



**SUPPLEMENTARY HUMAN DIMENSION MEETING
ON
COMBATING SEXUAL EXPLOITATION
OF CHILDREN**

**18-19 October 2007
HOFBURG, VIENNA**

To non-governmental organisations and other interested individuals

Please find attached the agenda and general guidelines relating to the upcoming OSCE Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on *Combating Sexual Exploitation of Children*, to be held at the Hofburg Congress Centre in Vienna on 18-19 October 2007. Additional information relevant to this Meeting can be found on ODIHR website at <http://www.osce.org/odihr>.

This SHDM will review how participating States implement the OSCE commitments as well as other international standards on combating sexual exploitation of children, preventing this crime, and providing social protection and assistance to victims. This meeting will provide an opportunity to raise and review key issues and challenges in tackling commercial sexual exploitation of children. It will seek to identify ways in which implementation of commitments and legislation can be improved both at the national and local levels.

The meeting will focus on the following three areas:

- Understanding and addressing vulnerability to exploitation;
- Legislation and its implementation: social protection and criminal law;
- Good practices in prevention and protection.

The conference attracts government officials, OSCE delegations, national institutions dealing with child rights and sexual exploitation of children, NGOs and civil society, regional and international organizations, and is therefore seen as an important forum for discussing cross-sectoral issues. For the ODIHR it is a unique opportunity to put issues relating to sexual exploitation of children on the political agenda.

NGOs whose activities directly relate to the topic of the Meeting and wish to attend are requested to register on-line for this event by Wednesday, 3 October 2007. **On-line registration is available at <http://meetings.odihr.pl>**. In case of any questions, please contact Ms. Anna Sierant at anna.sierant@odihr.pl or at tel.: +48 22 520 06 00 (ext. 4121).

NGOs 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, 18 October 2007 from 10.00pm at the Hofburg Congress Centre, Segmentgalerie.

NGOs may display information materials about their organization on the tables in the lobby of the main meeting room. NGOs 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 - preferably by e-mail to elke.lidarik@osce.org . NGOs are encouraged to participate actively in the Working Sessions while limiting their interventions 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 for NGOs to participate in this Meeting. For your convenience please find attached a list of hotels in Vienna. NGOs are kindly requested to make their own hotel arrangements.

For further information please do not hesitate to contact Ms. Shivaun Scanlan, Senior Anti-Trafficking Adviser, ODIHR at shivaun.scanlan@odihr.pl and Ms. Anna Sierant, ODIHR Administrative Assistant at anna.sierant@odihr.pl or office@odihr.pl.