Naciones Unidas A/HRC/26/G/8

Asamblea General

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Consejo de Derechos Humanos
26º período de sesiones
Tema 3 de la agenda
Promoción y protección de todos los derechos humanos, civiles, políticos, económicos, sociales y culturales, incluido el derecho al desarrollo

Nota verbal de fecha 27 de junio de 2014 dirigida a la Oficina del Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Derechos Humanos por la Misión Permanente de Grecia ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas en Ginebra y otras organizaciones internacionales en Suiza

La Misión Permanente de Grecia ante la Oficina de las Naciones Unidas y otras organizaciones internacionales en Suiza saluda atentamente a la Oficina del Alto Comisionado de las Naciones Unidas para los Derechos Humanos y tiene el honor de transmitirle por la presente las observaciones del Gobierno de Grecia en relación con la declaración escrita de fecha 26 de mayo de 2014 presentada por la "Federación Europea de Turcos de Tracia Occidental", una organización no gubernamental reconocida como entidad de carácter consultivo especial (A/HRC/26/NGO/84).

La Misión Permanente de Grecia solicita a la Oficina del Alto Comisionado que tenga a bien distribuir el texto adjunto* como documento del 26º período de sesiones del Consejo de Derechos Humanos, en relación con el tema 3 de la agenda.

* Se reproduce en el anexo tal como se recibió, en el idioma en que se presentó únicamente.

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Anexo

[Inglés únicamente]

Participation of the muslim minority in Thrace in Greek public life

The allegations expressed in the A/HRC/26/NGO/84 document, submitted to the HRC by the NGO "Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe" have little to do with the actual participation of the Muslim minority to the governance of the local, the regional and the national affairs. According to the above mentioned NGO, Greece is allegedly impeding the political representation of Greek citizens of Muslim faith residing in Thrace in the decision making process at all levels due to the 3% electoral threshold.

Facts suggest otherwise; at the most recent local and regional elections of May 25, 2014 roughly 120 Greek citizens members of the Muslim Minority were elected at the local and regional councils in Thrace; among them three mayors in the cities of Ariana, lasmos (Rodopi constituency) and Miki (Xanthi constituency). Therefore, the participation of the Muslim Minority in the region's local administration is far from restricted but vigorous and active.

What is more, at the last European elections —held at the same day with the local and regional elections— the "Democracy and Equality Party' gained a considerable part of the ballot in the constituencies of Rodopi and Xanthi — accounting to 41,425 votes with an overall voter turnout in the region as high as 70%.

The 3% electoral threshold is applicable in a non discriminatory way in all elections that are held in Greece. It has never served as the obstacle to the political representation of Greek citizens of Muslim faith residing at the region of Thrace the "Federation of Western Thrace Turks in Europe" wishes to present. In fact, it is as early as 1927 that members of the Muslim Minority have been members of the Hellenic Parliament. And this is the case of almost all parliamentary elections without the exception of the most recent; as of June 17, 2012 three members of the Muslim minority in Thrace serve as MPs in the current Parliament with two different parties.