

Information on High Level Democracy Meeting, Krakow 2010
Provided by the Permanent Mission of Poland
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Mr. Chairperson,

I would like to inform the Permanent Council about the High Level Democracy Meeting that took place in Krakow, Poland on July 2-4 on the tenth anniversary of the founding of the Community of Democracies.

Hosted by the Polish government and organized by the Permanent Secretariat of the Community of Democracies, the event drew eighty official delegations from around the world, including forty at the ministerial level. The meeting aimed to reaffirm commitment to democracy and its promotion, and define the tasks of the Community of Democracies for the forthcoming years. The legendary Solidarity leader, Lech Walesa, and former U.S. Secretary of State, Madeleine Albright were among the invited guests.

In addition to the Act of Recommitment to the Warsaw Declaration adopted in the year 2000, the participants witnessed the awarding of the Geremek Award to Father Jose Conrado Rodriguez for democracy promotion in Cuba. In her key note address on protecting civil society, U.S. Secretary of State, Hillary Clinton announced the creation of a fund to assist democracy activists around the world.

The next ministerial level meeting will take place in Vilnius, Lithuania in 2011 under the auspices of the Lithuanian chairmanship in the Community of Democracies.

Further information on the High Level Democracy Meeting in Krakow and the Community of Democracies is available online at the following Internet addresses:

<http://www.msz.gov.pl/Celebrations,of,the,10th,anniversary,of,the,inauguration,of,the,Community,of,Democracies,will,be,held,in,Cracow,on,July,2-July,4,,2010,36752.html>

and

<http://community-democracies.org/>

Thank you very much.