Recommendation CM/RecChL(2016)2 of the Committee of Ministers on the application of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages by the Slovak Republic

(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 27 April 2016 at the 1254th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)

The Committee of Ministers,

In accordance with Article 16 of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages;

Having regard to the declarations submitted by the Slovak Republic on 9 April 2001;

Having taken note of the evaluation made by the Committee of Experts on the Charter with respect to the application of the Charter by the Slovak Republic;

Having taken note of the comments made by the Slovak authorities on the contents of the Committee of Experts’ report;

Bearing in mind that this evaluation is based on information submitted by the Slovak Republic in its national report, supplementary information provided by the Slovak authorities, information submitted by bodies and associations legally established in the Slovak Republic and information obtained by the Committee of Experts during its on-the-spot visit;

Recommends that the authorities of the Slovak Republic take account of all the observations and recommendations of the Committee of Experts and, as a matter of priority:

1. review the requirements related to thresholds in order to make the undertakings in the field of administration operational;

2. strengthen efforts to provide teaching in or of all regional or minority languages at all appropriate levels;

3. take measures to improve teacher-training for regional or minority language education;

4. strengthen the support to television, radio and newspapers in all regional or minority languages;

5. continue measures to abolish unjustified enrolments of Roma children in special schools or classes and start to introduce Romani-language education for Roma children on a large scale;

6. raise awareness and promote tolerance in the Slovak society at large vis-à-vis regional or minority languages and the cultures they represent.