



Strasbourg, 12 October 2006

DH-MIN(2006)OB002 rev

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

ANNOTATED ORDER OF BUSINESS

4th meeting

19-20 October 2006

**Strasbourg
Council of Europe
Room 7, Palais de l'Europe**

THURSDAY 19 OCTOBER 2006

9:00 – 12:30

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

Item 3: **Examination of the theme on the specific regulations contained in electoral laws and the laws on political parties at local, regional and national levels that are relevant for national minorities and discussions on the future work to be carried out by the DH-MIN in this field**

- Presentation of the report by Mr David Hine, Director, Centre for the Study of Democratic Government in Oxford
- Discussion on the follow-up to be given to the examination of this theme by the DH-MIN

Working documents:

Report on the specific regulations contained in electoral laws and the laws on political parties relevant for national minorities – Contributions by Mr David Hine (DH-MIN(2006)013) and by Mr Joseph Marko (DH-MIN(2006)014)

Reference document:

Information provided by DH-MIN members on this theme (DH-MIN(2006)002rev)

Item 6: ***Tour de table* on recent developments regarding national minorities, including as regards signatures and ratifications of Council of Europe treaties relating to the protection of national minorities**

- DH-MIN members are invited to make a short presentation on recent developments under this item. They may want to submit any supporting document relevant to their interventions

14:00 – 17:30

Item 2: **Examination of the draft manual on good practices in the field of consultative mechanisms of national minorities**

- Presentation of the draft document on good practices by Mr Marc Weller, Director, European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI)
- Examination of the text of the draft manual

Working document:

Draft manual on good practices in the field of consultative mechanisms of national minorities (DH-MIN(2006)012)

Item 7: **Exchange of views on the outcome of the seminar on the international legal guarantees for the protection of national minorities and problems in their implementation, with a special focus on minority education**

FRIDAY 20 OCTOBER 2006

9:00 – 12:30

Item 4: **Examination of the theme on access of national minorities to media and discussions on the future work to be carried out by the DH-MIN in this field**

- Presentation of the report prepared by Mr Tom Moring, Professor, Swedish School of Social Science, University of Helsinki and the comments provided by Mr Karol Jakubowicz, Chairperson of the Steering Committee on the Media and New Communication Services (CDMC) and Mr Tarlach McGonagle, researcher at the University of Amsterdam
- Discussion on the text and the follow-up to be given to the examination of this theme by the DH-MIN

Working documents:

Report on access of national minorities to the media: new challenges by Mr Tom Moring (DH-MIN(2006)015), Comments by Mr Tarlach McGonagle (DH-MIN(2006)016) and Comments by Mr Karol Jakubowicz (DH-MIN(2006)017)

Item 8: **Election of the President of the DH-MIN (subject to the approval of the CDDH)**

Item 9: **Future long-term work – Proposals of future themes by DH-MIN members**

- DH-MIN members are invited to submit and discuss proposals for possible themes to be examined in the DH-MIN work-programme in the long term

Item 11: **Dates of the next meeting**

- The DH-MIN is invited to agree on the provisional dates of its fifth meeting, subject to the decision on the extension of its terms of reference by the Committee of Ministers.

14:00 – 17:30

Item 5: Examination of the theme on the impact of international non-discrimination norms relevant to the protection of national minorities in Europe and discussions on the future work to be carried out by the DH-MIN in this field

- Presentation by Mr Rainer Hofmann, Professor, University of Frankfurt
- Presentation by Mr Olivier de Schutter, Professor, Catholic University of Louvain - The impact of the EU texts and the case-law of the European Court of Justice (ECJ) on the protection of national minorities
- Presentation by Ms Kristin Henrard, Senior lecturer, University of Groningen - The impact of the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights (ECtHR) and the case-law of the United Nations bodies in the field of non-discrimination on the protection of national minorities
- Discussion on the follow-up to be given to the examination of this theme by the DH-MIN

Working documents:

Report on the impact of international norms on non-discrimination relevant to the protection of national minorities in Europe – contributions of Mr Rainer Hofmann (DH-MIN(2006)018), Mr Olivier de Schutter (DH-MIN(2006)019), Ms Kristin Henrard (DH-MIN(2006)020) and (DH-MIN(2006)021).

Item 10: Examination of the DH-MIN activity report

Working documents:

Activity Report of the DH-MIN 2005-2006 (DH-MIN(2006)022)

Item 12: Other business

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