

15th International Steering Committee Meeting February 17-18, 2009 Belgrade, Serbia

Under the Presidency of the Republic of Serbia, the 15th International Steering Committee (ISC) Meeting held in Belgrade on February 17-18, 2009, the Parties agreed on the following recommendations and resolution:

RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 1. The member countries of the Decade of Roma Inclusion request the European Union to consider existing institutional and political mechanisms set up by the Decade initiative and models to be implemented and improved within the framework of open method of co-ordination regarding the Integrated Platform on Roma Inclusion, especially concerning Western Balkan's countries.
- 2. The member countries of the Decade of Roma Inclusion support the adoption of the Conclusions of the First Session of the UN Forum on Minority Issues (http://www2.ohchr.org/english/bodies/hrcouncil/minority/forum.htm) held between 15-16 December 2008 in Geneva on "Minorities and the right to education" and agree that their policies concerning education of Roma shall be harmonized with the Forum's conclusions.
- 3. The member countries of the Decade of Roma Inclusion have agreed on the necessity to introduce an efficient mechanism for permanent monitoring and reporting on discrimination cases, i.e. on the progress in the achievement of equal access to quality education for Roma. Decade countries are ready developing a regional system for the monitoring of equal access to quality education for Roma.
- 4. The participants of the 15th International Steering Committee Meeting of the Decade of Roma Inclusion condemn racially motivated assaults against Roma and issued and distributed a statement in this regard.
- 5. The member countries of the Decade of Roma Inclusion support the initiative to organize an International Conference on Roma Education by the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Serbia together with international partners under the Decade Presidency of Serbia.

- 6. The member countries of the Decade of Roma Inclusion have agreed to support the process of development of indicators and permanent monitoring systems of equal access to quality education for Roma and actively contribute to the implementation of national monitoring systems of equal access to quality education for Roma.
- 7. The inclusion of new countries and international organizations shall continue.

RESOLUTION:

1. Spain has become a full member of the Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005-2015 initiative.