

**SUPPLEMENTARY HUMAN DIMENSION MEETING
ON
SUSTAINABLE POLICIES FOR ROMA AND SINTI INTEGRATION**

**10 – 11 July 2008
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

This SHDM aims to explore and recommend measures that would ensure effective implementation of the OSCE Action Plan at the municipal and community levels. The Meeting will provide an opportunity to identify, analyse and address emerging trends with regard to Roma and Sinti populations and identify initiatives and practices that have proven effective at local settings with a view of improving the situation of Roma and Sinti.

The meeting will focus on the following three areas:

- Role and responsibility of local authorities in integrating Roma: prerequisites for effective implementation of the OSCE Action Plan on Roma and Sinti
- Good practices and major challenges in improving the situation of Roma at local level: examples from different municipalities
- Policies to facilitate access of Roma to public services. Focus on selected issues including: schooling and education; housing, residential security and legality; and dependency cycle: welfare, social benefits, child allocation.

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

2. Participation

Representatives of the 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>. 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) or Mr. Maciej Burzinski at Maciej.Burzynski@osce.org or at tel.: + 48 22 520 06 00 (ext. 1144).

In addition, advance registration will be available on Thursday, 10 July 2008, from 9:00 till 15:00 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.