



Ministerie van Binnenlandse Zaken en
Koninkrijksrelaties



KIESRAAD

Strasbourg, 26 November 2009

CDL-EL(2009)024prog
Or. Engl.

EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW (VENICE COMMISSION)

in co-operation with
THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR AND KINGDOM RELATIONS
OF THE NETHERLANDS
and THE ELECTORAL COUNCIL OF THE NETHERLANDS

6TH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF ELECTORAL MANAGEMENT BODIES

“ENHANCING PARTICIPATION IN ELECTIONS”

Steigenberger Kurhaus Hotel
Scheveningen/The Hague, 30 November – 1 December 2009

PROGRAMME

Monday 30 November 2009

- 10.00 – 10.30 Registration of participants (with coffee and tea)
- 10.30 – 11.00 Opening of the conference
- Opening remarks by:
- Ms A. Bijleveld, State Secretary of the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations of the Netherlands
 - Mr H. Kummeling, Chairman of the Electoral Council of the Netherlands
 - Ms M. Stavniychuk, Deputy Head of the Presidential Secretariat of Ukraine, Member of the Venice Commission
- 11.00 – 11.45 **Presentation by EMBs on 2008/2009 elections**
- Short presentations by representatives of countries that had general or presidential elections in 2009
 - Address by Ms M. del Carmen Alanis Figueroa, President of the Electoral Tribunal of Mexico
- 11.45 – 12.15 **1st Working session:
Attracting electors to participate (in elections)**
- Mr E. Tanchev, President of the Constitutional Court of Bulgaria, Member of the Venice Commission
- 12.15 – 12.45 Questions and discussion
- 12.45 – 13.45 **Workshop 1 (3 parallel sessions by 3 speakers)
Attracting electors to participate (in elections)**
- Mr S. de Mul, Head of Elections Unit, General Direction of Institutions and Population, Federal Public Service, Belgium
 - Ms M. Leyenaar, Professor of comparative politics at Radboud University Nijmegen, Member of the Electoral Council of the Netherlands
 - Mr P. Wardle, Chief Executive, Electoral Commission of the United Kingdom
- 13.45 – 15.00 Lunch at the Kurhaus, offered by the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations of the Netherlands and the Electoral Council of the Netherlands
- 15.00 – 15.30 **2nd Working session:
Information campaigns on specific elections**
- Ms M. van den Broeke, Deputy spokesperson and head of the Press Unit at European Parliament
- 15.30 – 16.00 Questions and discussion
- 16.00 – 16.30 Coffee break

- 16.30 – 17.30 **Workshop 2** (3 parallel sessions by 3 speakers)
Information campaigns on specific elections
- Mr D. Magalhaes, Director of Services, Interior Ministry, Directorate General of Internal Affairs, Portugal
 - Ms K. Lemon, Election Authority, Senior Advisor, Sweden
 - Ms C. Wennekers, the Netherlands Government Information, Service/Public and Communication Service
- 17.30 – 18.00 Conclusions of the first day
- 18.00 – 19.30 Evening drinks reception and networking (at the Kurhaus)

Tuesday 1 December 2009

- 09.15 – 9.30 Results of the first day and short introduction of the programme of this day
- Mr H. Kummeling
- 09.30 – 10.30 **3rd Working session:**
Criteria for disenfranchising electors
- Mr E. Abrahamson, Solicitor, London, United Kingdom
“Disenfranchisement of prisoners by particular in reference to the European Court of Human Rights case of *Hirst vs United Kingdom*”
 - Mr G. Golosov, Professor, University of St Petersburg, Russian Federation
- 10.30 – 11.00 Questions and discussion
- 11.00 – 11.30 Coffee break
- 11.30 – 13.00 **Workshop 3** (3 parallel sessions by 3 speakers)
Criteria for disenfranchising electors
- Mr G. Wenda, Deputy Head of the election administration Department, Electoral Affairs, Federal Ministry of the Interior, Austria
 - Mr Y. Kluchkovskyi, Member of the Ukrainian Parliament, Deputy Chairman of the Parliamentary Committee for Public Authorities and Local Self-Governance Development, President of the Election Law Institute
 - Mr A. Cimdars, Chairman of the Central Election Commission of Latvia
- 13.00 - 14.15 Lunch at the Kurhaus, offered by the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations and the Electoral Council of the Netherlands
- 14.15 –15.15 Conclusions of the workshops
- 15.15 – 16.15 Questions and discussion
- 16.15 – 16.45 Close of the conference
- Mr H. Kummeling