



## **FOLLOW-UP MEETING ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE FRAMEWORK CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF NATIONAL MINORITIES**

### **DRAFT PROGRAMME**

**Tirana, 1 July 2010**

Albania as a State Party to the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities since 1999 undertook to implement the provisions contained in this international treaty. These measures and their level of implementation were assessed by the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention in the first cycle of monitoring in 2002. On the basis of this Opinion, a second State report submitted by the Albanian authorities and other sources as well as on the basis of information gathered during a visit to the country in March 2008, the Advisory Committee adopted a Second Cycle Opinion in May 2008. The Committee of Ministers adopted a corresponding Resolution based on these findings on 8 July 2009. The Opinion and Resolution identified strengths in the implementation of the Framework Convention in Albania but also identified areas where improvements could be made.

The aim of this meeting is to take stock of progress made in the implementation of the Framework Convention and to discuss the steps taken and/or foreseen to implement the recommendations contained in the Second Opinion of and in the corresponding Resolution.

Three main areas will be examined during this meeting, in the presence of the responsible authorities, minority associations, NGOs and international organisations.

- ? Presentation of Second Opinion of the Advisory Committee
- ? Participation of persons belonging to minorities in public and socio-economic life
- ? Legislative framework / situation of Roma

It is expected that the results of the discussions at the meeting will be instrumental to the on-going process of the implementation of the findings of the Framework Convention's monitoring bodies in practice, in particular in view of the preparation of the the Second State Report on the FCNM, to be submitted by the authorities to the Council of Europe by 1 January 2011.

**Thursday 1 July 2010**

**9:00-9:30 Registration of participants**

**9:30 - 9:45 Opening of the seminar**  
Representative of the Albanian Government  
Council of Europe

**9:45-11:00**

**GENERAL EVALUATION SESSION**

Chair: Representative of the Albanian Government (tbc)

**9:45 -10:15 Overview of the main findings of the Advisory Committee's Opinion on the implementation of the FCNM in Albania**  
Ms Ilze Brands Kehris, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention

**10:15-10:30 Response of the Albanian Government to the findings of the Advisory Committee**  
Representative of the Albanian Government

**10:30-11:00 General discussion (open to the floor)**

11:00-11:15 Coffee break

**11:00-13:00**

**THEME 1 - PARTICIPATION OF PERSONS BELONGING TO NATIONAL MINORITIES IN PUBLIC AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC LIFE**

Chair: Representative of the Albanian Government (tbc)

**11:15-12:00 Participation of minorities in public life : current situation and prospect for change**  
Comments by a representative of the Albanian Government  
Comments by representatives of national minorities

Issues to be discussed:

- ...
- ...

**12:00-13:00 Monitoring economic and social participation of minorities: the issue of ethnic statistical data**  
Comments by a representative of the Albanian Government /INSTAT  
Comments by Council of Europe

13:00-14:30 Lunch

**14:30-16:45**

**THEME 2 – LEGISLATIVE FRAMEWORK / SITUATION OF ROMA**

Chair: Niall Sheerin, Secretariat of the Framework Convention for National Minorities

**14:30-15:45 Developing and implementing the legislative framework pertaining to minority rights:**

Representative of the Albanian Government and representatives of national minorities

Issues to be discussed:

- **Implementing the new anti-discrimination law (?)**
- ...

15:45-16:00 Coffee break

**16:00-17:00 “National Strategy for the Roma” (?)**

? **education / civil registration / funding / monitoring (?)**

**17:00-17:45**

**CONCLUDING SESSION**

**17:00-17:30 Presentation of the Conclusions of the meeting**  
Ilze Brands Kehris, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President of the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention

**17:30-17:45 Followed by concluding words by the co-organisers**  
Albanian authorities  
Council of Europe

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