**, envisaged within the reform process, provided that it is furnished with appropriate mandate, would provide us with the opportunity for a regular and more structured review of the implementation of all commitments, not just those whose lack of implementation make the headlines.

Thank you.