



COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 11 June 2008

ACFC/III(2008)001

**OUTLINE FOR THE STATE REPORTS TO BE SUBMITTED
UNDER THE THIRD MONITORING CYCLE, IN CONFORMITY
WITH ARTICLE 25 OF THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION FOR
THE PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES**

**Adopted by the Committee of Ministers at the 1029th meeting
of the Ministers' Deputies
on 11 June 2008**

Rule 21 of Resolution (97) 10 of the Committee of Ministers sets the periodical basis for transmission of state reports on the implementation of the Framework Convention at five years, calculated from the date on which the previous report was due. The State Parties to the Framework Convention in which the Convention entered into force on 1 February 1998 will have to submit a new state report before 1 February 2009. This date therefore sets the beginning of the third monitoring cycle under the Framework Convention for a number of States Parties.

In view of the above and on the basis of Rule 41 of the Rules of Procedure of the Advisory Committee, by virtue of which the latter may “suggest to the Committee of Ministers an outline for subsequent state reports to be submitted under Article 25, paragraph 3, of the Framework Convention”, a draft outline for state reports under the third monitoring cycle was prepared and approved by the Advisory Committee at its 31st plenary meeting on 28 February 2008.

The Advisory Committee proposes an Outline (appended hereto) comprising three main parts:

The first part deals with the practical arrangements made by States Parties to continue implementing the Framework Convention, to increase the involvement of civil society in the process and to pursue the dialogue with the Advisory Committee.

The second part requests information on specific progress in implementing the recommendations included in the Committee of Ministers’ Resolution. It should also comprise an article-by-article description of legislative and other measures taken, as well as policies designed to address problems and needs identified in earlier cycles of monitoring. Particular attention should be paid to reflecting on the effects of policies, long-term strategies and processes launched to implement the Framework Convention, as well as on the impact of involving the civil society and other stakeholders in these processes.

The third part invites States Parties, where appropriate, to answer a number of specific questions which may arise from specific national circumstances.

Outline for the state reports to be submitted under the third monitoring cycle of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities

1. Under Article 25 paragraph 2 of the Framework Convention the Parties must each transmit to the Committee of Ministers, on a periodical basis and whenever the Committee of Ministers so requests, any information of relevance to the implementation of the Framework Convention.
2. Similarly, under Rule 21 of Resolution (97) 10, the periodical basis for transmission of state reports on the implementation of the Framework Convention is set at five years, calculated from the date on which the previous state report was due.
3. Following two cycles of monitoring, it is important to take stock of the progress made by States Parties in the implementation of the Framework Convention and its impact on the situation of national minorities. The preparation of the third state report thus provides an opportunity to reflect on the outcomes - both positive and negative - of policies and strategies implemented during previous monitoring cycles. States Parties should also analyse the impact of other long-term processes. In doing so, they are encouraged to draw upon the thematic commentaries adopted by the Advisory Committee, including those on education and participation. In this context, the involvement of civil society and national minorities' representatives in these processes should also be taken into account.
4. The state report under the third cycle of monitoring should contain all the relevant information on the implementation of the Framework Convention since the preparation of the second state report. Supporting evidence may be provided as an appendix. Particular emphasis should be put on the practice and the impact of the legislative and other measures taken in those fields which are relevant to the situation of persons belonging to national minorities.
5. Minority representatives, and where appropriate other stakeholders, should be effectively consulted in the preparation of the state report, to ensure that the information provided is as comprehensive as possible and adequately reflects the perspective of national minorities.
6. The report should follow the outline set out below and be submitted in one of the official languages of the Council of Europe, as well as in the original language. In order to avoid unnecessary repetition, the text of the report may refer to the information contained in previous state reports where appropriate.
7. It is essential that the report provide updated, reliable and relevant statistical data on national minorities, set out if possible and where appropriate by age, sex and geographical distribution. Furthermore, to facilitate the evaluation by the Advisory Committee, States Parties should supply copies or extracts of all relevant legal instruments, draft legislations and jurisprudence mentioned in the state report. These copies/extracts should be supplied in the original language and, wherever possible, also in one of the official languages of the Council of Europe.

8. Should they have any questions, the authorities responsible for producing the state report are invited to contact the Secretariat of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities (Secretariat of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities, Council of Europe, F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex, France; tel: +33 (0) 3 88 41 20 00; fax: +33 (0)3 90 21 49 18; e-mail: minorities.fcnm@coe.int).

I. Practical arrangements made at the national level for following up the results of the second monitoring cycle

- a. Please provide information on the participation of minority organisations and other non-governmental organisations in the authorities' implementation and monitoring of the Framework Convention, and indicate the impact of their involvement.
- b. Please indicate what steps have been taken to publicise the results of the second monitoring cycle (Opinion, State comments, Resolution): publication, dissemination and translation into the official language(s) and the minority language(s) where appropriate;
- c. Please provide information on any follow-up activities organised at national, regional and local levels;
- d. Please provide information on any other measures taken to promote awareness of the Framework Convention.

II. Measures taken to improve the implementation of the Framework Convention

- a. Please provide information and evidence that describe how the specific recommendations included in Part 2 of the Resolution adopted by the Committee of Ministers have been implemented. Indications on other policies and measures considered relevant in this context should also be provided.
- b. Please describe, article-by-article, the measures and policies taken to implement the various findings contained in the Advisory Committee Opinion. Information should be provided in a manner which duly reflects interrelations between various provisions of the Framework Convention.

- Particular attention should be paid to describing those comprehensive policies that aim to address problems and needs of national minorities in various areas.

- In addition to providing information on new developments related to any of the articles of the Framework Convention, States Parties should describe the effects of policies and processes launched, at the national, regional and local levels, to address needs and problems identified in earlier cycles of monitoring.

- In doing so, States are encouraged to use, as a guiding tool, the thematic commentaries adopted by the Advisory Committee, including those on education and participation of persons belonging to national minorities.

III. Specific questions

As part of the continuing dialogue with the Advisory Committee, States Parties may be invited to provide answers to specific questions which may arise from specific national circumstances.

Appendix

FRAMEWORK CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES CONVENTION-CADRE POUR LA PROTECTION DES MINORITES NATIONALES

DUE DATE OF STATE REPORTS 1st, 2nd AND 3rd CYCLES DATE DE PRESENTATION ATTENDUE DES RAPPORTS ETATIQUES POUR LE 1^{er}, 2^e et 3^e CYCLES

Updated/Mise à jour: 16.05.2008

MEMBER STATES/ ETATS MEMBRES	1 st cycle State Reports Rapports étatiques du 1 ^{er} cycle	2 nd cycle State Reports Rapports étatiques du 2 ^e cycle	3 rd cycle State Reports Rapports étatiques du 3 ^e cycle
ALBANIA/ALBANIE	Due 01/01/2001	Due 01/01/2006	Due 01/01/2011
ANDORRA/ANDORRE			
ARMENIA/ARMENIE	Due 01/11/1999	Due 01/11/2004	Due 01/11/2009
AUSTRIA/AUTRICHE	Due 01/07/1999	Due 01/07/2004	Due 01/07/2009
AZERBAIJAN/AZERBAIDJAN	Due 01/10/2001	Due 01/10/2006	Due 01/10/2011
BELGIUM/BELGIQUE			
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA/ BOSNIE- HERZEGOVINE	Due 01/06/2001	Due 01/06/2006	Due 01/06/2011
BULGARIA/BULGARIE	Due 01/09/2000	Due 01/09/2005	Due 01/09/2010
CROATIA/CROATIE	Due 01/02/1999	Due 01/02/2004	Due 01/02/2009
CYPRUS/CHYPRE	Due 01/02/1999	Due 01/02/2004	Due 01/02/2009
CZECH REPUBLIC/REPUBLIQUE TCHEQUE	Due 01/04/1999	Due 01/04/2004	Due 01/04/2009
DENMARK/DANEMARK	Due 01/02/1999	Due 01/02/2004	Due 01/02/2009
ESTONIA/ESTONIE	Due 01/02/1999	Due 01/02/2004	Due 01/02/2009
FINLAND/FINLANDE	Due 01/02/1999	Due 01/02/2004	Due 01/02/2009
FRANCE			
GEORGIA/GEORGIE	Due 01/04/2007	Due 01/04/2012	Due 01/04/2017
GERMANY/ALLEMAGNE	Due 01/02/1999	Due 01/02/2004	Due 01/02/2009
GREECE/GRECE			
HUNGARY/HONGRIE	Due 01/02/1999	Due 01/02/2004	Due 01/02/2009
ICELAND/ISLANDE			
IRELAND/IRLANDE	Due 01/09/2000	Due 01/09/2005	Due 01/09/2010
ITALY/ITALIE	Due 01/03/1999	Due 01/03/2004	Due 01/03/2009
LATVIA/LETTONIE	Due 01/10/2006	Due 01/10/2011	Due 01/10/2016
LIECHTENSTEIN	Due 01/03/1999	Due 01/03/2004	Due 01/03/2009
LITHUANIA/LITUANIE	Due 01/07/2001	Due 01/07/2006	Due 01/07/2011
LUXEMBOURG			

MALTA/MALTE	Due 01/06/1999	Due 01/06/2004	Due 01/06/2009
MOLDOVA	Due 01/02/1999	Due 01/02/2004	Due 01/02/2009
MONACO			
MONTENEGRO	Due 06/06/2007	Due 06/06/2012	Due 06/06/2017
NETHERLANDS/PAYS-BAS	Due 01/06/2006	Due 01/06/2011	Due 01/06/2016
NORWAY/NORVEGE	Due 01/07/2000	Due 01/07/2005	Due 01/07/2010
POLAND/POLOGNE	Due 01/04/2002	Due 01/04/2007	Due 01/04/2012
PORTUGAL	Due 01/09/2003	Due 01/09/2008	Due 01/09/2013
ROMANIA/ROUMANIE	Due 01/02/1999	Due 01/02/2004	Due 01/02/2009
RUSSIAN FEDERATION/FEDERATION DE RUSSIE	Due 01/12/1999	Due 01/12/2004	Due 01/12/2009
SAN MARINO/SAINT-MARIN	Due 01/02/1999	Due 01/02/2004	Due 01/02/2009
SERBIA/SERBIE	Due 01/09/2002	Due 01/09/2007	Due 01/09/2012
SLOVAK REPUBLIC/REPUBLIQUE SLOVAQUE	Due 01/02/1999	Due 01/02/2004	Due 01/02/2009
SLOVENIA/SLOVENIE	Due 01/07/1999	Due 01/07/2004	Due 01/07/2009
SPAIN/ESPAGNE	Due 01/02/1999	Due 01/02/2004	Due 01/02/2009
SWEDEN/SUEDE	Due 01/06/2001	Due 01/06/2006	Due 01/06/2011
SWITZERLAND/SUISSE	Due 01/02/2000	Due 01/02/2005	Due 01/02/2010
“THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA”/”L’EX- REPUBLIQUE YUGOSLAVE DE MACEDOINE”	Due 01/02/1999	Due 01/02/2004	Due 01/02/2009
TURKEY/TURQUIE			
UKRAINE	Due 01/05/1999	Due 01/05/2004	Due 01/05/2009
UNITED KINGDOM/ROYAUME-UNI	Due 01/05/1999	Due 01/05/2004	Due 01/05/2009