**Regional consultation on draft guidelines**

**on the effective implementation of the right to participate in public affairs**

**for Europe and Central Asia**

**9 and 10 April 2018**

**Palais des Nations, Geneva  
Room XI**

**----- DRAFT -----**

**PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

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| **Monday, 9 April 2018** |

**Morning Session: 10.00am – 1.00pm**

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| 10.00am-  10.15am | **Welcome, introduction and opening remarks**  Opening remarks by **Ms Mona Rishmawi**, Chief, Rule of Law, Equality and Non-Discrimination Branch, Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) |
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| 10.15am-  11.45am | **Session 1: The right to participate in public affairs: Scope, content, and related guidance at the international, regional and national levels**  Moderator: Ms Mona Rishmawi (OHCHR)  **Introductory remarks by:**   * **Mr Olivier de Frouville** (France), Member of the Human Rights Committee * **Ms Ilze Brands-Kehris** (Latvia),Member of the Human Rights Committee   *Discussion* |
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| **11.45 – 12.00pm Coffee break** | |
| 12.00pm-1.00pm | **Session 2: Ensuring an enabling environment for the effective exercise of the right to participate in public affairs: pre-requisites**  Moderator: Mr Olivier de Frouville  **This session will focus on the inter-linkages between the right to participate in public affairs and other human rights, the implementation of which constitutes a pre-requisite for the full enjoyment of the right to participate, in particular, the rights to freedom of opinion and expression and freedom of peaceful assembly and association.**  **Introductory remarks by:**   * **Ms Slavica Banić** (Croatia), former Justice of the Constitutional Court, and former Substitute Member of the Venice Commission * **Ms Tolekan Ismailova** (Kyrgyz Republic), Chairwomen, Human Rights Movement Bir Duino   *Discussion* |
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| **Lunch break 1.00pm – 3.00pm** | |

**Afternoon session: 3.00pm-6.00pm**

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| 3.00pm-4.15pm | **Session 3: Enjoyment of the equal right to participate in public affairs by all: overcoming challenges, creating opportunities and sharing good practices**    Moderator: Ms Nathalie Prouvez (OHCHR)  **This session will focus on challenges, and ways to overcome them, as well as sharing good national practices, with regard to enhancing the right to participate of women and various disadvantaged groups, including minorities, young people and persons with disabilities. All discussions will include challenges from a gender perspective.**  **Introductory remarks by:** **Ms Drude Dahlerup** (Sweden and Danish), Professor of Political Science at Stockholm University and honorary professor at Roskilde University.  * **Mr Maksim Larionov** (Russian Federation), Deputy Head of Department of social policy and rehabilitation of the All-Russian Society of the Deaf   *Discussion* |
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| **Coffee break 4.15pm – 4.30pm** | |
| 4.30pm-  5.45pm | **Session 3 (continued): Enjoyment of the equal right to participate in public affairs by all: overcoming challenges, creating opportunities and sharing good practices**  Moderator: Ms Ilze Brands-Kehris  **Introductory remarks by:**   * **Mr Dan Doghi**, Chief of the Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues at OSCE/ODIHR * **Mr Karl Andreas Sprenk** (Estonia), Youth Policy Advisor National Youth Council of Estonia  *Discussion* |
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| 5.45pm-6.00pm | **Closing of the first day of consultations** |

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| **Tuesday, 10 April 2018** |

**Morning Session: 10.00am-1.00pm**

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| 10.00am-  11.15am | **Session 4: Various forms and levels of participation, including emerging new forms**  Moderator: Ms Nathalie Prouvez (OHCHR)  **This session will provide an opportunity to discuss various forms and levels of participation**  **Introductory remarks by:**   * **Mr Anthony Zacharzewski** (United Kingdom), President, The Democratic Society * **Mr Pablo Soto** (Spain), Councillor, City Council of Madrid, member of Madrid Government Board and delegate in the Citizen Participation, Transparency and Open Government Area.   *Discussion* |
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| **Coffee break 11.15am- 11.30am** | |
| 11.30am-1.00pm | **Session 4: Various forms and levels of participation, including emerging new forms (*continued)* :**  Moderator: Ms Ilze Brands-Kehris  **Good national practices in relation to ensuring accountability and transparency of public decision making institutions**  Introductory remarks by **Ms Veronica Cretu** (Moldova), President of the Open Government Institute  **Lessons learnt from participatory environmental decision- making**  **Introductory remarks by Mr Martin Skalsky** (Czech Republic), Executive Director, Arnika - Citizens Support Centre, Prague    *Discussion* |
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| **Lunch break 1.00pm-3.00pm** | |

**Afternoon session: 3.00pm-6.00pm**

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| 3.00pm-4.00pm | **Session 4: Various forms and levels of participation, including emerging new forms (*continued) :***  Moderator: Mr Hernan Vales (OHCHR)   * **Technology and social media: opportunities and challenges to strengthen equal and meaningful participation**   **Introductory remarks by Ms Helene Hahn** (Germany), Project Lead, Open Knowledge Foundation Deutschland  *Discussion* |
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| **Coffee break 4.00pm-4.15pm** | |
| 4.15pm-  5.30pm | **Session 5: The right to participate at the regional and international level, including within international organizations**  Moderator: Mr Olivier de Frouville  **The right to participate at the regional level** Introductory remarks by **Ms Mary Ann Hennessey**, Head of the Civil Society Division at the Council of Europe **The right to participate at the international level**  Introductory remarks by **Mr Patrick Mutzenberg** (Switzerland), Director, Centre for Civil and Political Rights  *Discussion* |
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| 5.30pm-6.00pm | **Closing session**  Moderator**:** Ms Nathalie Prouvez (OHCHR) |