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Dear Drs. Kasa and Hantz,

On behalf of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights, I should like to thank you very much for the invitation of 5 October 2006 addressed to the High Commissioner to contribute to the second European Conference on Higher Education for National Minorities.

The promotion and protection of the rights of persons belonging to minorities and the provision of adequate responses to their situations have always been issues of concern for our Office. The subject of your meeting is of particular interest as it will offer an opportunity for an exchange of views and ideas on the different practices existing within Europe for the provision of education in minority languages, and for strengthening understanding of the history and culture of minorities. This timely initiative is welcomed as issues surrounding the provision of intercultural and multicultural education are gaining greater international attention.

We wish your meeting every success and would be grateful to be kept informed of the proceedings and to learn of the outcome of your meeting.

Yours sincerely,

Ibrahim Wani
Chief, Research and Right to Development Branch
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