



COE056778

Strasbourg, 25 February 1999

**PUBLIC DOCUMENT**  
~~DOCUMENT RESTRICTED~~  
**PUBLIC**  
 DH-MIN (99) OJ3 add1

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

---

**3<sup>rd</sup> meeting  
16 March 1999, Room 9  
17-19 March 1999, Room 8  
Palais de l'Europe**

---

**ANNOTATED ORDER OF BUSINESS**

**TUESDAY 16 MARCH 1999, 09H30**

**Agenda item 3: Participation of minorities in decision-making processes**

*As agreed at the second meeting of DH-MIN, this item will be taken up in a combined meeting with participants to the Sixth Meeting of Government Offices for National Minorities. Besides representatives from member States, applicant States and DH-MIN observers the following have been invited to attend the joint meeting on 16 March 1999 on an ad hoc basis: Federal Union of European Nationalities (FUEN), Minority Rights Group International (MRG); European Bureau for Lesser Used Languages (EBLUL), International Association for the Defence of Threatened Languages and Cultures (AIDLCM), European Centre for Minority Issues (ECMI), Mrs S. Trifunovska (University of Nijmegen- Editor of the European Yearbook on Minorities) and the Project on Ethnic Relations (PER). For further details see the programme for the joint meeting.*

WEDNESDAY 17 MARCH 1999, 09H30

- Agenda item 1:        Opening of the meeting**
- Agenda item 2:        Adoption of the agenda**
- Agenda item 5:        Preparation of a draft opinion of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) on CLRAE Recommendation 1998(43) on territorial autonomy and national minorities**

*It is recalled that at its last meeting the DH-MIN decided that one day of the meeting would be reserved for this agenda item because the DH-MIN will have to adopt a draft opinion for transmission to the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH). It should be noted that the CDDH will examine the draft opinion at its 46<sup>th</sup> meeting (22-25 June 1999); the deadline for execution of the terms of reference is 1 July 1999. For the list of working documents, see document DH-MIN (99)OJ3add2.*

THURSDAY 18 MARCH 1999, 09H30

Morning

- Agenda item 4:        Recent developments**
- a.    in respect of member States**
  - b.    within the Council of Europe**

*Members are invited under item a. to inform the Committee of recent developments in their country concerning the protection of persons belonging to national minorities and in respect of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities and the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages. Members of the Committee who were not able to participate in the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of DH-MIN are invited to provide information on the question to which groups the Framework Convention will be applied (see document DH-MIN (98) 4 Addendum I). Under item b. the Secretariat will inform the Committee of relevant developments within the Council of Europe.*

- Agenda item 6:        Exchange of views and experience with the preparation of the State reports under the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities**

Afternoon

- Agenda item 3:        Participation of minorities in decision-making processes**

*Under this item the Committee will discuss possible follow up to be given to the discussion held earlier in the week. In order to facilitate work under this item, the Secretariat has prepared a document on possible forms of follow-up that could be envisaged (see DH-MIN(99)3)*

**Agenda item 7:        The situation of dispersed minorities**

*The Committee of Ministers gave terms of reference to the DH-MIN (see DH-MIN 99(5)) "to undertake a study on "dispersed minorities" as well as prospects for co-operation between the Council of Europe on the one hand and the European Institute for Dispersed Minorities (Vilnius, Lithuania) and other bodies pursuing similar objectives on the other hand". Members of the Committee are invited to bring with them to the meeting information concerning « dispersed ethnic minorities » in their country, as well as about academic and other institutes or organisations that have expertise in this area and might potentially be interested in establishing some form of co-operation with similar bodies in other countries and with the Council of Europe.*

**Agenda item 5:        Preparation of a draft opinion of the Steering Committee  
for Human Rights (CDDH) on CLRAE Recommendation  
1998(43) on territorial autonomy and national minorities**

*The Committee may need to return to this item in order to adopt the text of the draft opinion.*

FRIDAY 19 MARCH 1999, 09H30

MORNING

**Agenda item 8:        Future work of the Committee and organisation of its work**

**Agenda item 9:        Dates of next meetings**

The proposed dates for the next meeting are 19-22 October.

**Agenda item 10:      Other business**

*The Committee will also have to adopt its meeting report.*

0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0-0