



Strasbourg, 23 April 2010

DH-MIN(2010)OB001 rev

**COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON ISSUES RELATING TO
THE PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES
(DH-MIN)**

ANNOTATED ORDER OF BUSINESS

**11th meeting
5-6 May 2010**

**Strasbourg
Council of Europe
Room G03, Agora Building**

WEDNESDAY 5 MAY 2010

10:00 – 12:30

Item 1: **Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda.**

Item 2: **Examination of the text of the expert study of responses replies to the questionnaire on the distribution of public financial support for projects concerning persons belonging to national minorities and their associations (organisations).**

At its last meeting in November 2009 the Committee instructed the Secretariat, to commission an expert thematic analysis of responses to the questionnaire on the distribution of public financial support for projects concerning persons belonging to national minorities and their associations (organisations) with the aim of, identifying *inter alia* good practice with regard to the system for the allocation of funding, applied criteria and the actors involved.

Ms Anna-Maria Biro, Senior Consultant of the Multiethnic Communities Programme of the Open Society Institute and Ms Katalin Pallai, independent expert on local community processes and local government strategies will present their analysis of the responses to the questionnaire in question.

Following this presentation, the Committee will hold an exchange views on this topic and will decide on possible future work on this theme.

Item 3: **Presentation by the President of the ACFC of the proposal for discussion on the theme of "The impact of the current economic situation on national minorities individually and collectively".**

At its 10th meeting in November 2010, Mr Alan Phillips, President of the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention, submitted in writing a proposal for discussion on the theme of "The impact of the current economic situation on national minorities individually and collectively".

Mr Phillips will make a presentation on the impact of the current economic situation on national minorities individually and collectively.

Following this presentation, the Committee will hold an exchange views on this topic and will decide on possible future work on this theme.

14:30 – 17:30

Item 4: **Expert presentation of the promotion of the use of languages of persons belonging to national minorities in minority communities on behalf of Poland.**

At its last five meetings, the Committee heard testimonies on good practices in the field of the promotion of use of native languages in minority communities in the Slovak Republic, Romania, Serbia, Switzerland, Italy, Hungary and Moldova, Norway, Croatia and on the "Position of France on the use of languages of origin and mother tongues in the field of education".

The Committee decided to continue to examine this topic and to invite other States, to introduce their case-studies of good practices in this field at the forthcoming meetings.

Mr Dobiesław Rzemieniewski, Head of National and Ethnic Minorities Division in the Department of Denominations and National and Ethnic Minorities at the Ministry of Interior and Administration will make a presentation on the “Promotion of use of German and Lithuanian languages in Poland as the languages of the national minorities”.

Following this presentation, the Committee will hold an exchange views on this topic and will decide on possible future work on this theme.

Item 5: **Presentation by the Delegation of Norway of the proposal for discussion on the theme of “Mechanisms for selection of independent experts – Exchange of examples good practice regarding the selection of expert members to monitoring bodies, in particular to the Advisory Committee under the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and to the expert committee under the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages”.**

Following this presentation, the Committee will hold an exchange views on this topic and will decide on possible future work on this theme.

Item 6: ***Tour de table* on recent developments regarding national minorities.**

THURSDAY 6 MAY 2010

9:30 – 12:30

Item 7: **Exchange of views on the use of symbols of national minorities in the private and public sphere on the basis of the revised document elaborated by the Office of the High Commissioner on National Minorities of the OSCE.**

At its 10th meeting in November 2009, the Committee started to consider the theme of the use of symbols of national minorities in the private and public sphere. Mr Krzysztof Drzewicki, Senior Legal Adviser in the Office of the High Commissioner on National Minorities presented the OSCE Paper on this theme. In the aftermath of the meeting a number of delegations submitted updated information on the use of symbols of national minorities which were included in the revised Paper.

Mr Krzysztof Drzewicki will present the findings on the domestic legislation and practice in this field

Following these presentations the Committee will exchange views on the possible future work on this theme.

Item 8: **Exchange of views on the working methods on the DH-MIN in the light of the CDDH 69th meeting report (doc ref.: CDDH(2009)019).**

At its 69th meeting the Steering Committee on Human Rights, held an exchange of views with Mrs Milena Klajner, Chairperson of the DH-MIN who reported on the Committee’s work and examined the proposal for the terms of reference for the DH-MIN in 2010-2011.

In this context, the CDDH took the occasion to invite the DH-MIN to review its working methods, in particular by making a choice between the themes to be addressed and prioritise them according to their relative importance, reflecting clearly in its meeting reports the goals that the DH-MIN proposed to achieve for each theme, and within what foreseeable deadlines, and indicating what were, in the DH-MIN's opinion, the means necessary for achieving these goals (it being understood that the consistent practice of calling on external consultants should remain exceptional). The CDDH asked the DH-MIN to consider whether it would be appropriate to establish subordinate committees of limited composition to undertake certain work, or even itself only to meet once a year (please refer to the CDDH-69th meeting report (doc ref.: CDDH(2009)019)) .

Member States are invited to hold an exchange of views on the issues raised by the CDDH and to take appropriate decisions.

14:30 – 17:00

Item 9: Presentation on the Council of Europe work in the field of Roma education.

At its last meeting the Committee held an exchange of views on the measures adopted to promote mutual respect and understanding and co-operation among all persons living on their territory, and on the interplay between the initiatives taken by the Council of Europe and other international Organisations, such as the “Alliance of Civilisations” of the United Nations. The Committee also instructed the Secretariat to invite representatives of the MG-S-ROM to inform the Committee of their work, especially in the field of education.

Mr Jan Hero, member of the MG-S-ROM on behalf of the Slovak Republic, Director of the Zefyrin Jimenez Malla Gymnasium in Kremnica, will present the work of the MG-S-ROM in this field.

Ms Aurora Ailincai, Project Coordinator, Education of Roma children in Europe, Education in Kosovo: Interculturalism and the Bologna Process, Directorate of Education and Languages will inform the Committee on the implementation of the Recommendation CM/Rec(2009)4 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the education of Roma and Travellers in Europe.

Following this presentation, the Committee will hold an exchange views on this topic and will decide on possible future work on this theme.

Item 10: Consideration of future themes to be addressed by the DH-MIN on the basis of proposals by DH-MIN members.

The Delegations are invited to submit in writing to the Secretariat proposals for future themes to be addressed by the Committee two weeks ahead of the meeting

Item 11: Other business.

Item 12: Dates of the next meetings.

Item 13: Approval of the list of decisions adopted during the meeting.