



All-Party Inquiry into Antisemitism: Government Response

One year on Progress Report

*Presented to Parliament
by the Minister of State for Communities and Local Government,
by Command of Her Majesty*

12th May 2008

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Summary of Achievements

- Government established the Inter-Departmental Working Group on Antisemitism consisting of representatives from across Whitehall, the Parliamentary Committee Against Antisemitism and representatives from the Board of Deputies of British Jews, the Community Security Trust and the Jewish Leadership Council.
- Government has worked closely with the All Party Committee Against Antisemitism to take its model of inquiry across Europe, the United States and Canada.
- Antisemitic discourse continues to be a concern and to this end we have funded the European Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism (EISCA) to research the impact antisemitic discourse has on the atmosphere of 'acceptance' of antisemitism.
- Government acknowledges the importance of school linking and is providing £2m of funding over the next three years, supported by a £1m donation from the Pears Foundation, to roll out the work of the Schools Linking Network. This funding will provide a national website and resources to help support schools in forming effective links.
- The importance of interfaith dialogue has been recognised by Government. We published a consultation document on 17th December 2007 to help inform the development of the framework and will publish the framework in the summer.
- A further positive development has been the recently launched *Race For Justice Declaration* – a cross-governmental strategy which aims to combat all forms of hate crime.
- Steady progress has been made on the collection of data and by April 2009 all police forces will collect data on all hate crime including antisemitism.
- Significant progress has also been made on the issue of security relating to Jewish communal buildings and schools. The Metropolitan Police have worked very closely with the Community Security Trust on a Premises Security Matrix and Government has agreed that schools and authorities can use their devolved capital funding for investment in security equipment at school sites and premises where this is a priority.
- The Crown Prosecution Service have published their review of cases where prosecutions for incitement to racial hatred have been brought, in order to see what lessons can be learned.

- The Government announced in February 2008 that it is extending its current level of financial support to the Holocaust Educational Trust's 'Lessons from Auschwitz' course, which takes sixth form students to Auschwitz-Birkenau, for a further three years. We will also be significantly increasing the level of annual core funding provided to the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust for each of the next three years.
- The UK will this year assume the Presidency of the International Commission of the International Tracing Service, home to the world's largest archive of Holocaust era personal documents, based in Bad Arolsen.
- The Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS) has published updated guidance to higher education institutions on promoting good campus relations, fostering shared values and preventing violent extremism. The Equality Challenge Unit has also published an update to the sector's own guidance on promoting good campus relations. The sector has continued to share good practice in this area through existing networks and also through two national conferences held in the last year.
- DIUS, higher education representative organisations and many individual academics have made clear their opposition to any academic boycott of Israeli academics and institutions.
- DIUS has engaged the sector in a debate on academic freedom and how it can be used to challenge and undermine extremism.

Introduction

Government is committed to confronting antisemitism wherever it occurs. Just over a year ago Government responded to the All Party Parliamentary Inquiry into Antisemitism report and undertook to report back to Parliament on the progress we have made. This one-year update is based on the five themes running through the original Inquiry report published in September 2006. The five themes addressed in the report are:

- Antisemitic incidents
- Antisemitic discourse
- Sources of contemporary antisemitism
- Antisemitism on campus
- Addressing antisemitism.

This response has been produced by the Department for Communities and Local Government in consultation with other government departments and the Scottish Executive.

The Government continues to share the Inquiry's concern about antisemitism, both in this country and across Europe. We also recognise that antisemitism has not always been taken as seriously as other hate crimes in some parts of our society and agree that whether antisemitism is coming from the far-right, the far-left, Islamist extremists or any other part of society, it must be understood for what it is – and condemned.

We have made significant progress against many of the commitments we made in the response to the Inquiry's 35 recommendations, but recognise there is no room for complacency. The number of antisemitic incidents in the United Kingdom remains high. The Community Security Trust recorded 547 incidents during 2007. While this represents a fall of 8 per cent over the 594 incidents reported in 2006, it is still the second worst year on record.

Since the publication of the Inquiry's report, John Mann MP and colleagues have worked tirelessly to encourage parliamentarians in other countries to conduct similar inquiries. The Government greatly appreciates Mr Mann's committee's work and has offered them its support. The Department for Communities and Local Government has provided funding to take this model of inquiry across Europe, the United States and Canada. The Foreign and Commonwealth Office, our Embassies and High Commissions have worked closely with the All-Party Parliamentary Group Against Antisemitism to make their overseas visits a success, offering both practical support and local advice on parliamentary structures and suitable contacts.

Our High Commission in Ottawa and Embassies in Washington, Berlin, Paris, Riga, The Hague, Vilnius, Warsaw, Buenos Aires, Tallinn, Prague and Tel Aviv

have all either welcomed visits from APPG members, or have offered advice on local conditions, contacts and other issues.

A key development has been the establishment of the Inter-Departmental Working Group on Antisemitism consisting of representatives from across Whitehall, the Parliamentary Committee against Antisemitism and representatives from the Board of Deputies of British Jews, the Jewish Leadership Council and the Community Security Trust. The working group is unique in that it brings together the Jewish community and Government departments to ensure that commitments made in our original response are taken forward. The working group has been hailed across Europe and the United States as a model of best practice.

Although we can point to significant progress against many of the Inquiry's 35 recommendations there are still areas which remain of concern and require further work, this includes:

- the internet
- antisemitism on university campuses
- hate crimes and prosecutions.

To ensure that these issues continue to receive attention we commit to the working group meeting at least twice a year to monitor further progress and implementation of the commitments made by departments. In addition we will set up two specialist sub-groups on hate crimes and prosecutions and consider the proposal from the CST to set up a sub-group on antisemitism in relation to higher education in discussion with higher education sector bodies and Jewish community bodies. This does not preclude departments meeting regularly with relevant stakeholders on other issues. The group will also invite feedback from the Internet Hate Crime Working Group. We also undertake to give a progress report to Parliament in 2010.

The Government will continue to offer whatever support we can. We stand ready to offer our advice to all those committed to tackling the scourge of antisemitism, including foreign governments, based on our positive experience of engaging in this unique process.

We recognise that antisemitic discourse continues to be a concern and to this end we have funded the European Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism (EISCA) to research the impact antisemitic discourse has on the atmosphere of 'acceptance' of antisemitism.

The Inquiry also focused on the importance of school linking. Government acknowledges this and is providing £2m of funding over the next three years, supported by a £1m donation from the Pears Foundation, to roll out the work of the Schools Linking Network. This funding will provide a national website and resources to help support schools in forming effective links.

The importance of interfaith dialogue has been recognised by the Government. The Prime Minister has stated he wants to see stronger inter faith dialogue where people find the common ground that exists between different religions and communities in the UK. We have made a specific commitment to develop a new inter faith strategy as part of our response to the Commission on Integration and Cohesion. We see the strategy as a framework for partnership between Government, faith communities, faith and non faith based organisations; inter faith organisations and wider civil society.

We published a consultation document on 17th December 2007 to help inform the development of the framework. The consultation closed on 7th March 2008 and has provided an opportunity for all our communities to contribute their views and ideas. We will publish the framework in the summer.

EUMC definition

The Working Definition of Antisemitism was a product of work between the European Union Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (now the Fundamental Rights Agency of the EU -EUMC/FRA), the OSCE's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) and Jewish NGO stakeholders. The Government's position on the definition rests as stated in its response to the Inquiry's report, namely that the definition was a work in progress that had not yet been recommended to Member States for adoption. The Government undertook to re-examine this if and when the EUMC/FRA recommended the definition to Member States. In keeping with the spirit of this recommendation, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office has remained in contact with the EUMC/FRA about the definition.

The FRA has confirmed that the definition is still seen as a work-in-progress that requires further testing and comment from stakeholders as to its practical use and effectiveness in supporting data collection. Initial feedback and comments drew attention to several issues that impacted on the effectiveness of the definition as a data collection support tool.

Work on follow-up to the consultation has not yet been completed. The process of transforming the EUMC into FRA meant that work was delayed. Work could not move forward before the FRA had appointed a new Director and Scientific Committee – both of which were crucial to taking this process forward.

The FRA advises us that it does plan to follow up on the feedback in the near future. Once the follow up process has been completed, the FRA will discuss with ODIHR and other stakeholders its plans for further action.

UK definition of Hate Crime

However, there have been developments in the UK on the definition of a hate crime. Work has continued to reform the criminal justice response to hate crimes. The “Race for Justice” programme of work aims to improve the service offered to victims of hate crime by criminal justice agencies. The work was commissioned by the Attorney General in light of the 2003 “Race for Justice” report by the Gus John Partnership on possible racial bias in the prosecution process. “Race for Justice” has developed a definition of those hate crimes that should be monitored by agencies to enable effective measurement of success. The definition has been designed to span a number of hate crime areas and to be easily understood by all agencies. It builds on the recommendations from the Inquiry into the Murder of Stephen Lawrence.

While the initial focus was on race hate crimes this has been extended to cover all key forms of hate crime - those crimes where a victim is targeted because of their race, faith, sexual orientation, disability or transgender status.

The “Race for Justice” agenda for changing the way in which hate crimes are handled by criminal justice agencies continues to be driven forward by the Attorney General, the Rt Hon Baroness Scotland, supported by staff in the Ministry of Justice. A steering group, comprising senior representatives from relevant CJS agencies and an Advisory Group, made up of independent representatives from each diversity strand, including a representative from the Jewish faith, are taking forward a number of key recommendations.

These include:

- The development of national occupational standards for agencies dealing with hate crime
- Independent training for the judiciary on handling hate crimes and their corrosive effects
- Effective monitoring by CJS agencies through shared definitions and categories
- Improved levels of service for those groups who are seen to be highly vulnerable – for example refugees, asylum seekers and those with learning disabilities
- A review of the effectiveness of third party reporting centres.

During work on the definition, “Race for Justice” looked at the EUMC definition of antisemitism but felt that it was important that a single definition was applied to all sections of religious hate crime.

Antisemitic Incidents

Race for Justice

A further positive development has been the “**Race For Justice Declaration**” recently launched by the Attorney General – a cross-governmental strategy which aims to combat all forms of hate crime. The declaration provides organisations and individuals with the opportunity to make a commitment to condemn all forms of hate crime by signing up to meet the standards outlined in the Declaration.

The Attorney General was first to sign the Declaration, but it has now also been signed by the Secretary of State for Communities the Rt Hon Hazel Blears, and Home Office Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Crime Reduction, Vernon Coaker.

Police data recording

We have made steady progress on ensuring that all forces have a comprehensive recording facility. How data is collected by forces is an operational matter. Forces are however required to submit certain data to the Home Office for national aggregation. This is called the Annual Data Requirement. For hate crime this has to date only included the racially and religiously aggravated offences established under the Public Order Act. This does not distinguish between racially and religiously aggravated offences, nor does it allow further disaggregation by race or religion. It only includes certain violence or criminal damage offences. It does not include acquisitive crime. Nor does it include the most serious violence such as murder. Some forces can analyse data at a very sophisticated level. Others have not been able to do so.

We have been working hard to introduce changes to the way data is recorded and collected from forces. Pilot changes were introduced to the Annual Data Requirement from April 2008. This, the Home Office Data Hub, will introduce the ability to receive data from forces at record level.

The Data Hub will enable us to analyse data at a greater level of detail. It will allow us to aggregate and disaggregate data on many levels including whether a recorded crime is perceived to be a faith hate crime. The data will also enable us to look at trends in data such as waves of crime in specific and types of location, for example near a school or a place of worship as well as other information such as times of incidents taking place, ethnicity, age and other characteristics of the offender, number of perpetrators, whether weapons were used, repeat victimisation. The changes are commensurate with data that the Association of Chief of Police Officers National Community Tension Team (NCTT) has been collating to monitor levels of cohesion, but will be on a more systematic basis. Most forces are already complying with the NCTT data requirement and it is likely that some retrospective data will be available – as long as the level of data was being collected by the force. We will be testing

the veracity and usefulness of the data during 2008/09 before this system is introduced for all forces.

This will help us to research and understand the nature and extent of hate crime including antisemitism. However, more importantly, it will help local areas to target their community safety and educational interventions more directly based on real evidence.

The quality of this data is of course dependent on victims and witnesses reporting crimes, including minor crimes. We reiterate that we value that the Community Security Trust works with police forces to provide third party reporting facilities. We are working to reintroduce online reporting facilities that allow victims and witnesses to report directly to the police. We will also be producing a checklist for information that should be included in a third party reporting form.

The Home Office is working with the Association of Chief of Police Officers to identify ways of measuring and therefore improving performance in tackling hate crimes. This process, Assessment of Policing and Community Safety, will include detection rates, bringing offences to justice, the use of enhanced sentencing measures and tackling repeat victimisation.

The Home Office:

- will continue to seek ways of increasing hate crime reporting
- reiterates its commitment to ensure that all forces will record antisemitic crimes by April 1st 2009.

Security of Jewish Communal Buildings and Schools

Major progress has also been made on the issue of security relating to Jewish Communal buildings and schools. The Metropolitan Police have worked very closely with the Community Security Trust on a Premises Security Matrix. The matrix identifies three categories of communal buildings. This process has looked at 300 buildings across London and has set minimum standards of policing response and appropriate computer aided dispatch (CAD) comments. There is also a generic contingency plan and appropriate visits by community safety officers.

During the All-Party Parliamentary Inquiry into Antisemitism MPs made a visit to King David School, Manchester where the issue of school security was raised. Barbara Keeley MP stressed the reports findings in this area in the debate in the Commons on the 19th July 2007. Following conversations with the CST, DCSF officials wrote on 16 October 2007 to the fourteen local authorities in which thirty-eight Jewish faith schools are located. The letter to the relevant Director of Children's Services reads:

I am writing to you about school and pupil security in relation to the Jewish faith school(s) in your area. Pupil safety and school security are of course priority matters for all schools and pupils of every faith or none, as Jim Knight, our Minister of State, said in his Parliamentary statement of 10 October on capital funding. But Jewish schools and pupils can feel, and sometimes are, particularly vulnerable.

Jim Knight has been in discussions with the Community Security Trust, a well-respected charitable organisation which works to secure the safety of the Jewish community in this country. As a result of these discussions, he wishes to make it clear that schools and authorities can use their devolved capital funding for investment in security equipment at school sites and premises where this is a priority. This can include, for example, security fencing, CCTV installation, and the equipment costs of swipe-card or other controlled-entry systems.

All schools must prioritise their spending – capital and revenue – based upon their own priorities; capital expenditure might include fences or CCTV and revenue spending might include spending on security guards, but they must work within the resources available to them.

Delegated Schools Grant (DSG) is allocated to local authorities on a per pupil basis (pupils counted in January) with some addition for area costs, scarcity and additional educational need. It is then for local authorities to distribute this to schools by means of a locally agreed formula which must accord with regulations.

The funding that the schools receive must be spent for the ‘purposes of the school’. Although there is a formula for distribution, it does not define how the school should spend the funding; that will be in accordance with their priorities. As a formula it treats all schools equally it is based upon things like number of pupils, floor area, number of pupils with special educational needs.etc.

The Scottish Government has provided £2,500 for additional security at Scotland’s only Jewish school, Calderwood Primary School.

Prosecuting antisemitic crime

The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) has made significant progress to address the recommendations set out in the Inquiry Report which included investigating the reasons for the low number of prosecutions and conducting a review of cases where prosecutions for incitement to racial hatred have been brought. The CPS, in its recently published report, confirmed that three key actions have been completed:

1. A community engagement event was held with representatives from the Jewish community, in order to inform CPS knowledge of, and aid its response to, the recommendations.

2. Data was obtained from the Metropolitan Police Service and the Greater Manchester Police on antisemitic incidents reported in 2006/7. The progress of each incident was then tracked from initial report to the conclusion of the case in order to establish, wherever possible, the reasons behind the final outcome.
3. A review was conducted into the incitement to racial hatred cases registered with its Counter Terrorism Division during 2006/07 in order to see what lessons could be learnt.

The information gained from these initiatives, as detailed in the CPS report, has identified the need to look at the level of support provided to the victims of antisemitic crime and for further work on internal communications in relation to incitement to racial hatred cases. The report also underlined the importance of continued community engagement.

The CPS, with the support of the Attorney General in her capacity as superintending Minister for the Service, is developing an Action Plan, which sets out the work needed in the future to build on the progress that has already been achieved. The CPS intends to consult with the police, and other criminal justice partners, as well as representatives of the Jewish Community, such as the Community Security Trust, on the detail of the Action Plan.

Antisemitic Discourse

Antisemitism in discourse is, by its nature, harder to identify and define than a physical attack on a person or place. It is more easily recognised by those who experience it than by those who engage in it.

Antisemitic discourse is also hard to identify because the boundaries of acceptable discourse have become blurred to the point that individuals and organisations are not aware when these boundaries have been crossed, and because the language used is more subtle particularly in the contentious area of the dividing line between antisemitism and criticism of Israel or Zionism.

In an effort to better understand this phenomenon, we are currently funding the European Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism (EISCA) – a London-based think-tank dedicated to examining the growth and development of antisemitism in the world today - to undertake an in-depth analysis of the key themes of antisemitic discourse, Given the difficulties in clarifying the character of antisemitic discourse, the proposed research project aims:

- To identify and illuminate the main component parts of antisemitic discourse, such as stereotypes, allusions, characterisations, prejudicial topologies and revisions of core antisemitic ideas
- This will include an examination of how criticism of Israel and Zionism can cross-over into and become polluted by antisemitism through the expression or assumption of core antisemitic concepts.

The research will be published in September 2008.

The CST will also publish research on antisemitic discourse in the UK during 2007 later this year.

We have also supported an All-Party Parliamentary Group against Antisemitism event on the issue and we look forward to taking this work forward.

Sources of Contemporary Antisemitism

Tackling extremism

The challenge facing us is to stop people being drawn into violent extremism and to draw back those already engaged. This means creating an atmosphere throughout society where violent extremism and violent extremists are resisted and rejected by the community.

We are currently supporting the Radical Middle Way roadshows, which have been successful in challenging directly the message of violent extremism. This message has reached over 60,000 young people to date.

The Inquiry also recognised that the overt threat from the far right towards Jews may not be as significant as it once was but the far-right is not, and cannot be part of any solution to community problems. This is what the vast majority of the British people believe. Extremism is a wake-up call to all of us to work harder at challenging racism, inaccuracies and misrepresentation. We are currently supporting a number of projects aimed at forestalling the far right. Many of our projects are aimed at young people who are both the main victims and perpetrators of hate crime.

The All Party Parliamentary Inquiry recommended reporting on far right activity. While the Government does not systematically monitor far right activity in Europe, the Minister for Europe, Jim Murphy MP, wrote about the collapse of the far-right grouping in the European Parliament known as “Identity, Tradition and Solidarity” in an article in the Jewish News on 24 December 2007:

The name “Mussolini” is a familiar one to us all. Recently it has been the Fascist leader’s granddaughter, Alessandra, who has been making headlines. She is a member of the European Parliament representing a small far-right Italian political party. And her falling out with the “Greater Romania Party” has led to the collapse of the far-right grouping in the European Parliament known as “Identity, Tradition and Solidarity”.

I was frankly delighted by the news that the ITS bloc had collapsed – one of the best pieces of news this year. What heartened me further was the reaction to this development in the European Parliament itself – MEPs responded to news of the demise of ITS with cheers. Labour, Conservatives, Liberals and Greens – MEPs from all of the other main groupings, whatever else they disagree on, could agree that the end of ITS is a cause for celebration.

But we know we should not confuse the welcome demise of ITS with the end of anti-Semitism. Instead, the end of ITS is a good opportunity (and the end of 2007 a good time) to reflect on where Europe stands in confronting anti-Semitism more generally.

Here in the UK the Government has made clear its determination to confront anti-semitism in whatever form it manifests itself – as the Prime Minister said at this year’s Labour Party conference (addressing Labour Friends of Israel): “Any anti-semitism in this country will be fought and we will do everything we can to attack any manifestation of it wherever it comes in our country”.

This is a model that could be followed in other countries. As Minister for Europe I am particularly pleased that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, including our embassies overseas, have been assisting John Mann MP, Chair of the Parliamentary Committee Against Anti-semitism, to promote the inquiry model in other countries. A great deal of interest has already been shown in Germany, the US and Canada.

There is more that we can do internationally, too: the government strongly supports efforts to tackle all forms of racism and intolerance at the international level. We are strong supporters of the International Task Force for Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research and anti-racism bodies based in the European Union, the Council of Europe and the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The seriousness with which political institutions across Europe are dealing with anti-semitism is welcome. And there are a few positive signs in Europe (I was in Berlin recently, a city with a resurgent Jewish population and culture).

But we are not and cannot be complacent about rising anti-semitism in Europe as a whole. What evidence there is suggests a deeply worrying rise in anti-semitism across the continent (and worldwide) in recent years. And while we in the UK have a good idea of the scale of the problem thanks to the work of the Community Security Trust, our view of what is happening in parts of Europe is obscured because the information just isn’t collected.

Jim Murphy MP
Jewish News
24 December 2007

The Foreign Secretary launched the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's 2007 Annual Report on Human Rights on 25 March. The report gave details of our activities to combat all forms of discrimination, including a specific section on antisemitism (see www.fco.gov.uk/humanrights).

The media

The Inquiry called on the media to have discussions on the impact of language and imagery in current discourse on Judaism, anti Zionism and Israel and to recognize that the way which they report the news has significant consequences on the interaction between communities in Britain.

Recognising the total independence of the media, a meeting was organised between the chief executive of the Society of Editors, Bob Satchwell and representatives of the Board of Deputies of British Jews, the Jewish Leadership Council and the Community Security Trust. There were two positive outcomes to this meeting. The first was an agreement by representatives of the Jewish community to produce research evidencing the extent of antisemitism on various media websites, and the second was to explore the possibility of pulling together a guide for the media on the role and responsibility of moderators.

We have agreed to fund the Society of Editors to produce a guide.

The Rt Hon Andy Burnham Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport has given his full support to this initiative and said:

“I wholeheartedly support the Society of Editors in their decision to draw up guidance on the subject of moderating blog and comment sites. Antisemitism and other forms of hate on the Internet is of deep concern to all right-minded people. A strong message must be sent; whilst we passionately uphold the right to freedom of speech, incitement and hatred must not and will not go unchallenged. I am glad we are forging new partnerships to tackle this issue head on.”

The importance of producing a guide of this nature cannot be overstated in light of recent events where reputable newspapers allowed the publication of blatantly antisemitic comments like below, despite employing the services of a moderator.

“It is high time the entire world stand up against this genetically mutated, inbred Tribe and end their reign of Goyim-terror once and for all. Jews are not fit to breathe our air. They must be attacked wherever you see them; throw rocks at their ugly, hooked-nosed women and mentally ill children, and light up the Real ovens”. (Scotsman March 2008).

The Scottish Council of Jewish Communities have raised this issue with the individual newspapers concerned and the IPC and have received letters of

support from 30 MSPs, expressing outrage that reputable newspapers had not prevented the publication of blatantly antisemitic comments. Around half of these have written to the editors of both Scotsman and Herald to express their concern and to demand that the editors ensure it does not happen again. Several have written to Kenny MacAskill, Cabinet Secretary for Justice, to ask him to consider what action is open to the Scottish Parliament and/or Scottish Government to prevent any reoccurrence. Bill Kidd also tabled a motion in the Scottish Parliament:

S3M-01552 Bill Kidd (Glasgow) (Scottish National Party): Anti-Semitic Blogging in National Newspapers – That the Parliament abhors the publication in both The Scotsman and The Herald newspapers’ online blogs of blatantly anti-Semitic rhetoric by individuals who hide their identities behind screen names; believes that any such racist statements have no place in national newspapers, in print or online, and calls on the editors of these two major newspapers to ensure that such foul-mouthed attacks on any section of society are removed from their blogs before publication.

Internet hate crime

The Government believe the prevalence of hate on the Internet has become an increasing concern. Internet sites are being used to distribute hateful messages around the world and whilst Britain has excellent domestic equality legislation, we all know about the problem of legal jurisdiction being restricted to state borders. The Government is open to exploring better ways of bringing offenders to task. Additionally, the government has already realised, monitoring hate on the Internet can play a crucial role in the fight against terrorism.

The Government will now look at the issue of antisemitism on the Internet and will host a Ministerial seminar to find ways of improving action and impact. An event with colleagues from BERR, the Home Office, CPS, ACPO and the Department for Communities and Local Government as well as MPs, experts, lawyers and department officials is to be led by the Rt Hon Margaret Hodge MBE MP, Minister at the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.

More broadly, an internet hate crime working party has been created and has identified a number of issues around tackling hate crime. Not least is the difficulty in identifying whether a crime has been committed, by whom, against whom and identifying liability. The working party is particularly concerned with producing appropriate guidance to practitioners and to victims so internet hate crime can be reported and tackled, whilst avoiding duplication. Inherent in this is the need to balance freedom of speech with the need to keep people safe from harm. We hope to clarify this with good practice guidance for the range of service providers affected. This will include information and guidance for victims and witnesses.

We are also concerned about the use of the internet for the purposes of radicalisation to terrorism or violent extremism and are keen to develop policy

that will reduce the availability of terrorism related and radicalising material on the internet. On the 14th January this year, the Home Secretary announced that Government would open dialogue with industry about options for tackling terrorism or violent extremist related material on the internet, and we are still at the early stages of this particular piece of work.

Offensive material from overseas

In June last year, Baroness Ashton led the UK Delegation to the OSCE High-Level Conference on Combating Discrimination and Promoting Mutual Respect and Understanding and said:

“Earlier this year, the UK All-party Parliamentary Committee on Antisemitism, represented here today, published a comprehensive report on antisemitism, which shows that antisemitism is sadly much alive in the UK, and manifesting itself in new ways, on the internet, for example, and on university campuses. We believe that this is an extremely important report, and we will ensure that it leads to renewed effort to rid our country of this oldest form of hatred.”

Internet hate speech was the subject of the OSCE June 2004 Paris Meeting on the Relationship between Racist, Xenophobic and Anti-Semitic Propaganda on the Internet and Hate Crimes. Despite the challenges of achieving consensus amongst 56 participating States, and valid concerns about freedom of expression, the OSCE Ministerial Conference in Madrid on 29-30 November 2007 adopted a decision that included the following operational paragraph, which the UK argued strongly in favour of:

(The Ministerial Council...)

Calls on participating States to increase their efforts, in co-operation with civil society to counter the incitement to imminent violence and hate crimes, including through the Internet, within the framework of their national legislation, while respecting freedom of expression, and underlines at the same time that the opportunities offered by the Internet for the promotion of democracy, human rights and tolerance education should be fully exploited;

The Government will continue to seek opportunities to address internet hate speech through the OSCE in its regular events and through high level conferences. The OSCE Hate Crime National Contact Points conference that will take place in Helsinki on 16/17 May will address this issue.

The OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, Miklos Haraszti continues to pay close attention to digital convergence and internet hate crime. He convened a broadcast regulation seminar in December 2007 to review existing standards and practices in OSCE participating States, which concluded that no international standards addressed hate crime on the internet specifically, but that existing instruments and principles of respect for journalistic freedom should frame attempts to regulate the internet.

Antisemitism on Campus

The recommendations from the All Party Parliamentary Inquiry were addressed to the higher education (HE) sector, rather than Government, as the responsibility for ensuring campuses are free from harassment and discrimination rests with individual higher education institutions (HEIs).

However, as Government we deplore any acts of racial or religious intolerance in higher education. As such we are committed to helping institutions tackle racial and religious intolerance, including antisemitism, in higher education. We look to institutions and the sector to address these important issues.

The sector individually and collectively holds the responsibility for addressing racism and discrimination in higher education. The sector takes this issue seriously and is committed to tackling discrimination and challenging intolerance on campus. National organisations such as the HE representative bodies, the Equality Challenge Unit (ECU) and others help institutions to discharge their responsibilities through the provision of practical guidance; and discussion and networking events to help share best practice across the sector.

We are also considering supporting a sub-group to the Working Group taking forward government's response to the All-Party Parliamentary Inquiry into Antisemitism specifically related to higher education.

Roles and responsibilities

We have in place a strong legislative framework which provides protection to individuals and groups and specifically members of the Jewish community. As 'public authorities' institutions are individually answerable to the law and for fulfilling their legal duties with regard to equality and diversity. The positive and protective legislative framework gives higher education institutions the ability to effectively address any instances of antisemitism on campus. Many institutions are keen to address equality issues holistically and move beyond basic compliance of the law, with the aim of ensuring campuses are free from intolerance whilst positively providing an environment that supports bringing the diverse communities HE serves closer together.

The Government will continue to encourage and support higher education institutions to ensure that racism and discrimination have no place in higher education. We value the contribution that HE makes to helping individuals to fulfil their potential and to the advancement of the UK intellectually and economically. It is essential that the talents of all in HE are successfully used and no group is excluded from participating fully in academic life. A climate of tolerance and mutual respect is fundamental in enabling the open and free exchange of ideas that is integral to the HE experience.

Universities UK and GuildHE as the HE representative bodies play a key role in supporting institutions in this area as does the Equality Challenge Unit (ECU) – the sector body created in 2001 to provide support, advice and guidance to the HE sector on equality issues.

Nationally initiated sector actions

The ECU has been responsible for the dissemination of good practice and advice and guidance in all equality areas. It also works closely with the sector to produce guidelines and support documents to help HEIs effectively manage relationships between individuals and groups on campus.

In addition, the ECU published, in September 2007, an update to the UUK, ECU and GuildHE 2005 guidance 'Promoting Good Campus Relations: dealing with hate crime and intolerance' called 'Promoting Good Campus Relations: An Institutional Imperative'. The update does not replace the previous guidance; as such both sets of guidance should be read in tandem. They provide:

- practical strategies to deal with instances of hate crimes and intolerance, including antisemitism
- a summary of the legal framework that applies to equality and diversity, and academic freedom on campus and discuss the balance needed between academic freedom, freedom of expression and the need to ensure that these aren't used to harm or restrict the freedom of others
- example frameworks for HEIs to use as a basis for working through a course of action around issues of tolerance on campus, for instance what should be considered if a controversial speaker has been invited on campus or an event is being held that could have possible negative implications for specific groups on campus
- a structured plan that HEIs could adopt to help foster and maintain good campus relations including medium and long term preventative actions and actions that could be take in an immediate crisis situation, including notification and incident monitoring processes; and
- examples of good practice and case studies.

Both sets of guidance are available from the website below and should be referred to for further detail:

www.ecu.ac.uk/publications/pubs_guidance.html#200709PromotingGoodCampusRelationsUpdate

The area of community cohesion and promoting good campus relations is an ongoing area of work for the sector, as such national conferences have also been held.

In June 2007, UUK and with the Association of Managers of Student Services in Higher Education (AMOSSHE) hosted a conference that explored tackling discrimination on campus including antisemitism and islamophobia, as well as institutional approaches to good campus relations.

Building on this, the Higher Education Equal Opportunities Network (HEEON) and Association of University Administrators (AUA) with the support of the Equality Challenge Unit, UUK, University and College Union (UCU) and Unison held a further conference in March 2008 on promoting good campus relations. This was an action orientated event looking at bringing together different perspectives with the aim of developing a repository of good practice that can be shared across the sector. The responsibility for the repository will be shared between HEEON, AUA and ECU.

The ECU has a strong focus on equality issues in relation to race and religion and belief. As part of the Equality Challenge Unit's 2008 work programme it is establishing religion and belief dialogue groups based in a variety of higher education institutions. The dialogue groups will discuss a range of topics, determined by the groups themselves and the ECU. However, a clear focus will include discussing practical methods and suggestions for promoting good campus relations and combating intolerance and discrimination. ECU intends to capture the outcomes from the dialogue groups and consult widely on these. The aim will be to generate a series of practical advice fact-sheets that can be used by the HE sector as a whole. The ECU will involve the Board of Deputies of British Jews and the Union of Jewish Students in this process as part of a 'critical reader group'.

Universities UK members have met with representatives from the All-Party Parliamentary Committee Against Antisemitism in Autumn 2007 and have agreed to continue to engage with the issues raised by the Committee's work.

Government support

In January 2008 the Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (DIUS) issued updated and revised guidance to the HE sector on *'Promoting Good Campus Relations, Fostering Shared Values and Preventing Violent Extremism in Universities and Higher Education Colleges'*, which replaced guidance provided in 2006 by the former Department for Education and Skills about tackling violent extremism. The aim of this guidance is to help universities to:

- Promote and reinforce **shared values** and the creation of space for free and open debate; and to listen to and support mainstream voices
- **Break down segregation** amongst different student communities including supporting inter-faith and inter-cultural dialogues and understanding; and to engage all students to play a full and active role in engaging with wider society

- Ensure **student safety** and campuses free from bullying, harassment and intimidation
- Protect and support **vulnerable** students
- Take responsibility for **tackling violent extremism**.

The guidance is available here:

www.dius.gov.uk/publications/extremismhe.pdf

We believe that shared values are core to helping universities address violent extremism and promote good relations on campus between different communities. Challenge and rigorous intellectual inquiry form the basis of education at a higher level, and essential to enabling this is the principle of academic freedom. We support the sector's commitment to academic freedom as indicated in its *'Promoting Good Campus Relations: dealing with hate crime and intolerance'*. Freedom to engage in robust but civilised argument and a willingness to have ideas challenged and changed is fundamentally at the heart of the educational experience. We believe that academic freedom is one of the strongest tools we have to challenge extremism and intolerance on campus. As such DIUS Ministers have launched a debate with the HE sector on 'how to protect and maintain academic freedom whilst ensuring that extremists can never stifle debate or impose their views'. A series of regional debates on this issue will run up to July 2008 arranged by sector organisations such as the National Union of Students and the University and College Union, and UUK have liaised with HEIs who would be willing to host a debate.

Academic boycott

We re-iterate our strong opposition to any academic boycott of Israel. Ministers have publicly stated this view whenever the issue has arisen. We don't believe the calls last year were motivated by antisemitism but such specific targeting of Israel can often have a worrying negative effect on all Jewish people. UUK, the Russell Group, the 1994 Group and the National Union of Students also expressed their opposition to any academic boycott, along with many individual academics. We don't believe that the boycott calls reflect the majority opinion in HE.

Bill Rammell, the Minister of State for Higher Education, visited Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories in June 2007 to re-emphasise the Government's opposition to any academic boycott, and also promote the benefits of international co-operation in academia. At the time the Minister said:

"The UK Government fully supports academic freedom and is firmly against any academic boycotts of Israel or Israeli academics. Whilst I appreciate the independence of the UCU, I am very disappointed that the Union has decided to pass a motion which encourages its members to consider boycotting Israeli academics and education institutions. I profoundly believe this does nothing to promote the Middle East peace process. In fact the reverse".

The Department has also funded a delegation visit of Vice-Chancellors to Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories, led by Professor Rick Trainor (UUK President and Principal of King's College, London), that took place in October 2007, which explored practical suggestions for academic co-operation between UK and Israeli academics, and UK and Palestinian academics. UUK members have agreed to positively explore how they can take forward the recommendations from the visit and Government is also considering what it can do to support such links and is exploring the option of providing some seed funding for a UK-Israel academic collaboration fund.”

Student listening programme

We believe it is important to enable students to talk directly to Government about their experiences in HE and input into policy development. As part of our 'student listening' programme Baroness Morgan, as the Minister for Students, hosted a meeting on the 'Jewish Student Experience' involving Jewish students and representative organisations from HE and from the Jewish community.

Addressing Antisemitism

The Cross-government Antisemitism Working Group

The Inquiry called on Government to set up a cross-government task force to take forward work on antisemitism. In our initial response we mentioned the existence of the hate crime working group that was a joint initiative between Communities and Local Government and the Home Office. On reflection it was agreed that in order to ensure that the commitments we had made in our original response were taken forward, it would be necessary to set up a separate working group dedicated to taking forward our work on antisemitism. The working group has met four times and is made up of officials from across-Whitehall and representatives from the Jewish community. The group is chaired by the Cohesion Director in Communities and Local Government and secretarial support for the group is provided by Communities and Local Government officials. The working group has proved extremely successful and we are committed to maintaining the group. We envisage the group meeting twice a year in future with the possibility of convening specialised sub-groups on issues of concern to the Parliamentary Committee against Antisemitism and the Jewish community.

Communities and Local Government as the lead department taking the work on antisemitism forward is committed to tackling hate crime and to ensure delivery on our commitment we have a departmental strategic objective (DSO) to reflect this, namely – to develop communities that are cohesive, active and resilient to extremism. Our work on antisemitism is a vital part of this and will require us to regularly report back to Parliament on our achievements.

Promoting community cohesion

The Inquiry acknowledged the importance of community cohesion and the building of good relations and called for increased funding in this area. As part of the Government's response to the Commission on Integration and Cohesion's final report *Our Shared Future* a £50m investment over the next three years to promote community cohesion and support local authorities in preventing and managing community tensions was announced.

In October, 2007 the Government announced a new cross government PSA 21, to build cohesive, empowered and active communities. The introduction of the new PSA further demonstrates Government's commitment to Cohesion.

We also acknowledge the important role schools have in building community cohesion. Schools have a key role to play in building a fair, integrated and tolerant society by giving children the skills, knowledge and opportunities to learn with, from and about those from different cultures, beliefs and backgrounds. From September 2007, all maintained schools in England have been under a statutory duty to promote community cohesion and will be inspected against this duty by Ofsted from September 2008. There is

an expectation that Academies will also comply with this duty through the Schools Admissions Code and it is part of the funding agreement for all newly established Academies.

In September 2007 the Government and the providers of publicly funded faith schools set out a vision statement – *Faith in the System* – to acknowledge our understanding of the contribution faith schools make to school-based education and to the wider school system and society in England. This document highlights the commitment of faith school providers to working together more effectively, promoting cohesion, fair access and equality of opportunity for all children.

In line with their new duty, school linking is one way that schools can promote community cohesion by giving children the skills, knowledge and opportunities to learn with, from and about those from different cultures, faiths and socio-economic backgrounds.

To support schools in forming effective links the Government is providing £2m of funding, supported by £1m donation from the Pears Foundation, to roll out the Schools Linking Network's successful work in Bradford.

The Government and Pears Foundation investment in the Schools Linking Network will provide:

- **A new national website** – www.schoolslinkingnetwork.org.uk – to allow all schools in England to seek a linking partner online, with support from the Schools Linking Network. The website will also hold resources and training materials
- **Pilot projects in 40 local authorities** to facilitate school linking by providing support and training, including guidance, materials and training for local authority personnel, teachers and other staff embarking on a linking project.

The first three pilot authorities (Barking and Dagenham, Bristol and Cheshire) have recently undergone their initial training and eight more local authorities are on course for recruitment in June.

The Board of Deputies of British Jews, with support from the Pears Foundation, have also developed a school linking project, 'Shared Futures' which seeks to link Jewish schools and other schools. We have met the Board and are encouraging the Schools Linking Network to ensure the two projects complement each other.

The curriculum

In addition to our continued support for the "Lessons from Auschwitz" project, we have committed to match fund the £250k per annum provided by The Pears Foundation "to ensure that teachers are adequately equipped with the training

and resources to deliver Holocaust education in schools.” This commitment is for three years and will be administered by the Holocaust Education Trust (HET).

The Pears Foundation has engaged the services of the University of London, Institute of Education (IoE) to take this project forward. A variety of interested parties will have some involvement in the developing programme, including: the Historical Association, Holocaust Education Trust (HET), the Jewish Museum, Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, Anne Frank Trust, the Imperial War Museum, Qualifications and Curriculum Authority (QCA) and the Training and Development Agency (TDA) and the Department for Children Schools and Families (DCSF). Plans for research into teacher’s attitudes and practice by the IoE were discussed in outline at a meeting on 9 April.

Development of inter faith framework

We have seen in the past few years a growing interest and recognition of the role which interfaith activity and action can play in building stronger communities. There is a need to take stock of this work – to develop the structures and ensure that current momentum helps us move forward in our aims within the contexts of preventing violent extremism, building strong and cohesive communities and in developing a more active role for faith communities as agents of change within local communities. Inter faith activity has an important role to play in building cohesive and empowered communities which are resilient to extremism in all its forms. For many years, people from different faith communities have worked together to build mutual understanding and respect and develop strong and positive relationships with one another and wider civil society.

We want to harness the energy and practical contribution that faith communities bring to our society, whilst assessing the tensions and rubbing points created by faith, both within and across faith groups, and across wider communities. We recognise that religion can be a source of conflict and tension, but evidence suggests that faith communities in the UK can also play an important role in resolving conflict – by building community cohesion and acting as a vital source of social capital in their local communities. The interfaith framework aims to ensure we have structures in our communities to manage these tensions and to secure avenues for civil society as a whole to benefit from the social capital within faith communities.

A consultation document regarding the proposed inter faith framework was launched by Hazel Blears on 17th December 2007 at an event attended by around 150 key faith and inter faith stakeholders. Our vision is that inter faith activity should not be limited to “face to face” interactions, but also be about genuine “side by side” shared activities, with a common purpose and a concrete outcome. We think that this distinction drawn by the Chief Rabbi, Sir Jonathan Sacks, is a helpful way of articulating two of its main components.

During the twelve week consultation period, Communities and Local Government officials attended a series of regional faith forum and other specific consultation events. Over 180 consultation responses have been received and Communities and Local Government officials are currently assessing their contents. Communities and Local Government officials have also commissioned a number of pieces of research to inform the development of the inter faith framework and to provide a clearer understanding of where additional investment might be needed to help secure a more sustainable footing for inter faith activity and how to deploy any investment in the most effective way. The final version of the framework is due to be published in July 2008. Communities and Local Government will also set out at this time how its future investment will support this framework.

Faith Communities Consultative Council (FCCC) members have been engaged in the development of the inter faith framework. It was the main subject of discussion at the FCCC meetings of 20 November 2007 and 19 Feb 2008 – and will again strongly feature at the next meeting on 20 May 2008. In addition, a number of FCCC member organisations including the Board of Deputies are involved in an advisory working group which is being closely consulted on the development of the framework.

Holocaust Memorial Day

The Government is determined to ensure that the horrendous crimes, racism and victimisation committed during the Holocaust are neither forgotten nor repeated. It is essential that we continue to hear the voices of survivors and that these voices are heard, not just now, but for generations. The Holocaust Memorial Day Trust and the Holocaust Educational Trust have made a great impact on educating and informing people of all ages and from all walks of life of the importance of the Holocaust and its relevance today.

The Government announced in February 2008 that it is extending its current level of financial support to the Holocaust Educational Trust's 'Lessons from Auschwitz' course, which takes sixth form students to Auschwitz-Birkenau, for a further three years. Communities and Local Government will also be significantly increasing the level of annual core funding provided to the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust for each of the next three years.

The Holocaust Memorial Day commemoration marks our common humanity and respect for each other. It is an important event in promoting religious tolerance and a cohesive society. We welcome the decision of the Muslim Council of Britain to attend the 2008 national commemoration in Liverpool – thereby joining a wide range of Muslim organisations and individuals who are providing active support to this important initiative.

In addition the Scottish Government has provided £25k to East Renfrewshire Council to host the Scottish Holocaust Memorial Day event and will support a series of events organised by Renfrewshire Council throughout 2009.

The United Kingdom strongly supports the work of the International Task Force on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research, of which we are a founding member. The Task Force brings together government representatives and NGOs from 25 countries and funds projects aimed at promoting greater knowledge and understanding about the Holocaust around the world.

The Task Force also uses its influence in international affairs. In recent years, it has urged the international community to do more to halt atrocities in Darfur, reject President Ahmedinejad's claims that the Holocaust was a myth, and to urge the Czech authorities to prevent a planned neo-Nazi demonstration in Prague's old Jewish quarter on the anniversary of Kristallnacht.

The UK's Special Representative to the Task Force leads a delegation of NGO and academic experts to the biannual plenary meetings, which will take place this year in Linz and Vienna.

The UK will this year assume the Presidency of the International Commission of the International Tracing Service, home to the world's largest archive of Holocaust era personal documents, based in Bad Arolsen.

Antisemitism in football

We believe that antisemitism in football is an under-reported problem that is not recognised as easily and dealt with as vigorously as other forms of racism. We welcome the report by the All-Party Parliamentary Group against Antisemitism into Antisemitism in European Football: *A Scar on the Beautiful Game* and are encouraged by initiatives by the Football Association, Maccabi GB, CST and the Board of Deputies of British Jews to tackle antisemitism in football.

Addressing Antisemitism at the International level

The United Kingdom is a strong supporter of work in international organisations to combat all forms of racism, including antisemitism.

2009 Durban Review Conference

The Government wants the 2009 Durban Review Conference to contribute to the global fight against racism and antisemitism and is working with EU partners to achieve this. Early signs are that this will be difficult, but we are trying to influence the outcome from a position of engagement.

The 2001 World Conference Against Racism in Durban was notoriously difficult. The Declaration and Programme of Action covered many sensitive issues including racism (portrayed as a white on black phenomenon only), slavery, Israel/Palestine, religious intolerance and indigenous people. Pushed to political and legal limits, the UK and the rest of the EU ultimately joined consensus on the final texts. Aggressive anti-Israeli and antisemitic rhetoric and activity blighted the NGO Forum, which ran alongside the main

conference. Mary Robinson – then UN High Commissioner for Human Rights – went as far as to reject the NGO declaration.

The United Kingdom was among a small number of countries that worked hard to ensure that the issue of antisemitism was included in the 2001 Durban Declaration and Programme for Action. We will seek opportunities with our EU partners to give appropriate attention to combating antisemitism and Holocaust education and remembrance as negotiations continue. It is vital to avoid the disgraceful antisemitism that occurred at the NGO forum in the margins of the 2001 World Conference Against Racism. We are in close contact with British Jewish community representatives to this end and will keep our participation in the Durban process under review.

The second Preparatory Committee for the Durban Review Conference took place from 21 April-2 May, 2008. This coincided with the Jewish festival of Passover. The next meeting of the Preparatory Committee is scheduled for 5-17 October 2008 and coincides with Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement). EU colleagues on the Preparatory Committee Bureau – that organises these events – assured us that this was not intentional. The United Kingdom does not sit on this body. Few dates were available and the United Nations' calendar does mark Jewish holidays. The Government is sympathetic to concerns brought forward by Jewish interest groups especially given that one of the preparatory meetings in 2001 was held in Tehran - thus precluding Jewish and Israeli participation.

The European Committee on Racism and Intolerance

The UK will continue to support the work of the European Committee on Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), which includes work to combat antisemitism. The Advisory Committee of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities addresses the question of antisemitism in its opinions on States. The UK has spoken to support the Advisory Committee's work, and on specific country opinions where appropriate in Council of Europe meetings throughout the year. The UK Permanent Representative to the Council of Europe attended a meeting of the Enlarged Bureau of the Committee of Ministers on 29 January 2008, followed by a ceremony in honour of Holocaust victims, organised by the Slovak Chairmanship of the Committee on the occasion of the International Holocaust Remembrance Day (27 January). She expressed the UK's support for the Council of Europe's continuing involvement in Holocaust education issues.

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe adopted a resolution on *Combating Antisemitism in Europe* on 27 June 2007 following a report from its rapporteur on antisemitism, Mikhail Marguelov (Russia) entitled *The Inadmissibility of antisemitism in the Social and Political Life of Council of Europe Member States*.

Mr Marguelov's report to the Parliamentary Assembly contained a number of inaccurate statements on the situation in the UK, misunderstanding the significance of the published data on the level of antisemitic incidents. The government disagreed with the proposition that the level of antisemitic incidents was particularly serious in the UK, when compared to other states. OSCE/ODIHR publicly acknowledged by the number of recorded antisemitic incidents is higher in the UK than in many states precisely because the UK so assiduously monitors and records the level of such incidents (as the UK does for all racist incidents.) The European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC – now the Fundamental Rights Agency) has acknowledged the UK's excellent example in successive reports.

The Government was also concerned that, despite paying lip service to the need to protect freedom of expression, a number of the report's recommendations envisaged criminal sanctions against those who expressed antisemitic views, as opposed to inciting antisemitic violence or hatred. The Government naturally deplores such views, but believes that the criminal law should only apply where such words or behaviour incite hatred or violence.

We were disappointed to note that the report made no recommendations on the importance of recording or monitoring antisemitic incidents or ensuring that, not only are there hate crime laws on the statute book, but that there are mechanisms in place to ensure such cases are effectively pursued at all levels of the criminal justice system (ie police, prosecutors and courts).

The Government welcomed the attention the report brought to the problem of antisemitism in Europe, but viewed it as a missed opportunity for the Parliamentary Assembly.

OSCE Berlin Declaration

The All Party Group recommended that the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Home Office reported jointly to the House of Commons to update members on the progress made in the UK in implementing the objectives of the OSCE Berlin Declaration.

While this recommendation was not accepted for practical reasons, the Government sought to implement it in spirit by using the relevant mechanism for reviewing OSCE commitments, the OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting.

The Human Dimension Implementation Meeting is part of the OSCE's peer review process. In an annual meeting spanning two weeks each autumn, participating States and NGOs sit at the same table to review States' implementation of their OSCE commitments.

At the 2007 Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, the United Kingdom delivered a statement detailing the United Kingdom's implementation of the

Berlin Declaration (annex 1). The United Kingdom was the first participating State of the OSCE to lay itself open to scrutiny by giving such a detailed account of its record. We encouraged other participating States to follow suit. At the same meeting, Denis MacShane MP gave an inspiring presentation on the work of the Inquiry, and the Government's co-operation with it.

The All-Party Parliamentary Inquiry has been lauded by Gert Weisskirchen MdB (Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman in Office on Antisemitism) as international best practice in a letter to OSCE heads of state. Herr Weisskirchen has actively promoted the inquiry, including at the 2007 OSCE Human Dimension Implementation Meeting, and in October 2007 at the OSCE Chairman in Office's Cordoba Conference on Tackling Discrimination against Muslims.

The UK seconds experts to the OSCE/ODIHR to support its work on tolerance and non-discrimination. Nasrin Khan is continuing to develop a hate crimes legislative assistance programme, which will be used to train police and prosecutorial bodies in OSCE participating States.

The City of London Police hosted OSCE/ODIHR's hate crimes training programme for law enforcement officers in November 2007. We regularly second Detective Inspector Tim Parsons (City of London Police) to this training programme, which includes specific instruction on how to deal with antisemitic hate crimes.

The UK has contributed funding to OSCE/ODIHR in financial year 2007/08 to develop training materials for prosecutors on hate crimes, and to train law enforcement officers in combating hate crime.

We will seek to build on this work in the OSCE. This year's Human Dimension Implementation Meeting offers further opportunities to promote the All Party model and the Government's co-operation with the follow-up process. We are considering convening a side event at this year's meeting, hosted jointly between Government, parliamentarians and NGO stakeholders.

Inter-Parliamentary Coalition for Combating Antisemitism

During a visit to Israel in February 2008, John Mann MP offered to host an international conference on Antisemitism in London in 2009. As a result, he began work to create an Inter-Parliamentary Coalition for Combating Antisemitism, which will bring together parliamentarians from around the world committed to fighting antisemitism. The FCO and Mr Mann's office are now discussing how best to take forward organising this conference.

Stakeholder Engagement

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

- The Foreign Secretary met senior representatives of American Jewish organisations in New York in October 2007. They discussed a broad range of issues, including antisemitism in the United Kingdom. He acknowledged that antisemitism existed, here and that the Government would continue to fight it. However, the British Jewish community was well integrated and successful.
- The Foreign Secretary met members of the British Jewish community including the Board of Deputies of British Jews, the Jewish Israel Appeal, the Zionist Federation and the Portland Trust in November 2007, covering a number of issues, including the Middle East Peace Process, Jewish cemeteries in Eastern Europe, the Durban Review Conference and relations with Israel.
- Minister for Europe, Jim Murphy MP, met UK Jewish community representatives from the Board of Deputies of British Jews, the Community Security Trust, the Jewish Leadership Council and the Holocaust Education Trust in October 2007 to discuss the FCO's approach to combating antisemitism and Holocaust remembrance and education. As a result of this meeting, the Minister committed to do more in these areas. Resources and responsibility for work and on antisemitism and Holocaust remembrance will be centralised in the FCO's Human Rights, Democracy and Governance Group.

Department for Innovation, Universities and Schools

- DIUS Ministers have met a range of stakeholders to discuss antisemitism more broadly and the calls for a boycott of Israeli academia including representatives from the Union of Jewish Students, the Community Security Trust, Labour Friends of Israel, Israeli Government and Embassy, Jewish Labour Movement, Israeli academics and students and individually Lord Janner, Professor Gert Weisskirchen and John Mann MP.
- As part of our 'student listening' programme Baroness Morgan, as the Minister for Students, hosted a meeting on the 'Jewish Student Experience' involving Jewish students and representative organisations from HE and from the Jewish community.

Department for Children, Schools and Families

- DCSF meet regularly with the Holocaust Educational Trust regarding the 'Lessons from Auschwitz' project for which the DCSF is providing financial support (£4.65m for the next three years).
- DCSF meet regularly with the Pears foundation to discuss the materials and resources being produced to support teachers in teaching about the Holocaust.

Department for Communities and Local Government

- Hazel Blears met with the Chief Rabbi in November 2007
- Parmjit Dhanda met with Lord Greville Janner in October 2007
- Parmjit Dhanda met with the Board of Deputies of British Jews, The Jewish Leadership Council and the, Community Security Trust in November 2007
- Parmjit Dhanda met with Trevor Pears in November 2007
- Hazel Blears visited Interlink in December 2007
- Hazel Blears and Parmjit Dhanda both attended the Holocaust Memorial Day national event on 27 January 2008
- Hazel Blears spoke at North West/Yorkshire and Humber Regional Council Seminar in March 2008
- Parmjit Dhanda attended the Community Security Trust (CST) Annual Dinner in March 2008
- Parmjit Dhanda attended The Parliamentary Committee Against Antisemitism Dinner on Discursive Antisemitism in March 2008
- Communities and Local Government officials also host regular meetings with a broad range of stakeholders from the Jewish community
- Communities and Local Government official addressed the Global Forum on Antisemitism in Israel in February 2008
- Communities and Local Government officials met Aviva Shechter, Director of the Department Combatting Antisemitism, Ministry of Foreign Affairs -Israel in March 2008.

The Home Office

The Home Secretary, Lord West, Vernon Coaker and officials have met frequently with Jewish organisations, bodies and representatives on a number of issues around hate crime, awareness of antisemitism and security. This continuing dialogue includes Lord Janner, The Board of Deputies and the Community Security Trust.

Scottish Executive

In addition to the attendance of the Deputy First Minister, Nicola Sturgeon MSP, at the East Renfrewshire Holocaust Memorial Day event in January 2008, the First Minister of Scotland, Alex Salmond MSP MP met representatives of Scotland's Jewish communities in November 2007 and both he and the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills, Fiona Hyslop MSP have addressed meetings of the Jewish Educational Forum this year.

Key Commitments

Communities and Local Government will:

- Continue to host and provide secretarial support for the working group monitoring further progress and implementation of the commitments made by other departments
- Publish the findings of the research on antisemitic discourse by the European Institute for the Study of Contemporary Antisemitism (EISCA) in September 2008
- Provide strategic oversight of the policy and delivery approach adopted by the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust – engaging with its Chair, Chief Executive and staff as appropriate; facilitating links to other relevant Government initiatives; advising on Government policy and expectations; and ensuring ongoing Ministerial support and participation
- Continue to support projects which focus on the prevention of hate crime in 2008/09
- Continue to play a role in the internet hate crime working group hosted by the Home Office.

Crown Prosecution Service will:

- Develop an action plan, which sets out the work needed in the future to build on the progress that has already been achieved. We intend to consult with the police, and other criminal justice partners, as well as representatives of the Jewish Community, such as the Community Security Trust, on the detail of the action plan.

The Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills will:

- Continue to support the work of the higher education (HE) sector in addressing racism and discrimination; and its ongoing activity aimed at helping different groups contribute to, and get the best out of, their higher education experience.

The Department for Children, Schools and Families will:

- Continue to fund and support the HET “Lessons from Auschwitz” project, and provide support for schools to deliver Holocaust education in schools
- Funding to support the rolling out of the Schools Linking Network to promote cohesion.

The Department for Culture, Media and Sport will:

- Antisemitism on the internet is a major concern and we will host a Ministerial seminar to find ways of improving action and impact. An event with colleagues from BERR, the Home Office, CPS, ACPO and the Department for Communities and Local Government as well as MPs, experts, lawyers, Jewish community NGOs and department officials is to be led by the Rt Hon Margaret Hodge MBE MP, Minister at the Department for Culture, Media and Sport.

The Foreign & Commonwealth Office will:

- Support John Mann MP and his colleagues in encouraging Parliamentarians in other countries to instigate similar inquiries into antisemitism. We will share our experiences with host Governments to encourage their co-operation with any inquiry
- Seek opportunities with our EU partners to give Holocaust education and remembrance, and work against antisemitism appropriate attention as negotiations continue towards the Durban Review Conference
- Play an active role in the Task Force for International Co-operation on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research
- Ensure work against antisemitism is given due attention in international organisations, most notably the OSCE, taking opportunities to promote UK best practice
- Work closely with the Inter-Parliamentary Coalition for Combating Antisemitism to deliver a successful conference in 2009
- Run a successful UK Presidency of the International Commission of the International Tracing Service in 2008/09.

The Home Office will:

- Work with ACPO and other stakeholders to introduce performance measures to assess and improve the way hate crime is tackled by the criminal justice system
- Introduce a new way of collecting data from forces. This new system and processes are currently being piloted, tested and quality assured. This includes faith hate crimes. Target: to have the new system in place in April 2009
- We will continue to consider what guidance might be appropriate for tackling hate crime
- We will create a mini-site on the crime reduction website to help practitioners to tackle all hate crime. This will include resources resulting from Victims Fund hate crime projects in 2007/08 and 2008/09. Target date 1 April 2009

- We will consider what guidance and updates to guidance might be necessary for tackling hate crime on the internet. Guidance may be appropriate for community safety practitioners including criminal justice agencies, victims or community groups. Target date April 2010.

The Ministry of Justice will:

- Produce occupational standards for police officers handling hate crimes in 2008
- Conduct a training needs analysis for the police on hate crime in 2008
- Review the use of third party reporting centres for hate crime in 2008
- Develop a diagnostic tool to enable Local Criminal Justice Boards (LCJB's) to enable them to audit their performance in the prosecution of hate crimes in 2008
- Refresh the ACPO hate crime manual in 2008/09
- Develop training for the judiciary on the corrosive impact of hate crime in 2009. Input will be sought from Jewish and other faith based NGOs
- Produce proposals for handling internet hate crime in 2009.



United Kingdom Delegation

To the Organisation for Security and
Cooperation in Europe (OSCE)
Vienna

The OSCE Berlin Declaration

Earlier this year, the UK parliament's All-party Parliamentary Committee on Anti-Semitism, published a comprehensive report on anti-Semitism, which shows that anti-Semitism is sadly much alive in the UK, and manifesting itself in new ways.

We believe that this is an extremely important report, and we will ensure that it leads to renewed effort to rid our country of this oldest form of hatred.

The British Government has committed to working with the Committee and domestic NGOs to provide an effective follow-up to the Report and the Government's response.

One of the recommendations made in the Report was that the Government reports to Parliament on the implementation of the Berlin Declaration. Given the wide range of international commitments that the UK has entered into, and that that the Berlin Declaration was formally endorsed by an OSCE Ministerial Council decision, it was felt more appropriate to report to this meeting.

While the focus of the Committee's inquiry was on anti-Semitism, much of what is contained in our response is applicable across all forms of discrimination.

Mr Chairman, I will refrain from reading out the detail of our response here today. It has been circulated to all delegates via the Secretariat, annexed to this speaking note.

1. Strive to ensure that their legal systems foster a safe environment free from anti-Semitic harassment, violence or discrimination in all fields of life;

The Crown Prosecution Service (CPS) is investigating the relationship between arrests and prosecutions and is examining incitement to racial hatred prosecutions in an attempt to reassure the Jewish community that hate crimes are dealt with effectively.

We have one of the strongest legal frameworks in the world for protecting people from discrimination or persecution on the basis of race or faith, and this has been significantly tightened in recent years. We have robust police and CPS policies, and have in recent years strengthened the legal framework against racial discrimination and the penalties for criminal offences such as incitement to racial hatred, racially or religiously aggravated assault and criminal damage.

In January 2005 the Government launched its strategy *Improving Opportunity and Strengthening Society* to increase race equality and community cohesion. It brings together practical measures across Government to improve opportunities for all - helping to ensure that a person's ethnicity or race is not a barrier to their success. It clearly outlines the Government's policy to give

greater emphasis to the importance of strengthening society, by helping people from different backgrounds come together, supporting people who contribute to society and taking a stand against racists and extremists.

2. Promote, as appropriate, educational programmes for combating anti-Semitism;

The 2006 Education Act places a duty on governing bodies of schools in England to promote community cohesion and for the Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (Ofsted) to report on the contribution made by each school towards community cohesion. Guidance to support schools in fulfilling this new duty to promote community cohesion (which is due to come into effect and be inspected by Ofsted from September 2007) will recommend linking as a way of promoting community cohesion. It will encourage schools to form links with other schools and the wider community and include case studies of existing good practice across a range of schools.

Examples of good practice can be found at

www.teachernet.gov.uk/wholeschool/faithschools

Anti-Racism Education in the Curriculum

The Government believes that there currently exists a sufficient range of curricular opportunities to develop an understanding of anti-racism including the history of anti-Semitism, but is always open to considering specific suggestions for changes.

All Key Stages of the History curriculum contain requirements that provide opportunities to value diversity, challenge racism – including anti-Semitism - and understand the positive impacts of migration. In addition, Key Stage 3 pupils are explicitly required to study the Holocaust as part of the History programmes of study. The Qualifications and Curriculum Authority provides Schemes of Work to consolidate this teaching. Citizenship Education at Key Stages 3 and 4 also ask pupils to develop an understanding of the diversity of national religious and ethnic identities in the United Kingdom and the need for mutual respect and understanding.

In addition, through the non-statutory framework for Personal, Social and Health Education, pupils explore the effects of all stereotypes, prejudice, bullying, racism and discrimination and how to challenge these effectively.

The National Curriculum Order for History gives opportunities in the Focus Statement at Key Stage 3 to study aspects of *The Twentieth Century World*. Pupils should be taught about aspects of twentieth-century world history. They should be taught about some major events and developments that shaped the modern world, through studies of the impact of world war and changes in twentieth-century society.

Guidance on anti-racist education

Schools already have a legislative duty to comply with the Race Relations Amendment Act 2000 that requires 'due regard to the need to eliminate unlawful racial discrimination and to promote equality of opportunity and good relations between persons of different racial groups'.

In March 2006, the Department for Education and Skills (DfES) developed a resource for schools on tackling racist bullying. This includes advice on

preventing racist bullying through the school curriculum including key concepts in all curriculum subjects and suggestions for classroom activities. A range of guidance to schools on anti-racism will support this. The Equality Act 2006 extends discrimination law and the approach of schools towards anti-Semitism will be clarified by forthcoming guidance on the reporting and recording of racist incidents. The Department is also developing new anti-bullying guidance that will include a discrete section on anti-Semitism.

The Scottish Executive concurs and various initiatives are in place within Scottish schools and through the *One Scotland, Many Cultures* campaign.

The Department of Education in Northern Ireland is introducing a revised curriculum from September 2007 to 2009/10. The revised curriculum aims to better prepare young people for life and work and includes a new strand on citizenship education to enable all pupils to develop attitudes of tolerance and respect. Pupils will study issues such as diversity and inclusion, both locally and globally, and the causes of racism and ways of managing conflict and promoting inclusion.

3. Promote remembrance of and, as appropriate, education about the tragedy of the Holocaust, and the importance of respect for all ethnic and religious groups;

Government pledged £1.5 million in support of the Holocaust Educational Trust's "Lessons from Auschwitz" course for teachers and sixth form students. This funding will enable the Trust to send up to 6000 students each year to the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp. This means two students from every secondary school and Further Education College in the UK. Additionally, on 17 April 2007, the Government announced that the Treasury and The Pears Foundation would each contribute £250,000 in a three year commitment to the Holocaust Educational Trust to administer teacher training. The Government also supports the Holocaust Memorial Day Trust, with an annual grant of £500,000 to meet the costs of the yearly commemoration.

Scottish Ministers have supported a separate Scottish Holocaust Memorial Day annually since 2001 so that communities could mobilise around an event for Scotland. Scotland also hosted the main UK event in 2003 in Edinburgh in partnership with the Home Office and Edinburgh City Council. In 2005 the Scottish Executive agreed to provide a contribution of up to £750,000 for a Holocaust Memorial Museum in partnership with the Scottish Jewish Community and East Renfrewshire Council. It is envisioned as a permanent exhibition that could also be a learning resource for schools and other educational institutions. Planning is still in the early stages but a provisional site has now been identified within the East Renfrewshire local authority area.

As part of Holocaust Memorial Day 2006 the Scottish Executive provided funding for an exhibition titled "Testimony". This was a photographic exhibition, which contained images from Auschwitz, and the annual "March of the Living" that takes place to remember the victims of the Nazi Holocaust. This exhibition was further developed as a lasting legacy for Scotland. "Testimony" is currently collating testimonies of Holocaust survivors and it is hoped the full exhibition and testimonies will be placed within the Holocaust Memorial Museum.

4. Combat hate crimes, which can be fuelled by racist, xenophobic and anti-Semitic propaganda in the media and on the Internet;

The UK Government strongly believes that a press free from state intervention is fundamental to our democracy. We do not therefore seek to interfere in what a newspaper or magazine chooses to publish.

But this does not mean that the press may publish just what they like. They must abide by the law. Our laws against incitement to racial hatred cover all newspapers, including foreign-based newspapers on sale in the UK. These laws also apply to material which people in the UK make available over the Internet.

The press have also chosen to restrict their historic right to freedom of expression by signing up to a Code of Practice, overseen by the Press Complaints Commission. The Code contains clauses on, amongst other things, discrimination and accuracy.

The UK's broadcasting regulator, Ofcom, is independent of Government. Its broadcasting code prohibits discriminatory treatment or language on the grounds of (amongst other things) race, religion or belief.

In addition, Ofcom's code sets out a requirement on broadcasters to ensure that the religious views and beliefs of those belonging to a particular religion or religious denomination must not be subject to abusive treatment. Furthermore, the code prohibits the inclusion of material likely to encourage or incite the commission of crime or lead to disorder.

The BBC's Charter and Agreement contain equivalent provisions.

5. Encourage and support international organization and NGO efforts in these areas;

We have been strong supporters of the OSCE's tolerance programme and the Chairman-in-Office's Personal Representatives on tolerance issues. The UK contributed £50,000 to support the work of the Personal Representatives and have welcomed all three into the United Kingdom.

The UK has actively supported the OSCE's conferences on anti-Semitism, and on tolerance issues more broadly. UK Government Ministers have consistently led our delegations, which have consisted of a broad mix of experts, NGOs, faith community representatives and officials.

6. Collect and maintain reliable information and statistics about anti-Semitic crimes, and other hate crimes, committed within their territory, report such information periodically to the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), and make this information available to the public;

The Home Office is currently reviewing data reported by police forces to the Department. The Office of Criminal Justice Reform is currently reviewing the minimum dataset published annually by the Home Office under section 95 of the Criminal Justice Act. Government is also working with the police to identify, nationally, better and more consistent ways of collecting and managing data on hate crimes including antisemitic incidents and crimes. This should be in place by 2008-09.

Association of Chief Police Officers (Scotland) and the Crown Office in Scotland are currently looking at ways to record racial and religiously aggravated incidents by specific categories.

The Police Service of Northern Ireland currently monitors and responds to the five categories of Hate Crime (including hate incidents) i.e. racial, sectarian, faith/religion, disability and homophobic/transphobic. Monitoring and recording of religion/faith crimes occur under a single heading and is not further categorised into the respective religion or faith. To date such recording has not raised any areas of concern or difficulties to the Police Service of Northern

Ireland in their response to dealing effectively and efficiently with hate crimes, including those motivated by faith/religion.

The UK is happy to respond to requests from ODIHR to report information on hate crimes, and has done so on a number of occasions.

7. Endeavour to provide the ODIHR with the appropriate resources to accomplish the tasks agreed upon in the Maastricht Ministerial Decision on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination;

The UK has long been an admirer of ODIHR's excellent work and has consistently supported its budget allocations.

8. Work with the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly to determine appropriate ways to review periodically the problem of anti-Semitism;

Officials from the Foreign & Commonwealth Office regularly meet members of the UK's delegation to the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly. We discuss a number of issues, including the OSCE's work on tolerance.

9. Encourage development of informal exchanges among experts in appropriate fora on best practices and experiences in law enforcement and education.

The UK supports ODIHR's successful Combating Hate Crime Police Training Programme and has seconded a senior police officer with relevant experience to this programme for several years.



Bulgarian Chairmanship The Chairman-in-Office

Distinguished delegates,

Let me sum up the proceedings of this Conference in what I would like to call
“Berlin Declaration”.

Based on consultations I conclude that OSCE participating States,

Reaffirming the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, which proclaims that everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth therein, without distinction of any kind, such as race, religion or other status,

Recalling that Article 18 of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights and Article 18 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights state that everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion,

Recalling also the decisions of the OSCE Ministerial Councils at Porto and Maastricht, as well as previous decisions and documents, and committing ourselves to intensify efforts to combat anti-Semitism in all its manifestations and to promote and strengthen tolerance and non-discrimination,

Recognizing that anti-Semitism, following its most devastating manifestation during the Holocaust, has assumed new forms and expressions, which, along with other forms of intolerance, pose a threat to democracy, the values of civilization and, therefore, to overall security in the OSCE region and beyond,

Concerned in particular that this hostility toward Jews -- as individuals or collectively -- on racial, social, and/or religious grounds, has manifested itself in verbal and physical attacks and in the desecration of synagogues and cemeteries,

1. Condemn without reserve all manifestations of anti-Semitism, and all other acts of intolerance, incitement, harassment or violence against persons or communities based on ethnic origin or religious belief, wherever they occur;
2. Also condemn all attacks motivated by anti-Semitism or by any other forms of religious or racial hatred or intolerance, including attacks against synagogues and other religious places, sites and shrines;
3. Declare unambiguously that international developments or political issues, including those in Israel or elsewhere in the Middle East, never justify anti-Semitism;

In addition, I note that the Maastricht Ministerial Council in its Decision on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination, tasked the Permanent Council “to further discuss ways and means of increasing the efforts of the OSCE and the participating States for the promotion of tolerance and non-discrimination in all fields.” In light of this Ministerial Decision, I welcome the April 22 Permanent Council Decision on Combating Anti-Semitism and, in accordance with that Decision, incorporate it into this Declaration.

1. The OSCE participating States commit to:

- Strive to ensure that their legal systems foster a safe environment free from anti-Semitic harassment, violence or discrimination in all fields of life;
- Promote, as appropriate, educational programmes for combating anti-Semitism;
- Promote remembrance of and, as appropriate, education about the tragedy of the Holocaust, and the importance of respect for all ethnic and religious groups;
- Combat hate crimes, which can be fuelled by racist, xenophobic and anti-Semitic propaganda in the media and on the Internet;
- Encourage and support international organization and NGO efforts in these areas;
- Collect and maintain reliable information and statistics about anti-Semitic crimes, and other hate crimes, committed within their territory, report such information periodically to the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), and make this information available to the public;
- Endeavour to provide the ODIHR with the appropriate resources to accomplish the tasks agreed upon in the Maastricht Ministerial Decision on Tolerance and Non-Discrimination;
- Work with the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly to determine appropriate ways to review periodically the problem of anti-Semitism;
- Encourage development of informal exchanges among experts in appropriate fora on best practices and experiences in law enforcement and education;

2. To task the ODIHR to:

- Follow closely, in full co-operation with other OSCE institutions as well as the United Nations Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination (UNCERD), the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), the European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia (EUMC) and other relevant international institutions and NGOs, anti-Semitic incidents in the OSCE area making use of all reliable information available;
- Report its findings to the Permanent Council and to the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting and make these findings public. These reports should also be taken into account in deciding on priorities for the work of the OSCE in the area of intolerance; and

- Systematically collect and disseminate information throughout the OSCE area on best practices for preventing and responding to anti-Semitism and, if requested, offer advice to participating States in their efforts to fight anti-Semitism;

This Decision will be forwarded to the Ministerial Council for endorsement at its Twelfth Meeting.

Cross government working group members

All-Party Parliamentary Committee against Antisemitism

Department for Children, Schools and Families

Department Innovation, Universities & Skills

Foreign and Commonwealth Office

The Attorney General's Office

The Home Office

The Metropolitan Police

The Jewish Leadership Council

Community Security Trust

Board of Deputies of British Jews

Communities and Local Government

Crown Prosecution Service

Department for Culture, Media and Sport

Ministry of Justice



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