



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Permanent Council**

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12 July 2007

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675th Plenary Meeting

PC Journal No. 675, Agenda item 6

**DECISION No. 801
AGENDA FOR THE 2007 HUMAN DIMENSION
IMPLEMENTATION MEETING**

The Permanent Council,

Recalling Decision No. 476 (PC.DEC/476) of 23 May 2002, on the modalities for OSCE meetings on human dimension issues,

Further recalling the provisions of the Helsinki Document 1992, Chapter I and Chapter VI, paragraph (9),

Recalling also its Decision No. 784 (PC.DEC/784) of 15 February 2007 on the dates for the 2007 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting (HDIM), and Decision No. 785 (PC.DEC/785) of 20 February 2007, on the topics for the second part of the 2007 HDIM,

Decides, in light of the experience gained and with a view to further strengthening the effectiveness and attraction of the HDIM, to adopt the agenda for the 2007 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting as set out in the annex.

AGENDA FOR THE 2007 HUMAN DIMENSION IMPLEMENTATION MEETING

Warsaw, 24 September to 5 October 2007

Monday, 24 September

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Opening plenary session
- 1–3 p.m. Break
- 3–6 p.m. Working session 1: Tolerance and non-discrimination I, including:
- Address by the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities;
 - National minorities;
 - Prevention of aggressive nationalism, chauvinism, and ethnic cleansing.

Tuesday, 25 September

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 2 (specifically selected topic): Combating intolerance and discrimination and promoting mutual respect and understanding — implementation of commitments
- 1–3 p.m. Break
- 3–6 p.m. Working session 3: Combating intolerance and discrimination and promoting mutual respect and understanding — implementation of commitments (continued)

Wednesday, 26 September

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 4: Fundamental freedoms I, including:
- Freedom of thought, conscience, religion or belief;
 - Freedom of movement.
- 1–3 p.m. Break

- 3–6 p.m. Working session 5: Humanitarian issues and other commitments I, including:
- Refugees and displaced persons;
 - Migrant workers, integration of legal migrants;
 - Treatment of citizens of other participating States.

Thursday, 27 September

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 6 (specifically selected topic): OSCE Action Plan on Roma and Sinti: participation in political life, overcoming discrimination
- 1–3 p.m. Break
- 3–6 p.m. Working session 7: OSCE Action Plan on Roma and Sinti: participation in political life, overcoming discrimination (continued)

Friday, 28 September

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 8: Rule of law I, including:
- Separation of powers;
 - Democratic law-making.
- 1–3 p.m. Break
- 3–6 p.m. Working session 9: Rule of law II, including:
- Exchange of views on the question of the abolition of capital punishment;
 - Prevention of torture;
 - International humanitarian law;
 - Protection of human rights and fighting terrorism.

Monday, 1 October

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 10 (specifically selected topic): Gender aspects of security I:
- Implementation of the OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality;
 - Equality of opportunity for women and men;
 - Prevention of violence against women.
- 1–3 p.m. Break

- 3–6 p.m. Working session 11: Gender aspects of security II
- United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).

Tuesday, 2 October

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 12: Humanitarian issues and other commitments II, including:
- Trafficking in human beings;
 - Implementation of the OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings.
- 1–3 p.m. Break
- 3–6 p.m. Working session 13: Rule of law III, including:
- Independence of the judiciary;
 - Right to a fair trial.

Wednesday, 3 October

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 14: Democratic institutions, including:
- Democratic elections;
 - Democracy at the national, regional and local levels;
 - Citizenship and political rights;
 - Follow-up to the 16–18 May 2007 Human Dimension Seminar on Effective Participation and Representation in Democratic Societies.
- 1–3 p.m. Break
- 3–6 p.m. Working session 15: Discussion of human dimension activities (with special emphasis on project work), including:
- Presentation of activities of the ODIHR and other OSCE institutions and field operations to implement priorities and tasks contained in the OSCE decisions and other documents.

Thursday, 4 October

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Working session 16: Fundamental freedoms II, including:
- Address by the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media;
 - Freedom of expression, free media and information.
- 1–3 p.m. Break
- 3–6 p.m. Working session 17: Fundamental freedoms III, including:
- Freedom of assembly and association;
 - Follow-up to the 29 and 30 March 2007 Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Freedom of Assembly, Association and Expression;
 - Ombudsperson and independent national human rights institutions;
 - Follow-up to the 12 and 13 July 2007 Supplementary Human Dimension Meeting on Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.

Friday, 5 October

- 10 a.m.–1 p.m. Closing reinforced plenary session (reinforced by the participation of human rights directors, OSCE ambassadors, heads of OSCE institutions):
- Any other business;
 - Closing.

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Attachment

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**INTERPRETATIVE STATEMENT UNDER
PARAGRAPH IV.1(A)6 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE
OF THE ORGANIZATION FOR SECURITY AND
CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE**

By the delegation of Belarus:

“In connection with the decision adopted on the agenda of the 2007 OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, we should like to make the following statement.

The delegation of the Republic of Belarus believes that the numerous consultations and exchanges of views held on the dates, duration and content of this meeting confirm the existence of significant shortcomings in the present modalities for the holding of OSCE human dimension meetings.

We remain convinced that the existence of subjects that arise repeatedly or that tend to lead to long drawn-out discussions reduce the dynamics of the discussion and generally have a negative effect on the potential and effectiveness of the Warsaw meeting. We are further convinced that the duration of the meeting should be determined on the basis of a real need to examine specific subjects and not by a desire to artificially attach greater importance to certain issues. It is important to ensure a thematic balance of the working sessions of the meeting.

In this context, we recall Decision No. 476 of 23 May 2002, under which the ‘Permanent Council may, in the light of the experience gained, decide to make additional adjustments to the arrangements set out in the annexes, with a view to strengthening the effectiveness and attraction of the human dimension meetings further’.

We regret that so far within the Permanent Council there has been no serious discussion on optimizing the work of the annual meeting in Warsaw. We note in that connection that Permanent Council Decision No. 762 adopted in Brussels does not provide exhaustive answers and solutions to existing problems.

The experience gained since 2002 in preparing for and holding of OSCE human dimension meetings allows to take into account the weaknesses of the current modalities. In this connection, we believe it necessary to summarize this experience and take steps aimed at enhancing the effectiveness and attractiveness of these events for all participating States.

Against this background, we hope that all the contradictions and questions identified, including those concerning the duration and content of the meeting, will become the subject

of a separate detailed discussion prior to the next round of consultations on the themes and dates of the human dimension events for 2008 within the Human Dimension Committee.

We trust that the current Spanish Chairmanship and the incoming Finnish Chairmanship will take a serious and responsible approach to this matter and will hold necessary consultations with the delegations of participating States in a spirit of openness and taking due account of the wide range of opinions.

Mr. Chairperson,

I request that this interpretative statement be attached to the journal of the meeting.”