Preliminary Information Note

1. Date and place
Council of Europe (Agora), Strasbourg, 3-4 June 2014 (registration: 8:30-9:10; begin: 9:15; end: 16:00).

2. Organisation
The Conference is being organised by the Language Policy Unit - Education Policy Division, Education Department / DGII - and concerns various ministries (see Item 4). It is being held under the auspices of the Steering Committee for Educational Policy and Practice (CDPPE).

3. Aims and themes
Since the last conference in 2010, initiatives regarding the integration of migrants have intensified at international level. For its part, the Council of Europe conducted a 3rd survey among member states in 2013: the purpose of these surveys is to collect data on language training and assessment requirements in integration policies for three categories of applications: before entry into the host country, for residency and for citizenship. A series of new instruments (guidelines, tools and a website) have been developed to help member states draw up and implement linguistic integration policies. The aim of the conference is to:

- present and analyse the results of the 3rd survey on language policies for the integration of adult migrants in which 36 member states took part
- familiarise participants with the new instruments developed by the Language Policy Unit and discuss them
- share the experience gained from the piloting of two new tools in Italy and Slovenia and review a project conducted in Switzerland.

The conference will also provide an opportunity to discover the work being done by other institutions.

4. Participants

4.1 Profile
This Conference is intended for national and regional government officials responsible for language policies for adult migrants who are concerned with areas such as family reunion, residence permits, obtaining nationality/citizenship or access to the labour market.

Participants may therefore be nominated from any of the appropriate ministries or other bodies responsible for these matters (for example Education, Justice, Foreign Affairs, Home Affairs, Employment, Social Affairs and so on).
4.2 Travel and accommodation expenses

Travel and accommodation expenses will in principle be covered by the sending authorities. However, the Council of Europe can cover these expenses for a limited number of participants upon specific request by the authorities at the time of nomination. Other participants may attend the Conference at their own expense within the limits of available places.

While the conference is open to all member states, priority will be given to covering the costs of delegates from the 36 ministries/bodies states (one person) which were directly associated with the 2013 survey on LIAM conducted by the Language Policy Unit.

4.2 Working languages

Participants should be able to work in English or French. Simultaneous interpretation between these languages will be provided during plenary sessions and in one of the working groups.

5. Nominations

**NB**: National delegates: an official call for nomination was addressed to Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe (Strasbourg) for communication to relevant ministries and bodies.

Participation of NGOs and other bodies: individual participants are invited to contact the Language Policy Unit (acceptance within the limits of available places).

Participants will be formally registered once they have completed the form that will be sent to them after their nomination.

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Authorities are invited to submit their nominations by **25 April 2014 at the latest** to the

Language Policy Unit - DG II
Council of Europe - F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex
e-mail: language.policy@coe.int

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6. Further information

Delegates are advised to book a hotel room as early as possible due to a large number of events taking place in Strasbourg in June. Practical information and an indicative list of hotels are offered on the website (see section Events / Practical Information)

Further details, including the draft programme and conference documents will be made available online in due course.

**Contact:**

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