Fourth European Meeting for National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights

Dublin, 16 November 2002

Present at the meeting:

*Fully accredited National Institutions:*
The Danish Centre for Human Rights; the National Consultative Commission for Human Rights (France); the National Commission for Human Rights (Greece); El Defensor del Pueblo (Spain); the Ombudsman against Ethnic Discrimination (Sweden).

*The other European National Institutions:*
The People’s Advocate (Albania); The Human Rights Ombudsman of Bosnia and Herzegovina; le Deutsches Institut für Menschenrechte (Germany); the Parliamentary Commissioner for Human Rights (Hungary); the Human Rights Commission (Ireland); the Moldavian Centre for Human Rights; the Equal Treatment Commission (The Netherlands); the Norwegian Centre for Human Rights; the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Russian Federation; the Swiss Federal Commission against Racism; the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission.

*Observers:*
The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe


1. Following a debate, the European National Institutions adopted the Rules of Procedure of the European Regional Group (see annexed text).

2. The fully accredited National Institutions elected the members of the European Co-ordinating Committee, choosing the following: The Danish Centre for Human Rights; the National Consultative Commission for Human Rights (France); the national Commission for Human Rights (Greece) and the Ombudsman against Ethnic Discrimination (Sweden).

The European co-ordinating Committee later elected the French Commission at the presidency of the Committee. It was agreed that when having to appoint a member for the Accreditation Committee of the ICC, the European Committee will present the Danish Centre for Human Rights.

3. The National Institutions adopted the recommendations prepared within the framework of the Second Round Table between the Council of Europe and National Human Rights Institutions (see annexed text).
With regard to the project of the establishment of a secretariat for the European Co-ordinating Committee, the National Institutions noted the proposal of the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe regarding the creation of a structure attached to him able to exercise this function. The French Commission declared that it will work together with the Commissioner in order to create this structure as soon as possible.

**Thematic Groups:**

4. Having listened to the presentation made by Mr Gerard Quinn, the European National Institutions decided to further work on the issue of the United Nations Convention on Disability. The Irish Commission was appointed to coordinate the work on this issue.

5. Regarding the contribution of the European National Institutions to the reform process of the European Court on Human Rights, the Northern Ireland Human Rights Commission offered to coordinate the work of the European group.

6. Regarding the preparation of a Council of Europe Recommendation on the role of National Human Rights Institutions, the French National Consultative Commission for Human Rights agreed to undertake the coordination of the European National institutions’ work.

7. The Swedish Institution presented its draft recommendation on the enlargement of the mandate of ECRI to cover discrimination based on sexual orientation. Following the debate, it was agreed to adopt the recommendation provided the Swedish Institution amend the text in order to include a reference with regards to the Member States to provide ECRI with additional resources in order to cover the enlargement of its mandate (see annexed text).

**Organisation of the Fifth European Meeting for National Institutions:**

8. The German Institute suggested that the Fifth European Meeting of National Institutions be held in Berlin in 2004, a proposal that was accepted by the National Institutions.