



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

**Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and
Environmental Activities**

Vienna, 8 April 2005

To: All OSCE Delegations
Partners for Co-operation
Mediterranean Partners for Co-operation

Subject: Third Preparatory Seminar for the Thirteenth OSCE Economic Forum:
“Integrating Persons belonging to National Minorities: Economic and other
Perspectives”

Attached herewith is the Consolidated Summary of the Third Preparatory Seminar for the Thirteenth OSCE Economic Forum: “Integrating Persons belonging to National Minorities: Economic and other Perspectives”, which took place in Kyiv, Ukraine, 10-11 March 2005.



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CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY

**THIRD PREPARATORY SEMINAR FOR THE THIRTEENTH OSCE ECONOMIC FORUM:
INTEGRATING PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL MINORITIES: ECONOMIC AND
OTHER PERSPECTIVES**

KYIV, UKRAINE, 10-11 MARCH 2005

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

The Third Preparatory Seminar for the 13th OSCE Economic Forum was held on 10-11 March 2005 in Kyiv, Ukraine. The topic of the seminar was “Integrating Persons belonging to National Minorities: Economic and Other Perspectives”.

This seminar was the last in a series of three preparatory seminars for the Thirteenth Economic Forum “Demographic Trends, Migration and Integrating Persons belonging to National Minorities: Ensuring Security and Sustainable Development in the OSCE area”, that will take place in Prague, within the period from 23 to 27 May 2005.

The First Preparatory Seminar was dedicated to the theme of “Demographic Prospects in the OSCE area: Economic and Security Implications”, and was organized in Trieste, Italy, on 8 - 9 November 2004.

The Second Preparatory Seminar took place in Almaty, Kazakhstan, on 24-25 January 2005 and focused on “Migration from an economic, environmental and security perspective”.

The Kyiv event was organised by the Slovenian Chairmanship of the OSCE and the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (OCEEA) in close co-operation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine and the Office of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine.

The Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (OSCE HCNM) provided a substantial contribution in preparing the seminar and also participated actively in the discussions during the seminar. The OCEEA will continue the co-operation with OSCE HCNM also with regard to the follow-up process.

The seminar was opened by **H.E. Ihor Dolhov**, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ukraine, **Mr. Stanislav Raščan**, Director General, Directorate for policy planning and multilateral relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia / OSCE Chairmanship, **Mr. Marcin Swiecicki**, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities and **Ambassador David R. Nicholas**, OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine.

The seminar gathered more than 160 participants - official representatives from 39 OSCE participating States, 3 Partners for co-operation and Mediterranean partners for co-operation, representatives from International Organizations, Non-Governmental Organizations, the Academic and Business Communities, 16 OSCE Field Presences, OSCE HCNM.

20 expert speakers and panellists presented their inside knowledge and their views, thereby stimulating the discussion. Throughout the deliberations the participants freely expressed their views and contributed to formulating concrete suggestions for further consideration by the Economic and Environmental Sub-Committee of the Permanent Council and the OSCE Economic Forum in Prague.

A Background Paper for the Third Preparatory Seminar for the Thirteenth OSCE Economic Forum was prepared by the Office of the OSCE HCNM in co-ordination with the Slovenian Chairmanship and the Office of the Coordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities to introduce the topic of the seminar (SEC.GAL/55/05).

Numerous documents and presentations have been circulated at the seminar. A list of these documents is included as an annex (Annex 3) in the Consolidated Summary. The documents will be published on a CD-Rom available upon request from the OCEEA.

Structure of the Seminar

The seminar consisted of both opening and closing Plenary Sessions, one introductory Plenary Session, three Panel Discussions and four Working Groups.

The introductory **Plenary Session** focused on **National minorities in the OSCE region: promoting integration and preventing discrimination**. The situation of national minorities in the OSCE region was presented and analysed. It was mentioned that tensions between majorities and minorities are among the major sources of international conflicts and may also lead to instability within states. Integration respecting diversity is the most efficient way of preventing tensions. Policies on integration and social cohesion were discussed as an essential condition for a democratic society and for sustainable development. Participation in the political and public life of the State, in the economic and social life, as well as education were mentioned as key precondition for successful integration.

Like in the previous seminar in Almaty, panels of experts, facilitated by moderators, were invited to share their views on a number of selected topics and then engage the participants in the discussion.

Panel Discussion I focused on **Economic and Social aspects related to the integration of persons belonging to national minorities**. It was stressed that persons from minorities should benefit from economic and social policies on a non-discriminatory basis and should receive their fair share of benefits from other government policies such as education, employment, entrepreneurship, investment, health and housing. Special attention should be given to employment, including self-employment. Entrepreneurship should be promoted as well.

Panel Discussion II focused on **Education Policies for Integration**. Education is the first step in enabling the participation of persons belonging to minorities in the life of the State and therefore is crucial for integration. The importance of equal access, good quality education, fluency in the state language, education in the mother tongue, civic education as well as the development of bilingual or multilingual education was stressed. It was further recognized that integration-oriented education, based on inclusion and recognition of diversity, is essential for the positive development of multiethnic societies.

Panel Discussion III focused on **the importance of good governance for the management of integration**. Participation of persons belonging to minorities in political and public life, including adequate representation in all branches of government and public services at all levels is an important component of good governance. Through participation minorities can promote their interests and specific views into the decision making process. Since many decisions important for minorities are taken at the local level the importance of good governance at local level was stressed.

During the second day, four working groups were organized:

Working Group A - The role of Governments

Working Group B – The role of civil society

Working Group C – The role of International Organizations

Working Group D – The role of business community

The Working Groups continued the discussion of the key issues addressed in the plenary session and panel discussion in order to identify ways and means to improve and support the integration of persons belonging to national minorities.

Key Suggestions

This seminar has accomplished its main goal of putting forward useful suggestions for the OSCE and its participating States with regard to various aspects related to the topics under discussion.

At the Closing Session **Ms. Blažka Kepic**, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Slovenia to the OSCE / OSCE Chairmanship, Chairperson of the Economic and Environmental Sub-Committee of the Permanent Council, as well as the respective Rapporteurs presented the main conclusions and suggestions for action and follow-up by the OSCE and its participating States.

The Rapporteurs' Reports section of the Consolidated Summary provides a complete picture of the discussions in each of the seminar's sessions and of the suggestions stemming from each session. It is envisaged that the Economic and Environmental Sub-Committee discusses these suggestions included in the Consolidated Summary, in order to streamline the preparatory process for the Forum.

For easy reference, a number of suggestions for the OSCE and its participating States, stemming from the seminar, have been grouped by thematic areas and are presented below:

General suggestions

- Integration measures and policies have to be based on general principles but at the same time have to be adapted to different local situations. OSCE should promote and develop activities beneficial for both minorities and majorities (win-win approach), which can also contribute to the improvement of ethnic relations; Initiatives to be launched should take into consideration the needs of each individual State; Integration policies should respect diversity and should take account of the desire of minorities to preserve their cultural identity;
- The OSCE should advocate and encourage States to adopt effective policies and provide advice on good practices by linking states authorities and experts. The lessons learned in dealing with problems of exclusion in different situations and contexts should be taken into account;
- The OSCE should encourage NGOs to play a more pro-active role in addressing minority issues and should also encourage States to co-operate closer with NGOs;
- The OSCE should co-ordinate efforts to gather reliable statistical data on national minorities;
- OSCE should continue to support and enhance the implementation of the Roma and Sinti Action Plan as a useful instrument at hand;
- The OSCE should promote the Hague Recommendations (education rights of national minorities), Lund Recommendations (effective participation of national minorities in public life) and Oslo Recommendations (linguistic rights of national minorities) of the HCNM as well as the Guidelines on the use of Minority Languages in the Broadcast Media;
- The OSCE should continue to promote good governance; integration of minorities is an important component of good governance;
- The basis for the integration of minorities is the fundamental principle of non-discrimination. "Special Measures" may be required to ensure full and effective equality and to create the conditions necessary for the effective participation of persons belonging to national minorities in cultural, social and economic life and in public affairs, in particular those affecting them;
- The OSCE should draft a "Statement of Principles" on integration of minorities for the 13th Economic Forum based on the discussions and suggestions from this seminar. It was also noted that while in the fields of education and public participation there is international guidance, such principles are less developed for economic/social aspects of integration.

Economic and social aspects of integration

- The OSCE should support national governments in drafting, improving and implementing legislation on the economic and social integration of national minorities and in developing related policies;
- Governments have the direct responsibility in ensuring economic integration and should establish a framework to foster economic growth in regions where national minorities live;

- The OSCE should support the creation of economic opportunities in areas where national minorities live, in particular in rural and border areas that are underdeveloped and which may become a potential security problem;
- In border areas it is important to involve the two governments and promote co-operation;
- Local stakeholders and the minority community as well have a stake in promoting economic integration. The OSCE should continue its outreach to minority communities and implement projects that meet the specific needs of these populations;
- The OSCE should encourage and facilitate entrepreneurship in various forms (self-employment, small businesses, social enterprises, etc), identify good practices and promote them;
- The OSCE should continue to support SME development by providing business training through its “Youth Entrepreneur Seminar” programme;
- The OSCE should promote public-private dialogue including tri-partite consultations and corporate social responsibility and educate businesses on potential benefits of working with minorities; OSCE should also encourage businesses to provide minorities with equal access to resources and jobs.

Education Policies for Integration

- Support the development of civic education, including the importance of non-discrimination, tolerance and respect for human rights;
- Encourage bilingual and multilingual education to foster integration;
- Promote the use of minority languages, major world languages and important regional languages in interethnic communication, taking into account specific situations in diverse regions and general knowledge of languages there;
- Stimulate the learning of state languages by minorities in order to promote their integration;
- Promote the appreciation of diversity in society by encouraging/supporting learning the languages and cultures of minorities;
- Help foster integration through pilot projects in education that can be launched by the OSCE, while implementation of relevant strategies remains the primary responsibility of participating States;
- Encourage teaching of history that would recognize different perceptions and interpretations of history, offering not only exclusively national views but also broader perspectives;
- Support the training of journalists to report on diversity and minority issues, and the development of minority media;

Good governance

- Promote the inclusion, equal access and equitable representation of minorities at all levels, in all branches of government and public services in order to provide them with a voice in decision-making which affects them;
- Action at local level should be encouraged and local initiatives on integration should be supported. Local rather than central authorities deal with national minorities on a day-to-day basis and therefore promoting good governance at local level is essential. OSCE should develop more raising awareness and capacity building activities targeting local authorities;
- Continue to promote good governance as a tool for fostering the integration of minorities and their members;
- Continue to implement the commitments in the Strategy Document for the EED which are related to good governance, since good governance is indispensable for the integration of persons belonging to minorities;
- Continue actions to fight corruption and other social phenomena which hurt both minorities and majorities;
- The OSCE should initiate and carry out, together with participating States and all other relevant actors, awareness-raising activities on the value of ethnic diversity in modern societies;

Annexes

A number of annexes - *Agenda, List of Participants and List of Distributed Documents* - have been attached to complete your picture of the Kyiv Seminar.

For further reading, please note that background documents from this seminar as well as further information on the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities and the Economic Forum process can be found on the OSCE web site under www.osce.org/eea or requested at the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities (gabriel.leonte@osce.org or andrea.gredler@osce.org).

WELCOMING ADDRESS

**by H.E. Ihor Dolhov,
Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine**

Mr.Chairman!
Dear participants!
Ladies and Gentlemen!

I warmly welcome the participants of the seminar on behalf of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine.

First and foremost I would like to express our gratefulness to the Slovenian Chairmanship for accepting our proposal to choose Kyiv as the host city for the OSCE Seminar. Special thanks go also to the distinguished Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities Mr. Swiecicki and his able team, who together with the Chairmanship invested strenuous concerted efforts in the seminar preparations. I would also like to voice our appreciation of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine Ambassador Nicholas and his office for their valuable assistance.

Choosing Kyiv as the place for conducting the Seminar on issues of national minorities we consider as the high assessment of our efforts in this domain, including accommodation of peoples formerly deported by Stalin's regime. Ukraine's progress in this field has been repeatedly noted by international experts.

Having multiethnic population and being at the same time marked by traditions of peaceful and tolerant co-existence of different ethnic, cultural and religious ethnic groups, our country attaches utmost importance to the issues under discussion at this seminar.

Current globalization processes, in particular in the field of ethnic policy, are rather complicated and controversial. On the one hand, there is a tendency to universalize the civilization space, on the other hand – peoples seek after preservation of their own national identity.

The only way to harmonize these opposite in their nature processes, as well as settle contradictions emerging on interethnic grounds, is to unite our efforts in order to preserve cultural and ethnic diversity of the world, which is the common achievement of the whole mankind, as well as to improve and revitalize relevant mechanisms and instruments of international organizations, including the OSCE.

It was not accidental that during three decades of its activities the OSCE has adopted a number of fundamental documents providing for the need to ensure rights of national minorities within democratic political framework, based on the rule of law and independent judicial system, in particular, Helsinki Final Act (1975), the Copenhagen 1990 Human Dimension Document, Charter of Paris for a new Europe (1990), Istanbul Charter for European Security (1999).

Respect for rights of persons belonging to national minorities as part of universally recognized human rights is one of the most important factors of peace, justice, stability and democracy in our states.

It is vitally important to do everything in order to maintain constructive character of interethnic relations, prevent its transformation from dialogue to monolog, avoid provoking artificial isolation of nations in their ethnic "flats", as well as conflicts on national grounds.

We remember recent dramatic events in South-Eastern and Eastern Europe. We are profoundly concerned about the destabilizing potential of the so called frozen conflicts of South Caucasus. The distinctive feature of present conflict situations, in particular in the OSCE area, is that most of them are interstate and have ethno political origin, which makes them particularly acute. Therefore, one of our main tasks is

to utilize preventive mechanisms of the Organization with the purpose of preventing similar situations. Among these mechanisms, utmost importance is attached to economic cooperation.

It is not accidental that problems of national minorities are discussed within the framework of Economic Forum, since the connection between security, democracy and economic development of the country becomes more evident.

In my view, economic aspects of cooperation gain fundamental importance in promoting renewal of mutually beneficial relations and serving as a stabilizing factor.

Considering the main dimensions of security as a single whole, Ukraine always supported the necessity of promoting balanced approach to all three dimensions of the OSCE activities, particularly human, military as well as economic and environmental.

We attach utmost importance to effective measures aimed at strengthening OSCE activities in economic and environmental dimension of security, which could promote the integration, especially, economies in transition into the world economy. At the same time new independent states need our primary attention in view of the acuteness of their social-economic and ecological problems.

Faster pace of economic growth and development of the particular country could serve as a powerful tool for economic and social integration of persons belonging to national minorities.

In view of this, I hope that the results of this seminar will be effectively used with the purpose of further enhancement of our cooperation for the sake of our common benefit.

Let me wish you and all participants of this important OSCE event fruitful and successful work.

Thank you.

WELCOMING ADDRESS

**by Mr. Stanislav Raščan,
Acting Director General of the Directorate for
Policy Planning and Multilateral Political Relations,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Slovenia/OSCE Chairmanship**

Thank you Mr Chairman,
Distinguished Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is an honour to address this meeting as the representative of the OSCE Chairman-in-Office. I would like to express my appreciation and gratitude to our gracious host, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, the Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities as well as the OSCE Center in Kyiv for the excellent organization of the Third Preparatory Seminar for the Thirteenth OSCE Economic Forum. We furthermore appreciate precious assistance provided by the Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities in preparing the Background Document for this Seminar.

Distinguished Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The issue of the integration of national minorities touches upon one of the core values of the OSCE. Ever since the Helsinki Final Act of 1975 the CSCE and OSCE have been providing a framework and instruments that can assist participating States and minorities in bringing about fully fledged socio-economic, political and educational integration of national minorities. Simultaneously, minority and integration policies are key foundations upon which is built the concept of multiculturalism as it is envisaged in the relevant OSCE legal texts and policy documents.

The OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities must be praised for doing a fine job in often difficult circumstances. The activities of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities represent a success story of small steps over a longer period of time.

Distinguished Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

In order to ensure peace, stability and sustainable development in the OSCE region and worldwide the actual practicing of the rights of national minorities and persons belonging to them must be provided for. Their equitable integration into a plural society is an important exhibit and yardstick of the level and extent of democracy in a given environment. To ensure actual equality, equal starting positions should be ensured to persons belonging to national minorities.

While persons belonging to national minorities can be satisfied with a relatively high degree of involvement in political and economic life and activities in many OSCE participating States, their full integration into the socio-economic structures, the educational systems and the political decision-making process remains fraught with problems in several OSCE regions east and west of Vienna.

Additionally, enabling persons belonging to national minorities to participate fully in social, political and economic life, and to have a part in the management of the national economy, are clearly key prerequisites for reducing possible risk of tensions and for enabling increased safety and prosperity both for the majorities and for the minorities of OSCE participating States.

In many OSCE participating States, persons belonging to national minorities have developed solid socio-economic structures anchored in traditional local practices and integrated into national economies. Companies, capital and other resources owned and operated by persons belonging to national minorities frequently represent a competitive force in the national economy of these participating States. Such integration promotes the overall competitiveness of the national economy while creating a solid basis for further development and enhancing protection of persons belonging to minorities. Moreover, persons belonging to national minorities can play an important role in promoting and maintaining contacts with neighbouring areas and/or states of origin, thereby representing important factors in fostering regional security and improving economic and other types of cooperation with these states.

However, some minorities in OSCE regions still face various economic and other difficulties. Some are caused by the fact that their presence and interests are often neglected in local, national and regional development discussions. The fact that some minorities are not properly integrated in the political life and socio-economic activities of the national economy - and consequently persons belonging to them lack career and educational opportunities - is a matter which deserves proper attention both at the national and international level.

In fostering the integration of national minorities, central importance should also be accorded to education and training. Bearing in mind that education is one of the OSCE's recent priorities, persons belonging to minorities in all OSCE areas should be guaranteed adequate education and training which will enable them to be competitive in the job market and successful in their commercial undertakings and initiatives.

Distinguished Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

In view of current demographic developments and migration movements, new approaches to addressing minority issues within the OSCE are required. The OSCE should consider upgrading existing concepts and developing new ones toward the protection of national minorities.

We should understand minority rights as an upgrading of the principle of non-discrimination. Equal treatment of all persons regardless of their ethnic, racial and religious affiliation establishes a solid foundation for co-existence on an equal footing. It has often, however, been demonstrated in practice that this presumption alone does not suffice for effecting or practicing actual equality of persons belonging to national minorities in diverse societies. We therefore believe that in addition to ensuring non-discriminatory treatment, special rights of minorities must be guaranteed, which has been one of the basic guiding principles behind the OSCE's activities since the adoption of the Helsinki Final Act. We hope that the time has come when, in addition to securing the protection of individual rights of minority members within the OSCE, we will be able to develop at least some elements of the collective dimension of minority rights as well.

Distinguished Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The OSCE has made some successful efforts and positive innovations in the area of political, social and economic integration of national minorities and has thus contributed to the improved situation for national minorities in many OSCE participating States. But we must not rest on these laurels. The OSCE conduct and its strategies in this area have to be subject to constant critical analysis and revisions. There is still substantial room for improvement. The protection of national minorities and persons belonging to them, including the policies and measures for their full political, social and economic integration should be viewed as continuous processes that demand constant attention of the OSCE and its permanent activities that shall be in concert with activities of all other relevant actors at the international and national levels. Thus, I am confident that this seminar will provide sensitive and useful suggestions for progress, including some proposals for a quick-fix to some problems and outstanding issues that still persist in the area of integration of national minorities and persons belonging to them.

Thank you very much.

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

**By Mr. John de Fonblanque,
Director, Office of the High Commissioner on National Minorities**

Mr. Chairman,
Ladies and gentlemen,

I would like to say first, on behalf of the High Commissioner on National Minorities, how much we welcome this opportunity to discuss the integration of national minorities, a subject which is central to his work.

We particularly welcome the chance to discuss integration in the broad context implied by the theme of the Economic Forum, which includes demography and migration as well as integration. A wide-ranging exchange of views based on the experience of integration of different kinds of minorities could, we believe, bring valuable insights into the process of integration. The fact that some of our panelists have experience of integration not just of established national minorities but of new minorities formed by migrants and indeed other excluded or disadvantaged communities will, I am sure, enrich our discussion. The circumstances and legal framework may be different but I believe this meeting will show that there is much overlap in the policies and methods of all those engaged in promoting integration and that this is an area where we can all learn from each other. I will say more about this overlap later.

The starting point for the High Commissioner's policy of promoting integration respecting diversity is the OSCE's comprehensive approach to security. His mandate requires him to be an instrument of conflict prevention by identifying and by finding ways to reduce tensions arising from minority issues. The mandate rests on the premise, whose truth has been demonstrated again and again in recent years, that problems concerning the relationship between the majority and minorities are one major source of international conflicts as well as instability within States. Social tensions arising from minority issues and, more specifically, from the exclusion of groups or communities from the benefits of society, exist in many states and can lead to serious incidents of violence. Failure to deal adequately with these tensions can lead to a vicious circle in which isolation and alienation reduce the benefits of belonging to the State, leading to further isolation and deprivation, which can in the end provide a breeding ground for crime and even terrorism. The aim of integration is a State which all groups consider their common home, where all individuals are able to interact freely, in which all have equal opportunities to participate and to benefit and in which the causes of tensions arising from minority issues will have been eliminated.

It is not just the High Commissioner who advocates integration respecting diversity as the best way to prevent tensions arising over minority issues. The Council of Europe's Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities expressly refers to a policy of integration and social cohesion as an essential condition for a democratic society and for sustainable development. It places an obligation on State parties to encourage a spirit of tolerance and cultural dialogue and to take effective measures to promote mutual respect and understanding and cooperation among all persons living on their territory irrespective of their ethnic, cultural, linguistic or religious identity. I would like to underline the point that a policy of integration, means the integration of all persons residing on the territory of the State, whether they are citizens or not. Under international law the duty of States to protect fundamental human rights and freedoms, including minority rights, likewise applies to all persons resident on their territories, whether citizens or not. The risks of alienation or isolation leading to tensions, which a policy of integration seeks to combat, are not confined to citizens. Indeed such tensions may well be exacerbated by the absence of citizenship.

Integration respecting diversity avoids the extremes of assimilation on the one hand (which, if it is not voluntary, is ruled out by applicable international law); and separation on the other. Separation can take a number of different forms, some of which, such as South African apartheid infringe universal human rights; and most of which involve risks to national stability and international security.

But a policy of integration is not just about protecting the rights of minorities and removing the threats to security and stability. It is also about increasing the welfare and prosperity of society as a whole by providing the opportunity for all to make their full contribution through their participation in the life of the State. And, it enhances the lives of all by enabling them to benefit from the richness of a multi-cultural society. In short, a policy of integration is part of good governance, contributing not only to justice and human rights but also to security and prosperity and cultural diversity, for the benefit of society as a whole.

The best way to combat alienation and disaffection among minorities is for the State to demonstrate on the one hand its willingness to protect their rights, including their right to preserve their identity, and on the other hand the benefits available to them from participation in the life of the State on a basis of equality and non-discrimination.

But minorities too have their responsibilities. The success of a policy of integration depends on the willingness of the minority to play their part. For example they need to be ready to learn the state language, an aspect of integration which the High Commissioner actively supports in many countries. They need to take up the opportunities to participate which are offered to them. And, like the majority they should also be ready to learn about other cultures on the basis of a curriculum which covers all the communities of the State. Members of minorities who develop the sense of belonging to the State and being stakeholders in it are more likely to accept their responsibilities to the State, such as the payment of taxes and the avoidance of crime.

I would like to turn now to the key building blocks of a policy of integration, which are reflected in the structure of this seminar: participation in the political and public life of the State, participation in the economic and social life of the State and education.

The participation of persons belonging to minorities in the political and public life of the State is essential for the development of a sense of engagement in the State, of being stakeholders in it and of having responsibilities to it. If they perceive that they have an effective voice and that their problems and concerns are dealt with by the State in an equitable manner, they will have no reason to look elsewhere for the solution of their problems. Equitable representation of minorities is important not just in the legislative organs of the State but also in the judiciary and in the executive and in public administration. Equitable representation in the Police and judiciary is particularly important in order to avoid perceptions of bias against the minority in the courts and the law enforcement authorities which have a crucial role to play in handling tensions on minority issues. Political participation should not only be ensured at central level but also, on the local level, where many of the decisions directly relating to minority interests are taken.

Participation in the economic and social life of the State is also essential for the development of a sense of engagement in the life of the State. States need to ensure that persons from minorities benefit and perceive that they benefit from Government economic and social policies on an equitable and non-discriminatory basis. This means first of all that they should benefit from a fair share of employment opportunities, both those provided directly by the State in the public sector and those provided by the private sector with support from the State. Second they should receive a fair share of benefits from other government policies such as education, health and housing. A policy of non-discrimination may not be enough. Where there is a gap to be closed special measures may be not only justified but required to enable deprived groups to catch up with the general level. Integration of persons belonging to minorities will often require such measures in order to break out of the cycle of deprivation and alienation.

Education is the first step in equipping children to participate in the life of the State and is therefore crucial to integration of minority and majority communities. Without a good quality education, including the development of fluency in using the State language, members of minority groups will be unable to participate effectively in the political and economic life of the State. They may even fail to qualify for higher education. Many of the High Commissioner's successful projects are aimed at strengthening skills in the use of the State Language. Education in the mother tongue, particularly in the early years, is also important both for the educational development of children from minorities and for the maintenance of their culture. The curriculum should also enable children from minorities to continue to develop their

knowledge of their own language culture, history, and religion as well as learning about other cultures. A multi-ethnic State needs a multi-ethnic curriculum which will ensure that the majority as well as the minorities learn about each other's history and cultures. The organization of education is also important. Ethnically segregated education can all too easily lead to hostile attitudes developing towards other ethnic groups. One very practical way of dealing with this problem is through the development of bilingual or multilingual education, which has proved highly successful in countries like Canada and could have advantages in some parts of the OSCE.

Another important building block of integration and participation is information, for example about the current affairs of the State, which should be available from the media in a form which is accessible in to the minority, for example through TV and radio broadcasting in the language of the minority.

I said at the beginning that we welcomed discussion of integration in a context which includes new minorities as well as established minorities. The High Commissioner has found in practice that his mandate requires him to focus mainly on established, rather than new, minorities and it is in that context that he has developed over eleven years the policy of integration respecting diversity, which I have described. But the policies and methods he has developed have much in common with those used for integration and other areas.

To illustrate the overlap with integration of other excluded groups, I would like to refer to a document with which I happen to be familiar, namely the British Government's recently published "Strategy for Promoting Race Equality and Community Cohesion". I have no doubt that equally relevant comparisons could be found in many Participating States. The Strategy aims to "ensure that a person's ethnicity is not a barrier to their success and to foster the social cohesion necessary to enable people from minority and majority communities to work together for social and economic progress"; it notes that "where tensions have developed between different ethnic groups, such as in some Northern English towns in the summer of 2001, deprivation and lack of opportunity have been significant contributive factors"; and it sets out a programme of specific measures in the fields of education, the labour market, health, housing and the criminal justice system for promoting equal life chances among ethnic minority and other deprived groups; and for creating a more cohesive society, including by increasing opportunities to participate in civic life. There are many parallels here with the High Commissioner's approach. As he recently told the Parliamentary Assembly, the overlap, both in the legal framework and in the policies and methods for promoting integration deserve further study. I look forward to hearing from others dealing with integration of new minorities or indeed other excluded groups.

Finally, if our discussions show that there is indeed a broad consensus here on integration issues I would like to suggest that we develop a short statement of principles concerning integration to forward to the Economic Forum. With your agreement, Mr. Chairman we will circulate a draft of such a statement, for consideration by the final plenary.

WELCOMING ADDRESS

by Mr. Marcin Swiecicki,
Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities

Deputy Minister Dolhov,
Director General Rasean,
Ambassador Nicholas,
Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Distinguished colleagues and guests,

I would like to welcome all of you to the third preparatory seminar in the run up to the Thirteenth OSCE Economic Forum which will take place in Prague on May 23-27. First of all I would like to thank the Government of Ukraine, and in particular **Deputy Minister Dolhov**, for hosting this important event. Then my thanks go to the representative of the Slovenian Chairmanship, **Director General Raščan**, and his team for the excellent co-operation in organizing this event. And of course a big thank you goes to **Ambassador Nicholas** and his team, for making all the necessary preparations so that we can meet in perfect conditions today. I am also very pleased that many OSCE delegations attend this preparatory seminar, as well as a number of OSCE field presences. I welcome in particular the Representative of the OSCE High Commissioner for National Minorities, **Director John de Fonblanque** for their outstanding contribution to this event. I also welcome representatives of International Organizations as well as NGO's, who are the indispensable link to civil society and thus a strategic partner in all our endeavours.

The first preparatory seminar in Trieste was aimed at identifying **demographic challenges** to security. The second preparatory seminar, which took place in Almaty, dealt with the various issues surrounding **migration** in the context of security and economic development. Today and tomorrow we will be discussing the integration of persons belonging to national **minorities**. As you can tell, **population issues** are the overarching theme for this year's Economic Forum. All three themes are tightly interwoven and it is impossible to address one issue without addressing the other. Many minorities in countries are the product of migratory movements. Differences in the demographic development of the various parts of populations have had positive and negative effects on the integration processes.

Just as the themes are interwoven, **so too**, the nations that make up the OSCE region are increasingly interdependent. Some countries have been more successful than others in integrating their national minorities. However, the **combined challenges** we face from changing demographic structures, increased migratory movements and excluded national minorities are very big and we need all, **not just some**, countries to be successful.

When thinking about integration I think it is important to keep in mind **what exactly integration means**. Integration does not mean a total assimilation into the national culture, history has too many examples of failed attempts to 'homogenize' nations. Still today, often majority cultures try to impose their identity on such groups in the name of integration. Such actions provide fertile ground for intra- and inter-state tensions and potential conflicts. In a globalised world, integration rather means **keeping and managing the diversity** of the various cultures that inhabit a nation. Attention should rather be placed on how to create tolerant, open, non-discriminatory states, that value and profit from the multiple benefits diversity has to offer. To quote our previous OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, Max van der Stoep:

"In the same way that bio-diversity enriches our environment; cultural diversity strengthens the fibres of society."

The main task nations face is to how to **prevent marginalization and discrimination** of national minorities. Only then can we be sure to lessen the danger nations face as a cause of inter ethnic struggles.

However, we should not underestimate the problem. I am sure all of us are aware, this process is a very sensitive one and can easily be politicized.

Many minorities live in underdeveloped regions, and as such are particularly vulnerable to negative consequences of economic policies as well as to man made or natural disasters. Excluded groups will often tend to create their own 'sub-nations' with little contact to the outside world, which deepens mutual mistrust.

Economic integration is an important step towards achieving true pluralist democracies. For this to happen an adequate legal non discriminatory framework should be in place that secures the rights of all individuals, regardless of their culture. Nations should aspire to fully implementing their obligations under international human rights standards, conventions and treaties.

This is closely linked to the principles of good governance, which if applied, prevent per se any kind of discrimination. Transparency does a lot to counter the perception of discrimination and it should be applied not only to public institutions, but should also extend to the business and the wider private sector. Corruption on the contrary, besides having a discriminatory effect, creates actual negative economic consequences for those excluded.

Besides merely protecting minorities, due attention should also be paid to giving minorities the **opportunity** to integrate. **That means** developing **positive measures**, targeted at minorities, in order to allow them to catch up with the majority. **That means** ensuring their **basic human needs** like access to clean water and housing are covered. **That means** granting them full access to **education**, giving the grown ups of tomorrow the opportunity to learn the national language, but also at the same time educating the majority culture about the principles of tolerance and encouraging inter-ethnic communication.

Many of these issues are more fully elaborated in the **background paper**, which I hope you all had a chance to study. It is at this point that I would like to thank the High Commissioner on National Minorities and his dedicated staff for preparing this excellent piece of work, which in my opinion serves as a formidable basis on which to base the coming day's discussions. I am very glad our two offices have worked so well together on this topic and I look forward to working on future common issues of concern and concrete follow-up to the Economic Forum.

Finally I would like to thank the speakers, for having accepted our invitation and for coming here today and tomorrow and sharing your experiences. In the spirit of 'strength through diversity' I encourage all participants to engage the speakers, in what I am sure will be an outstanding seminar.

Thank you.

RAPORTEURS' REPORTS

PLENARY SESSION : National minorities in the OSCE region: promoting integration and preventing discrimination

Moderator: Mr. Janez Malačič, Professor, Head of the Statistical Department, Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

Rapporteur: Mr. Christophe Ceska, Permanent Mission of Austria to the OSCE

In his presentation **Mr. John de Fonblanque**, Director of the Office of the High Commissioner on National Minorities, outlined the key elements of the High Commissioner's policy of promoting integration of minorities in line with the OSCE's comprehensive approach to security. He expressed his conviction that the integration of national minorities, while respecting their right to retain their identity, culture, language and traditions, is the best way of combating the risk of tensions over minority issues which may be divisive and can even threaten the stability and security of the State. Furthermore, the integration of national minorities is in the interest not only of the minorities but also of the State. Therefore it is an aspect of good governance and the creation of a genuinely democratic and representative society. It involves giving persons belonging to national minorities a sense of belonging to the State so that they look to the State as the solution rather than the cause of their problems.

Participation both in the public and political life of the State and in its economic and social life and education was clearly identified as the key to integration. As a first step, Mr. de Fonblanque advised to ensure non-discrimination and equal treatment for all, regardless of ethnicity. Nevertheless, where gaps existed between minorities and others, special measures were required to achieve equality of opportunity.

These measures should ensure an effective voice in political life and a fair level of representation in the legislative, judicial and executive branches of government, at both central and local level, as well as the representation in the law enforcement agencies and in the judiciary, which are considered of particular importance.

In the economic and social life of a state, one has to ensure that minorities receive a fair share of benefits from state policies, particularly in the field of employment both in the public and the private sectors.

The education system is identified as another essential building block for integration. Education should not only respect the right of minorities to maintain their identities but should also equip them with the knowledge of the State language, which is needed to participate effectively in the life of the State. Likewise, it is a necessity for further promoting integration and inter-ethnic understanding, as contacts between the groups is essential part of any integration policy.

Concluding, Mr. de Fonblanque emphasized, that general information, for example on current affairs of the State that is published through appropriate media channels can also be an effective means for integration and participation.

The second speaker of the plenary session, **Mr. Hennadiy Udovenko**, Head of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Committee on Human Rights, National Minorities and Interethnic Relations, gave an overview of the current governmental policy in the field of minority integration. In this regard, he pointed out that according to a recent statistical survey in the Ukraine more than ¼ of the population consist of national minorities. The country is therefore to be considered as having a pluri-ethnic demography. In view of this substantial number adequate protection of minorities was an essential policy instrument in the domestic agenda of the governmental policy. He explained that the Ukrainian government was devoted to promoting the ethnic, spiritual and cultural heritage of the national minorities and was aiming at strengthening the interethnic cohesion of the State. He claimed that the realization of these policy objectives represented a challenge for the government in view of the dramatic legacy of the Stalinist

regime which was responsible for the deportation of hundred of thousands of Crimean-Tatars from their native Crimean peninsula.

He further informed the auditors on the most recent legislative proposals in the field of minority integration forwarded to the Committee of Human Rights in the Verkhovna Rada: the amended version of the law on minorities; the recent adoption of the law on the rehabilitation of people belonging to national minorities and the promotion of a policy on national ethnics through preservation of national identity and preservation of culture.

Mr. Udovenko expressed his hope of soon seeing some of these reform proposals adopted by the government and the Verkhovna Rada. In this regard optimism was expressed as the political landscape of the Ukraine was becoming more and more concerned with minority policy. Additionally, minority representatives in Ukraine (Russians, Poles, Romanians, Jews and Tatars among others) were becoming more active within the political institutions of the country.

Finally, the panel was informed of the HCNM having been active in advising the Ukrainian government on minority laws, and having recently helped in the drafting process of a law on national cultural autonomy, aimed at protecting the rights of displaced persons. The HCNM was also able to act as a catalyst for the governmental initiative aimed at the reintegration of displaced Tatars. New legislation allowed this minority to be represented at a local level. In conclusion, Mr. Udovenko pointed out that, although the Ukrainians were not confronted with inter-ethnic conflicts, minority issues were an important topic in the current domestic political debate.

Some interesting remarks were made in the following short **discussion** in relation to the HCNM's mandate. According to one delegation the issue of economic participation of minorities was not covered by the mandate. Quite to the contrary, another delegation asked the HCNM to focus more on the economic integration of minorities. In view of the fact that different situations needed different solutions one delegation asked the Economic Co-ordinator to ensure a concrete output of the seminar in terms of economical and environmental follow-up initiatives tackling the issue of minority rights. The important role mass media can play with regard to integration of national minorities was also highlighted.

Finally another delegation raised the issue of the Uygur ethnic minority of Kazakhstan and of the education in their own language. In his reply Mr. de Fonblanque informed the participants of the HCNM's visit to Kazakhstan a week ago. This visit included consultations with the government on an integration policy towards Uygurs and Tatars.

Specific suggestions for the OSCE:

- Provide assistance to governments in drafting/improving legislation on the economic and social integration of national minorities;
- Focus activities on political and economic/social aspects of integration and on education;
- Promote good governance with regard to the promotion of integration;
- Drafting of a "Statement of Principles" on integration for the 13th Economic Forum based on the discussions of this Seminar;
- Helping to adopt integration measures and policies to different situations;
- To encourage/support language courses for minorities;
- To contribute to awareness raising on minority issues.

PANEL DISCUSSION I: Economic and Social Aspects related to the integration of persons belonging to national minorities

Moderator: Mr. Rasto Ovin Professor, Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Maribor, Slovenia

Rapporteur: Mr. William Hanlon, Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Mission to Georgia

In this session experts discussed the economic and social issues related to the integration of minorities. Minorities were first loosely defined to encompass ethnic, religious, and other groups in addition to national minorities. The debate concerning aspects of integration included many issues including property rights, the rule of law, good governance, and in general the impact on the efficiency of the economy and overall stability of a country.

The Moderator was **Professor Rasto Ovin** of the University of Maribor, Slovenia. The participants included several experts from many different countries and backgrounds. The discussion began with opening statements by the panellists on their perspective of the issue of the economic impacts and considerations of integrating minorities. During this discussion several important highlights were raised by the panellists and these included the following:

Mr. Latif Kengerlinskiy, Director, CRRC Azerbaijan, indicates that there are many similarities in the attitudes of the national minority populations of all the countries in the South Caucasus. His data collection efforts shows in general that the attitudes towards minorities are generally the same in all the South Caucasus countries and he stressed that there is much to be learned from collecting good statistical data.

Mr. Krzysztof Drzewicki, Senior Legal Adviser to the Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, stated that the discussion of economic and social integration of minorities is a very new phenomenon, and that in general these minorities live in rural, underdeveloped areas. Therefore within their general economic and social policies states should develop measures designed to remedy the accumulated inequalities and exclusion suffered by minority groups. He further suggested that countries should develop the culture for participatory involvement of minorities within the framework which fosters the rule of law, human rights and good governance and thus nurtures integration initiatives. This should include the consideration of “special measures” that can be considered by a government to remedy inequalities as necessary.

Ms. Milka Radovanovic, Manager, Project Development Center, Brčko District Development Agency, Bosnia and Herzegovina, stated that comprehensive programmes to economically integrate minorities need to take into account local specific considerations. She offered her programme as an example of such a programme that has been successful.

Mr. Shmuel Steven Adler, Director, Planning and Research Division, Ministry of Immigrant Absorption in Israel, described how immigration can be a large challenge to a country. Proper language and skills training to these immigrants can greatly increase these immigrants ability to adapt and successfully integrate in the country.

Ms. Tove Malloy, Senior Research Associate in the European Centre for Minority Issues, stated that economic integration of minorities has been typically seen as a State responsibility. However, she emphasized that the local and community dimensions need to be taken into account. She further added that unemployment, which is usually higher in minority areas, can be seen as a national security issue, and this provides incentives to create programmes in the border areas.

Mr. David Smallbone, Associate Director, Small Business Research Centre in Kingston University, described how local economic empowerment can be achieved by supporting the development of entrepreneurship. Small enterprises can serve as a means of satisfaction for households and their development can be supported by governmental policy which is necessary to compensate for market

failures. He also emphasized that other forms of entrepreneurship such as social enterprises, which operate as businesses, but whose main objectives are social, can be promoted as a development tool for engaging with minority communities.

During the **discussion** several points were raised. The first is that the support of National minorities can create a win-win situation in which everyone in the country can benefit. Economic ties with neighboring States can be improved and the economic situation of the country as a whole can be enhanced.

Furthermore, that integration of minorities in situations where there was conflict can be achieved by governments creating a framework that can foster confidence and economic growth. Ireland was mentioned as a good example. The governments of both sides were involved and created conditions to improve the situation for the minorities. Economic development subsequently occurred and was recognized as a main reason for the peace because people had an interest to have peace to protect their businesses.

Finally, government has an important role to play. Financial incentives to support minorities can be important, and it is important as well as to create a level playing field for businesses.

Specific suggestions for the OSCE:

- Support governments undertake policies that support the inclusion of special measures that can encourage a level playing field for the economic and social integration of minorities;
- Create programs that support economic development that are tailored to each specific needs of each situation;
- Encourage and facilitate entrepreneurship in various ways and forms (self-employment, small businesses, social enterprises, etc); identify good practices and promote them;
- The OSCE should implement its already successful Youth Entrepreneurship Seminars (YES) programme in minority regions;
- The OSCE should focus on implementing good governance programmes in minority areas. This will create a framework to help small businesses grow and support the integration into the national structure.

PANEL DISCUSSION II : Education Policies for Integration

Moderator: Ms. Katherine Brucker, Deputy Political Counsellor, United States Mission to the OSCE

Rapporteur: Mr. Oleg Ziborov, Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the OSCE

All panelists and participants agreed that multiethnic and multicultural diversity of societies is an enrichment factor and thus harmonious integration of minorities, rather than their assimilation, should be aimed at. Poly-ethnicity should be considered as a strategic source of positive development.

Basic preconditions for realization of the potential of multiethnic and multicultural diversity in the societies is the political will of the State, the majority and the minorities in the relevant country.

In general terms, a balanced approach in designing integrating programmes for persons belonging to national minorities, which combines such elements as preserving diversity, proper integration and full participation in political, economic, cultural and social life, is needed. These programmes should be country-specific.

It was recognized that integration-oriented education is essential for positive development of multiethnic societies. For such an educational system, adequate financial and intellectual resources should be provided which is the primary responsibility of the State. It was noted that also contributions of the business community as well as NGO's would be useful in this respect.

Consistently with this approach, it was a common understanding that a modern education system in multiethnic societies should in particular ensure both the implementation of the right of minorities to maintain their identities and their successful integration, including the skills in their mother tongue and the state language.

It was agreed that integration can be achieved through various approaches in education, including multilingual education and maintaining basic education in the mother language with extensive use of the State language.

Bi- and multilingual education, defined as education referring to the use of two or more languages as mediums of instruction, was in the focus of further discussions. It was recognized that this type of education, which has many models, being successfully applied, leads to bi-lingualism and bi-literacy, and with that to an increased overall linguistic development. Ideally, it should be offered to both minority and majority children, especially in the regions where an ethnic minority represents the larger part of the population, which should become a significant contribution to developing dialogue, tolerance and multicultural synergies in the society.

Various aspects of development of multilingual education policies and their implementation in a wide number of participating States were discussed.

Importance of scientifically correct education in history was also highlighted.

Key suggestions for possible OSCE Action:

- The OSCE should further address conceptual and practical aspects of interaction between official languages and non-official minority languages as well as issues of ensuring multiculturalism in education. The OSCE should encourage bi-lingual education to foster integration;
- Educational projects launched by the OSCE in this field should have pilot nature, while implementation of relevant strategies should remain the primary responsibility of the participating States;
- OSCE should also support training of journalists on diversity reporting, promote professionalization of minorities mass media and enhancing of presentation of minorities issues in mass media;
- Possibilities of promoting Russian as a language of interethnic communication, where appropriate, could be also considered;

PANEL DISCUSSION III: The Importance of Good Governance for the Management of Integration

Moderator: Mr Mitja Žagar, Director and Associate Professor, Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Rapporteur: Mr Jörn Beißert, First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the OSCE

In Panel Discussion III **Mr. John de Fonblaque**, Director, Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, emphasized that participation in and access to all aspects of public life at all levels is a precondition for the integration of persons belonging to ethnic minorities. In order to achieve this,

States would have to pursue a policy of non-discrimination and equal treatment. Mr de Fonblanque underlined that good governance was the basis of successful government action also in this field.

Mr Michal Vašečka, Programme Director and Senior Policy Analyst at the Institute of Public Affairs, Slovakia, described the integration of Roma and Sinti as the biggest challenge for many countries in Central Europe. The integration of Roma and Sinti was negatively affected by the lack of a national emancipation process. Furthermore, different objectives among the Roma and Sinti made integration a difficult process. Elites were pursuing the goal of emancipation whereas the other members of this ethnic group were rather interested in assimilation into main-stream society. At the same time Mr Vašečka placed great hope into the Decade of Roma Integration and was confident that Roma and Sinti would find a place in multicultural societies which could evolve in the countries of Central Europe.

Mr Viktor Nikitiuk, the Head of the Euro-Atlantic Co-operation Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, argued that the integration of persons belonging to ethnic minorities was closely linked to the integration into Euro-Atlantic structures. The OSCE should support this process. Furthermore, it could provide legal assistance to participating States and serve as a forum for discussion of the issue.

Ms Merja Lahtinen, Programme Advisor at the Secretariat of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities at the Council of Europe, emphasized the importance of the Framework Convention as a tool to further the integration of persons belonging to ethnic minorities.

Ms Nancy Iris, Deputy Director at the Department of State of the USA, stressed the need to consult closely with both the majority and the minority populations when developing integration projects. Projects should ideally benefit both majority and minority populations. The involvement of youth in such projects was especially useful.

Mr Mitja Žagar also saw political participation of persons belonging to ethnic minorities as the basis for their integration and inclusion. To this end, positive discrimination might be necessary. Education – including civic education as a permanent life long process – was especially important. Members of all ethnic communities should be taught tolerance, a common identity and common values. In this respect, the role of the media was also of vital importance.

The **discussion** focussed on methods how to achieve the successful integration of persons belonging to ethnic minorities. Participants agreed that integration was not equal to assimilation. Governments should make an effort to protect the cultural identity of persons belonging to ethnic minorities while allowing them to participate fully in society. The role of the State was to create a level playing field for all its citizens. Electoral processes, education and access to economic opportunity were considered to be the most important fields for state action. Depending on the particular situation in a given country, policies of positive discrimination (“affirmative actions”) were called for. There was general agreement that integration policies could only be successful if undertaken in an environment marked by good governance and the rule of law. At the same time, integration of minorities and persons belonging to minorities was a key component of good governance.

Regarding the role of the OSCE in its Economic and Environmental Dimension the session led to the following suggestions and recommendations for further OSCE activities in the field of integration of persons belonging to ethnic minorities:

The OSCE should:

- Raise awareness by diverse concerted activities of all relevant actors (participating States, international organizations, civic society) that the societies of participating States are characterized by increasing levels of ethnic diversity that should be observed and understood as an important richness and comparative advantage;
- Promote the participation, inclusion and equitable representation of persons belonging to ethnic minorities in all spheres of life, including decision-making processes at all levels. Their

participation should include equal and adequate representation in all branches of government, public institutions and among public servants;

- Undertake activities which are conducive to the creation of a level playing field for all citizens of a given state regarding their access to the opportunities offered by the economy;
- Promote voluntary and equal integration of minorities and persons belonging to minorities into all spheres of life and their inclusion in diverse integration processes, including the Euro-Atlantic integration of participating States with a view to facilitate the successful integration of persons belonging to ethnic minorities;
- Pay attention to the benefits of both minority and majority populations when developing and implementing field activities;
- Continue to implement the OSCE Roma and Sinti Action Plan as well as the Oslo and Lund recommendations of the High Commissioner on National Minorities;
- Continue to promote good governance in its Economic and Environmental Dimension as good governance constitutes the basis for any successful integration. Therefore, the organization should continue to implement the commitments in the field of good governments undertaken by the participating States in the Strategy Document for the Economic and Environmental Dimension.

WORKING GROUP A : The role of Governments

Moderator: Ambassador Brendan Moran, Permanent Representative of Ireland to OSCE

Rapporteur: Ms. Larissa Neufeld, Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Center in Almaty

Working Group A continued the discussion on the main key issues addressed in the previous day - economic and social aspects related to integration, preventing discrimination, education for integration, public participation, the role of good governance etc. - and specifically focused on the role of Governments in improving and supporting the integration of persons belonging to national minorities. During a lively and stimulating debate ways and means to achieve this goal were identified, ideas were put forward and suggestions for the participating States and the OSCE were formulated:

- Economic integration is an important pre-requisite for integration of national minorities. Governments can ensure it by providing credit preferences, equipment leasing preferences, "positive discrimination" when tendering for public works, opening free economic zones etc;
- Efficient and incorrupt administration is crucial for proper functioning of economy. OSCE is invited to think about provision of favourable economic conditions in co-operation with local administrations and with other international organizations;
- Governments play the primary role in providing opportunities for studying the state language. It is not correct to say that national minorities do not want to study a state language; instead, they should be provided with appropriate opportunities such as state-organized courses with mid-aged and elderly people, providing higher education grants for school children from national minorities etc;
- The number of migrants has considerably increased since the break-up of the socialist block. Rights of migrants are often broken. OSCE is advised to conduct a special conference on this issue;

- The role of local authorities in ensuring adequate treatment of national minorities is indispensable, because it is local, rather than central authorities who deal with national minorities on the day-to-day basis. A general problem is that local authorities do not know their obligations, they often create barriers/discrimination that does not exist in the legislation (such as discriminatory behaviour of local police); on the other hand, minorities do not know their rights. OSCE is advised to address this issue via raising awareness and capacity building of local authorities;
- One of the reasons of improper treatment of minorities by governments is low representation of national minorities in executive, judiciary and court bodies, in particular, in local administrations. A possible solution could be assigning quotas to political representation as well as quotas for university students to ensure access to higher education etc;
- Cross-fertilization in the OSCE region is needed, since there are a number of positive examples, in particular in the Balkans, that can be shared with other OSCE participating States. Exchange of experience can be done also by governmental bodies. The example of the recently created Ethnic Development Councils under Kyrgyz local authorities was mentioned. The OSCE is advised to disseminate this experience both within the country and in the Central Asian region;
- There are a number of international and bilateral agreements that are not being fulfilled. OSCE is asked to assist with ensuring their implementation by governments;
- Mass media play an important role. Their influence can be both positive and negative – the latter being distortion of information about certain national minorities. Governments should not neglect such developments;
- Kin States need to be actively involved in solving issues, especially educational ones, in the neighbouring countries. These include provision of textbooks and assistance with their preparation, inviting students to study in the kin country etc. A problem here is that some national minorities receive such assistance, others do not, and some just do not have kin states to render assistance. Hence, the assistance is unequal. Governments should try to equalize this support;
- Regional discrimination, when a certain region is given fewer opportunities for development, is sometimes perceived as discrimination of national minorities in case they live on that territory. This undermines stability and should be eliminated by equalising economic development of all regions in a country;
- A systemic approach is needed when integrating national minorities. Economic development, legislative base provision and development of democratic institutes should go hand in hand and mutually reinforce one another. It is necessary to develop the mechanism of responsibility of the government, responsibility of national minorities, and responsibility of civil society;
- One of the problems for minorities living in remote and underdeveloped regions is poor access to information. Increasing access to the telecommunication technologies, specifically to the Internet, can help. OSCE is invited to think about ways of providing it.

WORKING GROUP B : The role of civil society

Moderator: Mr. Olexiy Haran, Regional Vice President, The Eurasia Foundation

Rapporteur: Ms. Kimberly Bulkley, Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Center in Tashkent

Working Group B discussed the role of civil society in promoting integration, building upon the conclusions of the plenary session and panel discussions. Participants recognized the importance of an

inclusive approach to integration of persons belonging to national minorities and the role of civil society in this regard. Some concrete suggestions were identified.

It was highlighted during the discussion that many NGOs do not receive financial support from donor organizations because the donor groups fear that their support of NGOs dealing with minority issues may lead to the politicization of a given minority group in the country. This trend then raises the issue of how NGOs dealing with minority issues finance their activities in a sustainable manner.

Some suggestions were made as to how alternative funding can be achieved:

- NGOs should seek support from the community they intend to represent. In order to gain such support, they need to show that they can provide a benefit to the community;
- The OSCE should encourage governments to provide tax exemptions for these NGOs, since they are providing services that will lead to improved ethnic relations and integration within the country, and provide other services that the government does not;
- NGOs should develop small businesses to finance their non-profit activities;

The OSCE was also urged to encourage the participating States to involve these NGOs in the policy making process. It was suggested that it is not enough for a government to invite an NGO to open discussion forum on the issue, so that later the government can claim that NGOs were involved in the decision-making process. Government must actually include the comments of NGOs in the policy making documents. Their statements in agreement or disagreement with government policy should be made part of the record and made available to the public

Likewise, it is important that these NGOs are brought into a dialogue with local businesses and business leaders to build private-public partnerships to better resolve the issues that face the community as a whole.

WORKING GROUP C : The Role of International Organizations

Moderator: Mr. John de Fonblanque, Director, Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

Rapporteur: Mr. David Swalley, Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Office in Baku

Working Group C was devoted to drawing up broad principles and concrete suggestions of how international organizations including the OSCE could impact upon the integration and economic development of national minorities. At the beginning of the Working Group C, the Moderator, Mr. John de Fonblanque began discussions by outlining four main roles that international organizations can take in order to promote minority integration: standards-setting and monitoring; advice on best practices; advocacy; and providing resources and expertise. Following this brief introduction, the floor was opened up to discussion and the following suggestions were made:

- In focusing upon this issue, the OSCE should focus on its core strengths; OSCE's comprehensive concept of security and political dialogue at the Permanent Council can be catalyzed for the raising awareness and discussion of minorities related issues;
- International organizations should promote to its member States the idea of creating an enabling environment for local NGOs to take a more active role in policy formulation and implementation;
- One participant advocated that international organizations could take the lead in providing more educational programs to States in need, for the study of international best practices related to national minorities;

- One delegation raised the issue that in order to ensure that majority populations are made aware of positive measures in regards to national minorities, it is essential to have reliable and relevant statistical data on the economic exclusion of persons belonging to ethnic minorities. Therefore, a suggestion was made that the Office of the Co-ordinator draw up a set of principles which could be useful for participating States for the collection of reliable and relevant data on the economic exclusion of ethnic minorities. Another delegate expressed a note of caution in prescribing a one-size-fits-all solution in collecting and analyzing statistical data as participating States are not identical in historical and political aspects. Rather the OSCE should draw up a guiding document which would clearly define the principles of OSCE involvement in the issue of national minorities.
- Another suggestion was made that the OSCE should make expertise available to participating States in order to assist with the drafting of relevant legislation to assist with the integration of national minorities according to international standards. Further assistance can be provided in providing information and media assistance to national minorities in participating States.
- As national minorities often avoid integration, another suggestion was made to assist in the development of methodology and conducting of censuses so that national minorities are not overlooked.
- Finally, it was suggested by many participants that the OSCE in particular should take into consideration that several international organizations are involved with programs affecting national minorities and not over-lap efforts. In this regard, the OSCE could provide a co-ordinating role with other organizations active in this field.

WORKING GROUP D : The Role of business community

Moderator: Ms. Helen Santiago Fink, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, OCEEA

**Rapporteur: Mr. Yaroslav Yurtsaba, SME Development Adviser, Office of the OSCE
Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine,**

Discussion in Working Group D focused on the role of business community in supporting integration. The discussion was revolving around two issues that were recognized as paramount:

- to what extent the private sector could be charged with social responsibility in the process of integration of national minorities;
- what specifically OSCE could do to engage business community into national minority's integration process.

In the process of lively discussion a number of suggestions were made that demonstrate what types of activities OSCE could elaborate to assist integration processes:

- To stimulate public-private dialogue on the issues of national minorities integration;
- To raise awareness among business community of potential benefits that businesses might get by engaging representatives of ethnic minorities in their operations;
- To encourage businesses to provide minorities with equal access to resources;
- To involve governmental institutions in providing incentives to businesses that target national minorities;
- To build capacity of local businesses in the supply chain management and improve, by doing so, skills and overall economic standing of indigenous enterprises;

- To promote the notion of corporate social responsibility in the countries of the OSCE area;
- To use the OSCE expertise and experience in applying various successful economic development models that could serve the purpose of national minorities integration;
- To closely work with business associations and local chambers of commerce and promote programs providing business opportunities for ethnic minorities.

There was a general consensus that economic inclusion of national minorities is a prerequisite for integration into the social fabric of their respective countries. There was also concluded that full-fledged economic inclusion of national minorities is possible only when good governance and rule of law prevail.

CLOSING STATEMENT

**by Mr. Stanislav Raščan,
Acting Director General of the Directorate for
Policy Planning and Multilateral Political Relations,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Slovenia/OSCE Chairmanship**

Thank you Mr Chairman,
Distinguished Colleagues,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

The lively discussion over the last two days and the interesting deliberations on the topic of Economic and other Perspectives of the Integration of Persons Belonging to National Minorities demonstrates the relevance of the topic of the Third Preparatory Seminar for the Thirteenth OSCE Economic Forum.

Tensions between majorities and minorities are among the largest sources of instability, violence and conflict. That is why the integration of all persons residing in the territory of each and every OSCE participating State, not only immigrants but also persons belonging to national minorities, is a relevant issue that needs to be properly addressed.

Although integration can be considered a central goal pursued by governments and all other actors, in the formulation and execution of integration policies there are no simple answers. Usually, persons belonging to minorities are eager to integrate into the societies where they live. However, in some environments, they are reluctant and have different strategies. An even more serious problem exists when certain minorities are eager to integrate fully, but the majority does not accept their will; usually they are questioning their actual capability to integrate.

This is why there is a need for raising the awareness of the public that ever-increasing diversity is one of the main characteristics of the modern world. Therefore, the adequate protection of minorities should be considered the foundation and yardstick of democracy. We need to further develop basic principles, minimal standards and measures that would enable inclusion, cooperation, equal rights, antidiscrimination and the creation of equal opportunities.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Integration as a building block of good governance offers opportunities to maximize the potentials of persons belonging to national minorities, thereby benefiting the whole society. Effective political, economic and social participation, as well as education, are key foundations of any sustainable integration policy.

Effective political participation of persons belonging to national minorities in legislative, judicial and executive branches of government should be guaranteed at national, regional and local levels. We shall streamline our efforts towards a higher level of effective participation of persons belonging to national minorities in order to reduce the level of discrimination.

To create economic opportunities for persons belonging to national minorities, OSCE participating States might consider developing legislation and measures which would ensure that persons belonging to minorities can have equal opportunities. When needed, affirmative action programs should be implemented to provide for equal starting positions in realizing these opportunities. However, states cannot be the only providers; civil society, including private and public businesses should be included as well. While equal opportunities should be ensured in all spheres of society and life, including the economy and employment, investors should additionally be encouraged to increase investments in the regions where minorities reside. Furthermore, entrepreneurship of persons belonging to national

minorities could be seen as a tool for local community empowerment that benefits the whole national economy. Minority entrepreneurship can also contribute to better integration of national economies into global markets.

Education is a critical tool for the successful integration of persons belonging to national minorities. In addition to formal education, life-long education, training and civic education should be seen as compulsory measures for the attainment of equal participation. In addition, training and education must serve as instruments for fostering equal opportunities and enhancing the comparative advantages of minorities. Attention should be paid to bilingual or multilingual education of persons belonging to minorities at all levels. One of the challenges for the OSCE participating States is also how to integrate their minority languages fully into their legal systems and to make them applicable and operational in daily life.

With the ambition of proposing a concrete set of action-oriented undertakings in the area of integration of persons belonging to national minorities for the Economic Forum in Prague, we should consider developing an OSCE Document on principles concerning the economic integration of minorities.

Mr Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to use this opportunity to convey my sincere appreciation to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine for hosting the last in the series of three preparatory seminars for the 2005 OSCE Economic Forum. My gratitude goes to the Co-ordinator of the OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, Mr. Swiecicki and his dedicated team for their valuable assistance provided in the course of preparation and realisation of the seminar. The contribution of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine and his team was valuable as well. Our special thanks goes to the Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, whose expertise and guidance in tailoring the agenda and the preparation of the background document was instrumental for the success of this event. Furthermore, I would like to extend my thanks to the panellists, moderators and rapporteurs, as well as to the participants.

With this seminar, the preparatory cycle for the Thirteenth OSCE Economic Forum on “Demographic Trends, Migration and Integrating Persons belonging to National Minorities: Ensuring Security and Sustainable Development in the OSCE area” is concluded. The Forum will take place in Prague within the period from 23 to 27 May 2005. Finally, let me take this opportunity to invite you all to participate in this important high-level event.

Thank you for your attention.

CLOSING STATEMENT

**by Mr. Marcin Swiecicki,
Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities**

Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,

I would like to welcome you to our closing plenary session. We come to the close of two interesting days of discussions with very active input from all participants. After hearing the brief report about the suggestions made at the different sessions by Ms. Blažka Kepic, our Chairperson of the OSCE Economic and Environmental Sub-Committee of the Permanent Council, I will have the pleasure to give the floor first to Mr. Volodymyr Tolkacz, Head of the OSCE Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, followed by Mr. Stanislav Raščan, Director General for policy planning and multilateral relations from the Slovenian Chairmanship.

But let me first give the floor to Ms. Blažka Kepic, Counsellor at the Slovenian Mission to the OSCE in Vienna. Ms. Kepic will briefly report on the main issues discussed and highlight a couple of suggestions. I will then give the floor to the moderators of the Working Group sessions from this morning.

Together with our colleagues from the Chairmanship, we will carefully analyze the suggestions and channel them to our delegations in Vienna. They will be taken into account in order to structure the agenda for the upcoming Forum.

The Consolidated Summary including all suggestions and contributions will be discussed in one of the next meetings of the Economic and Environmental Sub-Committee of the Permanent Council in Vienna. It will be available to all of you on the OSCE website. For those who don't have access, please let our office know and we'll be happy to send you a hard copy. Before giving the floor to the representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs host country, Director Volodymyr Tolkacz and to Director Raščan, I would like to know whether there is any participant who would like to comment on the presentation of Ms. Kepic or our distinguished moderators.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Before closing the seminar, I would also like to give you a brief appreciation from my side. There are a number of common denominators which could be found in the plenary, panel and working sessions.

The seminar reflected a broad consensus on principles governing policies towards persons belonging to national minorities.

Persons belonging to national minorities should be ensured equal participation in political life in all branches of government. Educational system should protect national identity but at the same time should arm with skills necessary to participate actively in the life of the state and in the labour market. Persons belonging to national minorities should obtain a fair share in benefits of social policies. State authorities should consult policies affecting persons belonging to national minorities with representatives of these minorities.

Regarding practical actions some proposals contributed to debate. In particular the proposition of economic privileges in terms of tax brakes, special economic zones etc was found not universally justified.

In teaching native languages kin-states may be supportive but this does not absolve any state from duties to provide lessons in native language to their citizens. It may require some extra funding.

Regarding the political life, OSCE is already working with local governments sensitizing them to minority issues. OSCE can replicate successful projects implemented in South East Europe into other OSCE regions.

We need more space for NGO activities which can quite often do more for less.

OSCE should reinvigorate its Roma and Sinti plan of action, as it concerns perhaps the most deprived minority in all OSCE area, deprived of access to education, to jobs, to social assistance.

Dear participants,

I would once again like to thank the Government of Ukraine for graciously offering to host this seminar and for having given us the opportunity not only to discuss these most important issues in perfect conditions, but also for allowing us to discover the vibrant city of Kyiv and its cultural treasures.

I would also like to thank the Slovenian Chairmanship of the OSCE, represented at this table by Mr. Raščan and his team; in particular Ms. Kepic, whose input and dedication have lead this seminar to a full success. I would also like to thank the Office of the High Commissioner for National Minorities, and in particular Director John de Fonblanque, for their outstanding contribution to our efforts in tackling these complex issues. Our local OSCE office under the leadership of Ambassador David Nicholas has been doing a tremendous job, and I thank them for this.

All this would of course not have been possible without all the participants in the event, and I would like to thank all of you for your invaluable support and contribution. I would especially like to thank our moderators, rapporteurs and lead speakers for engaging all of us in most stimulating discussions. Special thanks go to the representatives of other international organizations NGOs and academic community for enriching our debates.

The contributions from the OSCE Missions have confronted us with realities in the field and are thus of immense value for our future deliberations in Vienna, and I thank them for that. I am especially thankful to the team of my office, to whom a great deal of the success of this Seminar has to be attributed, and I would in particular like to thank Gabriel Leonte and Andrea Gredler for their invaluable support and dedication. And last, but not least, I would like to thank our translators for their excellent work and patience.

Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, it was an honour and a great pleasure to be with you here in Kyiv. I look forward to seeing you all in Prague in May. Thank you and I wish all of you a safe journey to your home country.



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

The Secretariat

**Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE
Economic and Environmental Activities**

Kyiv, 10 March 2005

Thirteenth OSCE Economic Forum

“Demographic Trends, Migration and Integrating Persons belonging to National Minorities:
Ensuring Security and Sustainable Development in the OSCE area”

Third Preparatory Seminar for the Thirteenth OSCE Economic Forum

**Integrating Persons belonging to National Minorities:
Economic and other Perspectives**

Kyiv, Ukraine, 10-11 March 2005

Venue: President-hotel “Kyivsky”

ANNOTATED AGENDA

Thursday, 10 March 2005

09.00 – 10.00 **Opening plenary session** (open to Press)

Welcoming remarks by:

- **H.E. Ihor Dolhov**, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ukraine
- **Mr. Stanislav Raščan**, Director General, Directorate for policy planning and multilateral relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia / OSCE Chairmanship
- **Ambassador David R. Nicholas**, OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine
- **Mr. Marcin Swiecicki**, Co-coordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, OSCE Secretariat

10.00-11.00 **Plenary Session: National minorities in the OSCE region: promoting integration and preventing discrimination**

- National minorities in the OSCE region;
- Integration and conflict prevention - the options: integration versus assimilation or separation; different types and levels of integration;
- How to integrate minorities: the respective roles of education, economic, political and social participation;
- Integration through the promotion of equal treatment and non-discrimination;

Moderator: Mr. Janez Malačič, Professor, Head of the Statistical Department, Faculty of Economics, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia

Rapporteur: Mr. Christophe Ceska, Permanent Mission of Austria to the OSCE

Speakers:

Mr. John de Fonblanque, Director, Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities
Mr. Hennadiy Udovenko, Head of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Committee on Human Rights, National Minorities and Interethnic Relations

11.00 – 11.30 *Coffee break*

11.30 – 13.00 **Panel Discussion I : Economic and Social aspects related to the integration of persons belonging to national minorities**

- Economic participation/opportunity as a precondition for full participation of minorities in society; the economic costs of non-integration of minorities (conflict potential, non-productivity, cost of unemployment and social problems);
- Opportunities for minorities on the labour market; how to overcome obstacles to economic empowerment (employment and self-employment); encouraging entrepreneurship by minorities; equal treatment or affirmative action to reduce inequalities; role of business sector;
- Prevention of discrimination with regards to social services and health care (access, dependency, etc) and social interaction with majority communities (including housing);

Moderator: Mr. Rasto Ovin Professor, Dean of the Faculty of Economics and Business, University of Maribor, Slovenia

Rapporteur: Mr. William Hanlon, Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Mission to Georgia

Panellists:

Mr. Krzysztof Drzewicki, Senior Legal Adviser, Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

Ms. Tove Malloy, Senior Research Associate, European Centre for Minority Issues, Flensburg, Germany

Mr. Latif Kengerlinskiy, Director, CRRC Azerbaijan

Mr. Shmuel Steven Adler, Director, Planning and Research Division, Ministry of Immigrant Absorption, Israel

Mr. David Smallbone, Professor of Entrepreneurship and Small Business, Associate Director, Small Business Research Centre, Kingston University, United Kingdom

Ms. Milka Radovanovic, Manager, Project Development Center, Brčko District Development Agency, Bosnia and Herzegovina

13.00 – 14.30 *Lunch break*

14.30 – 16.00 **Panel Discussion II : Education Policies for Integration**

- The role of education in promoting tolerance and addressing prejudice in a multi-cultural society; civic education and integration of minorities; the importance of the history syllabus; integrated or separate schools for minorities;
- Language teaching and integration; effective communication in the State language as the key to economic and political participation; mother tongue education - the key to maintenance of cultural identity; multi-lingual education as a way of acquiring strong communication skills;

Moderator: Ms. Katherine Brucker, Deputy Political Counsellor, United States Mission to the OSCE

Rapporteur: Mr. Oleg Ziborov, Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the OSCE

Panellists:

Mr. Valerly Vishnevskiy, President, Slavic Foundation in the Kyrgyz Republic

Mr. Guntars Catlaks, Director of Research, Education International, Brussels, Belgium

Ms. Christina Johnsson, Senior Lecturer, Raoul Wallenberg Institute, Lund University, Sweden

Ms. Beatrice Schulter, OSCE-HCNM Programme Coordinator in Georgia

Mr. Igor Savin, Director, Dialogue NGO, Kazakhstan

Mr. Arustan Joldasov, Director, Center for Social and Marketing Research in Central Asia "Expert fikri", Uzbekistan

16.00 – 16.30

Coffee break

16.30 – 18.00 **Panel Discussion III : The importance of good governance for the management of integration**

- Political participation and minority access to political representative and legislative bodies at national and regional level;
- Minority participation in executive bodies (police, administration, judiciary);
- Minority participation in economic representative bodies (tri-partite bodies, unions, etc);
- National experiences and institutional developments: practical examples and lessons learned;
- Effective practices to date from the OSCE region;

Moderator: Mr. Mitja Žagar, Director and Associate Professor, Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Rapporteur: Mr. Jörn Beisert, Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany to the OSCE

Panellists:

Mr. John de Fonblanque, Director, Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

Mr. Michal Vašečka, Program Director, 'Ethnic Minorities' Program, Senior Policy Analyst, Institute for Public Affairs, Slovakia

Mr. Mitja Žagar, Director and Associate Professor, Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana, Slovenia

Mr. Viktor Nikitiuk, Head of Euro-Atlantic Cooperation Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ukraine

Ms. Merja Lahtinen, Programme Advisor, Secretariat of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, Council of Europe

Ms. Nancy Iris, Deputy Director, Office of Assistance for Europe, Central Asia and the Americas, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration, Department of State, USA

19:00 Reception by the host country to be held in the “Rus” hotel, 4, Hospytalna Street (within walking distance from the President hotel “Kyivsky”)

Friday, 11 March 2005

09.00 – 10.30

Parallel Working Groups

- Key issues from the plenary sessions (economic and social aspects related to integration, preventing discrimination, education for integration, public participation, the role of good governance, etc);

Working Group A: The role of Governments

Moderator: **Ambassador Brendan Moran**, Permanent Representative of Ireland to OSCE

Rapporteur: **Ms. Larissa Neufeld**, Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Center in Almaty

Working Group B: The role of civil society

Moderator: **Mr. Olexiy Haran**, Regional Vice President, The Eurasia Foundation

Rapporteur: **Ms. Kimberly Bulkley**, Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Center in Tashkent

10.30 – 11.00

Coffee break

11.00 – 12.30

Parallel Working Groups

- Key issues from the plenary sessions (economic and social aspects related to integration, preventing discrimination, education for integration, public participation, the role of good governance, etc);

Working Group C: The role of International Organizations

Moderator: **Mr. John de Fonblanque**, Director, Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities

Rapporteur: **Mr. David Swalley**, Economic and Environmental Officer, OSCE Office in Baku

Working Group D: The role of business community

Moderator: **Ms. Helen Santiago Fink**, Senior Economic Affairs Officer, OCEEA

Rapporteur: **Mr. Yaroslav Yurtsaba**, SME Development Adviser, Office of the OSCE Project Co-ordinator in Ukraine,

12.45 – 13.30

Closing Session (open to Press)

- Presentations of the conclusions and suggestions for action and follow up by the OSCE and its Participating States

Ms. Blazka Kepic, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Slovenia to the OSCE / OSCE Chairmanship

- Closing remarks

Mr. Stanislav Rašëan, Director General, Directorate for policy planning and multilateral relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia / OSCE Chairmanship

Mr. Volodymyr Tolkach, Head of the OSCE Division, Euro-Atlantic Cooperation Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ukraine

Mr. Marcin Swiecicki, Co-coordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, OSCE Secretariat

13.30

Lunch



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

The Secretariat

**Office of the Co-ordinator of OSCE
Economic and Environmental Activities**

Kyiv, 10 March 2005

Thirteenth OSCE Economic Forum

“Demographic Trends, Migration and Integrating Persons belonging to National Minorities:
Ensuring Security and Sustainable Development in the OSCE area”

**Third Preparatory Seminar for the 13th OSCE Economic Forum
Integrating Persons belonging to National Minorities:
Economic and other perspectives**

Kyiv, Ukraine, 10-11 March 2005

DRAFT LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

OSCE PARTICIPATING STATES

ALBANIA

Mr. Kristostom KAMBERI	Committeeman, State Committee for Minorities
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GERMANY

Mr. Joern BEISSERT	First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Federal Republic of Germany of the OSCE
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UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Ms. Katherine BRUCKER	Deputy Political Counsellor, United States Mission to OSCE
Ms. Nancy IRIS	Deputy Director, Department of State, Office of Assistance for Europe, Central Asia and the Americas, Bureau of Population, Refugees and Migration
Ms. Susan ARCHER	OSCE Desk Officer, USA Departement of State, Office of European Security and Political Affairs

ARMENIA

Mr. Tigran SAMVELYAN	Head of Human Right Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department of International Organization
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Mr. Vardan GEVORGYAN	Adviser to the Head of SDMR, State Department for Migration and Refugees of the Republic of Armenia (SDMR)
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AUSTRIA

Mr. Christophe CESKA	Deputy Head, Permanent Mission of Austria to the OSCE
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AZERBAIJAN

Mr. Azer FARZALIYEV	Assistant to the State Advisor on National Policy, Presidential Administration, Department of National Policy
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BELGIUM

Ms. Brigitte WAIGNEIN	Attaché, Permanent Mission of Belgium to the OSCE
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BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Ms. Milka RADOVANOVIC	Director, Brcko District Development Agency, Project Development Center
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BULGARIA

Mr. Ivan TZVETKOV	Counsellor, Head of Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department "Human and Economic Deminesion", OSCE Directorate
Ms. Shirin IBRAHIMOVA	Expert, Council of Ministers, Political Office of Minister without portfolio

CANADA

Mr. Craig WEICHEL	First Secretary, Delegation of Canada to the OSCE
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CROATIA

Mr. Rikardo MARELIC	, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, Department for Cooperation with International Organizations
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SPAIN

Mr. Julio DIAZ SEVILLANO	Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Spain to the OSCE
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ESTONIA

Ms. Evelin KROLOV	Third Secretary, Estonian Embassy in Kyiv
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FINLAND

Ms. Christina HARTTILA	Deputy Permanent Representative, Minister Councillor, Permanent Delegation of Finland to the OSCE
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FRANCE

Mr. Guillaume de KERDREL	OSCE Desk Officer, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
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GEORGIA

Mr. Mikheil CHANTURIA	Senior Advisor, National Security Council of Georgia, the Conflict Management Service
Ms. Ketevan GOGOLASHVILI	Deputy Head, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department of International Organization

UNITED KINGDOM

Ambassador Colin MUNRO	Head of Delegation, United Kingdom Delegation to the OSCE
Ms. Janet GUNN	Political Counsellor, British Embassy in Kiev

GREECE

Mr. Charalambos CHRISTOPOULOS	Head of Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department OSCE, CoE
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HUNGARY

Ambassador Miklos BOROS	Deputy Head of Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department of Human Rights and European Organizations
Ambassador Janos TOTH	Embassy of Hungary in Kyiv
Mr. Gyorgy UOLAKI	Embassy of Hungary in Kyiv
Ms. Maria Agnes PINTER	Analyst, Government Office for Hungarian Minorities Abroad, Department for Strategic Analysis

IRELAND

Ambassador Brendan MORAN	Head of Mission, Permanent Mission of Ireland to the OSCE
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KAZAKHSTAN

Ms. Aigul AITKALI	First Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department of International Humanitarian and Economic Cooperation, OSCE Subdivision
Ms. Karlygash MURZAKHANOVA	Chief of Department of Secondary Education, Ministry of Education and Science

Mr. Marat TOKSANBAEV	Senior Expert, Committee on Migration of the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection
Ms. Vera MOZHAROVA	Consultant, Secretariat of the Integration Committee of the Eurasian Economic Community

KYRGYZSTAN

Mr. Valery VISHNEVSKIY	President, Slavic Foundation in the Kyrgyz Republic
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LATVIA

Ms. Margarita TUMANE	Second Secretary, Embassy of Latvia in Kyiv
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THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

Ms. Marina SVETKOVIC	Inter-Ethnic Project Kumanovo
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LITHUANIA

Mr. Stanislav VIDTMANN	Deputy Director, Department of National Minorities and Lithuanians living abroad of the Government of the Republic of Lithuania
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LUXEMBOURG/EU

Mr. Guy SCHMIT	Adviser, Permanent Mission of Luxembourg to the OSCE
Mr. Eero VUOHULA	Adviser, European Commission, DG External Relations

MOLDOVA

Ms. Olga GONCAREVA	Director, Department of Interethnic Relations of the Republic of Moldova
Mr. Arcadie JOSAN	Head of Department, Immigration and Repatriation Department of the Republic of Moldova

UZBEKISTAN

Mr. Arustan JOLDASEV	Director, Center for Social and Marketing Research in Central Asia "Expert fikri", Uzbekistan
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NETHERLANDS

Mr. Alexander VERBEEK	First Secretary, Permanent Representation of the Netherlands to the OSCE
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POLAND

Mr. Piotr SZOSTAK	Attaché, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Security Policy Department
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PORTUGAL

Ambassador Jose Manuel PESSANHA VIEGAS	Head of Mission, Embassy of Portugal to Kyiv
Mr. Alexandre DUARTE DEJESUS	Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Portugal to Kyiv

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Mr. Alexey URIN	First Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Economic Cooperation Department
Mr. Oleg ZIBOROV	First Secretary, Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the OSCE

SERBIA AND MONTENEGRO

Ambassador Milorak SCEPANOVIC	Head of Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department of OSCE and the Council of Europe
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SLOVAKIA

Mr. Ivan HOPTA	MP, member of Committee, Committee on Human Rights and Minorities, Slovakian Parliament
Mr. Peter BIRCAK	Deputy Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Human Right Department
Mr. Attila SZEP	Counsellor, Embassy of Slovakia in Kyiv
Ms. Anna RUSNAKOVA	Expert, Embassy of Slovakia in Kyiv

SLOVENIA

Mr. Stanislav RAŠČAN	Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Directorate for Policy Planning and Multilateral Relations
Dr. Robert KOKALJ	Minister Counsellor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, OSCE Task Force
Ms. Blažka KEPIC	Deputy Head of Mission, Permanent Mission of the Republic of Slovenia to the OSCE
Dr. Mitja ŽAGAR	Director, Associate Professor, Institute for Ethnic Studies
Dr. Rasto OVIN	Dean, University of Maribor, Faculty of Economics and Business
Dr. Janez MALAČIČ	Professor, Head of Statistical Department, University of Ljubljana, Faculty of Economy

SWITZERLAND

Ambassador Christian FAESSLER	Embassy of Switzerland in Kyiv
Mr. Stefan ESTERMANN	First Secretary, Deputy Head of Mission, Embassy of Switzerland in Kyiv
Mr. Enrico BOLZANI	Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, OSCE Section
Mr. Christoph SOMMER	Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Human Rights Policy Section

TAJKISTAN

Mr. Saidamir JONONOV	Dr., Head of Department, Ministry of Economy and Trade, Department of Science and Social Infrastructure
Mr. Karomatullo OLIMOV	State Counsellor on Social Development and Public Relations of the President, Executive Presidential Apparatus of President of the Republic of Tajikistan

CZECK REPUBLIC

Mr. Pavel KLIMA	Deputy Director, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Department of Multilateral Economic Relations
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TURKEY

Mr. Ömer Burhan TÜZEL	Counsellor, Deputy Representative, Permanent Mission of Turkey to the OSCE
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UKRAINE

H.E. Ihor DOLHOV	Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs
Ambassador Hennadiy UDOVENKO	Chairman, Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights, National Minorities and Interethnic Relations, Verkhonvna Rada (Parliament) of Ukraine
Mr. Anatoliy ZADVORNYI	Advisor of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights, Office of the Ukrainian parliament Commissioner for Human Rights (National Ombudsman)
Mr. Raul CHILACHAVA	Dr., Deputy Chairman, Senior Lecturer, State Committee for Nationalities and Migration
Mr. Olexander VLASIUK	First Deputy Director, National Institute for Strategic Studies
Mr. Viktor NIKITIUK	Head of Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Euro-Atlantic Cooperation Department

Dr. Tetiana IZHEVSKA	Head of Department for Cultural and Humanitarian Cooperation, Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
Ms. Tatyana PILIPENKO	Head of Department, State Committee for Nationalities and Migration, Department on National Minorities
Mr. Valentyn KRYSAKHENKO	Head of Division, National Institute for Strategic Studies, Division on Ethnopolitics
Mr. Volodymyr TOLKACH	Dr., Head of Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Euro-Atlantic Cooperation Department, OSCE Division
Mr. Yurii POLUREZ	Chargé d'Affaires, Delegation of Ukraine to the OSCE
Mr. Theophil RENDYUK	Dr., Head of Division, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Division for Ukrainian Diaspora, national minorities and religion
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**LOG OF CONTRIBUTIONS
FOR THE THIRD PREPARATORY SEMINAR FOR THE 13TH OSCE ECONOMIC FORUM
KYIV, 10-11 FEBRUARY 2005**

Path/File name	Date	Originator	Title/content	Link
Opening Session				
3PS13EFOpening/1	10.03.05	Ukraine	Welcoming Remarks, H.E. Ihor Dolhov, Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs, Ukraine	English
3PS13EFOpening/2	10.03.05	Slovenia	Welcoming remarks, Mr. Stanislav Raščan, Acting Director General, Directorate for policy planning and multilateral relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia / OSCE Chairmanship	English
3PS13EFOpening/3	10.03.05	OSCE OCEEA	Welcoming Remarks, Marcin Swiecicki, Co-ordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, OSCE Secretariat	English
Plenary Session: National Minorities in the OSCE region: promoting integration and preventing discrimination				
3PS13EFPlenSes1/1	10.03.05	OSCE HCNM	Mr. John de Fonblanque, Director, Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities	English
3PS13EFPlenSes1/2	10.03.05	Russian Federation	Minorities, Prof. Valery Tishkov, Director, Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology, Russian Academy of Science	Russian
3PS13EFPlenSes1/3	10.03.05	Russian Federation	Cultural Diversities, Prof. Valery Tishkov, Director, Institute of Ethnology and Anthropology, Russian Academy of Science	Russian
Panel Discussion I: Economic and social aspects related to the integration of persons belonging to national Minorities				
3PS13EFPanDis1/1	10.03.05	OSCE HCNM	Abstract of the Contribution on "Economic and Social Aspects Related to the Integration of Persons Belonging to National Minorities", Mr. Krzysztof Drzewicki, Senior Legal Adviser, Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities	English

3PS13EFPanDis1/2	10.03.05	Germany	Economic participation of the national minorities in the OSCE: the local dimension, Ms. Tove Malloy, Senior Research Associate, European Centre for Minority Issues, Flensburg, Germany	English
3PS13EFPanDis1/3	10.03.05	Azerbaijan	Survey on National Minorities in the Caucasus by Mr. Latif Kengerlinskiy, Director, CRRC Azerbaijan	English
3PS13EFPanDis1/4	10.03.05	Israel	Mr. Shmuel Steven Adler, Director, Planning and Research Division, Ministry of Immigrant Absorption, Israel	English
3PS13EFPanDis1/5	10.03.05	United Kingdom	Entrepreneurship and National Minorities, Mr. David Smallbone, Professor of Entrepreneurship and Small Business, Associate Director, Small Business Research Centre, Kingston University, United Kingdom	English
3PS13EFPanDis1/6 a	10.03.05	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Integration of National Minorities as a precondition for Sustainable Development, BDDA Social Mitigation Model Ms. Milka Radovanovic, Manager, Project Development Center, Brčko District Development Agency, Bosnia and Herzegovina	English
3PS13EFPanDis1/6 b	10.03.05	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Integration of National Minorities as a precondition for Sustainable Development, Ms. Milka Radovanovic, Manager, Project Development Center, Brčko District Development Agency, Bosnia and Herzegovina	English
Panel Discussion II: Education Policies for Integration				
3PS13EFPanDis2/1a	10.03.05	Belgium	Thesis by Mr. Guntars Catlaks, Director of Research, Education International, Brussels, Belgium	English
3PS13EFPanDis2/1b	10.03.05	Belgium	Bilingual Education: the case of Latvia from an international comparative perspective, Mr. Guntars Catlaks, Director of Research, Education International, Brussels, Belgium	English

3PS13EFPanDis2/2a	10.03.05	OSCE HCNM	Bilingual and Multilingual Education as a Means for Resolving Issues of Language Education, Ms. Beatrice Schulter, CIMERA, OSCE-HCNM Programme Coordinator in Georgia	English
3PS13EFPanDis2/2b	10.03.05	OSCE HCNM	Multilingual Education as a way to solve linguistic exclusion in the education systems of Central Asian Countries, Ms. Beatrice Schulter, CIMERA, OSCE-HCNM Programme Coordinator in Georgia	English
3PS13EFPanDis2/3a e	10.03.05	Kazakhstan	Titular Population Has the Edge in Kazakhstan, Local Governance in Multiethnic societies in CIS. Budapest. OSI. LGI Project. 2002, Mr. Igor Savin, Director, Dialogue NGO, Kazakhstan	English
3PS13EFPanDis2/3a r	10.03.05	Kazakhstan	Titular Population Has the Edge in Kazakhstan, Local Governance in Multiethnic societies in CIS. Budapest. OSI. LGI Project. 2002, Mr. Igor Savin, Director, Dialogue NGO, Kazakhstan	Russian
3PS13EFPanDis2/3b	10.03.05	Kazakhstan	High Education as the way of integration of Uzbek national minority in Kazakhstani society, Mr. Igor Savin, Director, Dialogue NGO, Kazakhstan	English
3PS13EFPanDis2/4 r	10.03.05	Uzbekistan	Paper by Mr. Arustan Joldasov, Director, Center for Social and Marketing Research in Central Asia "Expert fikri", Uzbekistan	Russian
Panel Discussion III: The importance of good governance for the management of integration				
3PS13EFPanDis3/1	10.03.05	OSCE HCNM	Abstract of the Contribution on "The Importance of Good Governance for the Management of Integration", Mr. John de Fonblanque, Director, Office of the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities	English
3PS13EFPanDis3/2	10.03.05	Slovakia	Political participation of Roma in Slovakia since 1998, PhDr. Michal Vašečka, Ph.D, Program Director, Ethnic Minorities Program, Senior Policy Analyst, Institute for Public Affairs, Slovakia	English

3PS13EFPanDis3/3	10.03.05	Slovenia	Political and Social Participation of National Minorities as the means of integration, Dr. Mitja Žagar, Director and Associate Professor, Institute for Ethnic Studies, Ljubljana, Slovenia	English
3PS13EFPanDis3/4	10.03.05	CoE	Effective participation of persons belonging to national minorities in cultural, social and economic life and in public affairs in the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, Ms. Merja Lahtinen, Programme Advisor, Secretariat of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, Council of Europe	English
Closing Session				
3PS13EFClosing/1	11.03.05	Slovenia	Mr. Stanislav Raščan, Acting Director General, Directorate for policy planning and multilateral relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Slovenia / OSCE Chairmanship	English
3PS13EFClosing/2	11.03.05	OSCE OCEEA	Mr. Marcin Swiecicki, Co-coordinator of OSCE Economic and Environmental Activities, OSCE Secretariat	English
General Documents				
3PS13EFGeneral 1e	10.03.05	OSCE OCEEA	Agenda	English
3PS13EFGeneral 1r	10.03.05	OSCE OCEEA	Agenda	Russian
3PS13EFGeneral 2	10.03.05	OSCE OCEEA	Draft List of participants	English
3PS13EFGeneral 3a	10.03.05	Germany	The European Center for Minority Issues (ECMI), Description	English
3PS13EFGeneral 3b	01.02.05	Germany	EMCI Newsletter, Volume 2/Issue 1	English
3PS13EFGeneral 4 r			Report “Monitoring Interethnic Relations in Kazakhstan”, Dec. 2004, the Kazakh Institute of Socio-economic information and forecast	Russian
3PS13EFGeneral 5	10.05.05	Kazakhstan	Contribution from Dr. Sheripzhan Nadyrov, Al-Farabi Kazakh National University, Public association “National Association of Uigurs	Russian

3PS13EFGeneral 6e,r	10.05.05	Kazakhstan	Integration labour immigrants from NIS countries to local community in South Kazakhstan and early prevention of inter-ethnic conflict by Mr. Serik Aidossov, executive director of Sociological Resource Center, official expert of the Human Rights Commission at President of the republic of Kazakhstan	English, Russian
3PS13EFGeneral 7	01.05.04	EU	The Bolzano Declaration on the Protection of Minorities in the Enlarged European Union, EURAC Research, Local Government and Public Service Reform Initiative	English
3PS13EFGeneral 8	12.04	OSCE Secretariat	The Education solution: Fostering Harmony in Diversity, High Commissioner on National Minorities, OSCE Magazin, Issue December 2004	English
3PS13EFGeneral 9	10.03.05	Austria	The OSCE Area beyond 2020 – Three Dimensional Challenges – revisited revised version, by Mr. Anis.H. Bajrektarevic IMC University - Austria, Dept. EU-NAFTA-ASEAN	English
3PS13EFGeneral 10	10.03.05	Kazakhstan	Minority Languages in Kazakhstan, Ms. Karlygash Murzakhanova	Russian
3PS13EFGeneral 11	10.03.05	Egypt	Speech by Ambassador Mona Kahsahba, Embassy of the Arab Republic of Egypt in Kiev	English
3PS13EFGeneral 12	11.03.05	Bulgaria	Social Aspects of the Integration – examples from Bulgaria	English
3PS13EFGeneral 13	2004	Ukraine	Report about the rights of National Minorities in the region of Crimea, Mr. V. Pavlov	Russian
3PS13EFGeneral 14	10.03.05	Austria	Perception on the III countries Nationals in the EU, by Anis H. Bajrektarevic, IMC University - Austria, Dept. EU-NAFTA-ASEAN	English
3PS13EFGeneral 15	11.03.05	USA	Legalization under the Immigration Reform and Control Act (IRCA). Excerpted from www.uscis.gov , Fact Sheet on the so-called U.S. "Amnesty Program" for Illegal Migrants	English
3PS13EFGeneral 16	10.03.05	Kazakhstan	Contribution from Ms.Vera Mozharova, Secretariat of the Integration Committee of the Eurasian Economic Community	Russian

3PS13EFGeneral 17	10.03.05	Slovenia	Demography of National Minorities (Discussion), Dr. Janez Malacic, University of Ljubljana	English
SEC.GAL/33/05/Corr. 1	17.02.05	OSCE OCEEA	Logistic Information	English
SEC.GAL/55/05	02.03.05	OSCE OCEEA	Background Paper for the Third Preparatory Seminar/13thEF	English