Berlin, 02 April 2013

Dear Madam, dear Sir,

the German Institute for Human Rights is the German National Human Rights Institution (A-status). We welcome the third phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education and express our gratitude for the invitation for our assessment.

The goals and tasks of human rights education are not only to provide the general public with basic human rights education but also to build specific human rights qualification for particular target groups through training and further education. For this purpose the Institute offers seminars and lecture series on current human rights issues as well as complex training dealing with general questions as well as specific issues of human rights protection (e.g. protection from discrimination). Human rights education thus helps to professionalize human rights work, which is essential for applying and strengthening human rights protection mechanisms. In our work, we have already included the objectives of the previous World Programme phases, which were dedicated to human rights education in primary and secondary school system, and for higher education and on human rights training program for teachers and educators, civil servants, law enforcement officials and military personnel at all levels.

From our perspective, it is necessary to solidify and stabilize the work of the first and second phase of the World Programme for Human Rights Education. The goals and ongoing programs should be continued accordingly. Cross-cutting issues in all areas of human rights education must include vulnerable groups and replicate that human rights education should be offered barrier-free and inclusive. Learning for human rights has to focus on empowerment, diversity and access to justice.

Yours sincerely,

Professor Dr. Beate. Rudolf, Director, German Institute for Human Rights