



## Democratic guarantees and the independence of the election management bodies

Conclusions made by the participants of the ACEEEO 20<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Conference on 16-18 June, 2011, in Budapest, Hungary yet again re-affirm high level professionalism, efficiency and transparency of the Election Management Bodies, stressing that the EMBs came a long way to become independent, which is one of the pre-requisites of the democracy and fair elections.

In the last 20 years the EMBs had to face challenges affecting their independence. Some of the challenges heard during the discussion are: lack of adequate resources, inadequate staff, lack of clear line of accountability and political mistrust.

The participants are committed to address these challenges and will work their way forward by improving, professional standards in service, providing well-structure training for its staff, improving relations with the media and other governmental institutions, networking with other EMBs aimed at support to address rapid changes in environments in which election take place, building accountability and reputation and maintaining electoral integrity.

ACEEEO also reaffirms by the 20<sup>th</sup> jubilee conference that election management bodies play a key role in the effective implementation of election technology, and that professional election administration is the key for the effective implementation of the new technologies.

Participants of the 20<sup>th</sup> ACEEEO conference rededicated themselves to safeguard electoral integrity.

18 June 2011

Budapest, Hungary