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Council of Europe recommendations

Working session 1

1. Encouraging States that have not yet signed or ratified the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities or the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, to do so.
2. Stressing the need to raise awareness about minority issues and about regional identity issues not only in Central and Eastern Europe, but also in Western Europe.
3. Stressing the importance for States to fully implement the results of the monitoring under the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, including through the adoption of relevant legislation and its implementation in practice.
4. Encouraging States to ensure that there is no arbitrary exclusion of persons potentially concerned by the protection offered by the Framework Convention.
5. Stressing the importance of dialogue with minorities as a necessary pre-condition for further realising the rights of persons belonging to national minorities.
6. Underlining the importance of the successful co-operation that has taken place between the OSCE HCNM and the relevant sectors of the Council of Europe dealing with minority issues, and encouraging the further use of the results of the monitoring under the Framework Convention and the Language Charter by the OSCE and by the field offices of the OSCE in their assessments and their actions.

Working sessions 2 and 3

1. Member States of the Council of Europe are encouraged to sign and ratify Protocol N° 12 to the European Convention on Human Rights.
2. OSCE participating States are encouraged to sign and ratify the Additional Protocol to the Council of Europe's Convention on Cybercrime, on the criminalisation of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems.
3. OSCE participating States are encouraged to enact legislation against racism and racial discrimination, if such legislation does not already exist or is

incomplete and to ensure that the key components set out in ECRI's General Policy Recommendation No7 are provided in such legislation.

4. Member States of the Council of Europe are encouraged to implement ECRI's recommendations contained in its country-specific monitoring reports as well as ECRI's General Policy Recommendations.
5. OSCE institutions are encouraged to continue their co-operation in the fight against racism, racial discrimination and all forms of intolerance with the Council of Europe by further strengthening mechanisms enabling the free flow of and exchange of information and data.