Annex 5: List and Annotations of Reports Concerning Individual Topics in the School year 2007/2008

Equal Opportunities for Education of Foreign Nationals in the Czech Republic

the observations carried out in compliance with the request of the MEYS arising from the Czech Government Resolution No. 126 of 8 February 2006 concerning the Strategy for Integration of Foreign Nationals, in 2005 CSI strove to identify and assess the conditions, the course and results of education of pupils-foreign nationals in Czech schools. At the same time findings on how equal opportunities of foreign nationals are ensured and on the effectiveness of specific support for their education were gathered. Collected data are stored for periodic comparisons of the given situations and for analyses of trends in this area of education. Observations of this type were carried out in kindergartens, basic schools, and secondary school in all regions of the Czech Republic.

Reading Literacy as the Basis of Good Education

In its inspection practice for this kind of observation CSI used procedures to ascertain and assess the conditions, the course and results of education at all levels of the education system. All inspections were held in accordance with the objective of the curricular reform in the Czech Republic and in relation to the European set of indicators for lifelong learning. The most important conclusions of the PISA international surveys published from 2000 to 2007 became the basis for preparation of this type of observation. Inspections were held in kindergartens, in basic schools, mainly in the 3rd and 7th grades, and in the 2nd grades of secondary schools in all regions of the Czech Republic.

Further Education of Teachers

In this type of observation CSI tried to establish whether legal regulations regarding the FEPS are adhered to, it evaluated how available options were used and gathered findings on the satisfaction of pedagogical staff with the provision of training courses. The aim was to reveal respective obstacles preventing teachers from undertaking further education. Observations were performed in kindergartens, basic schools and secondary schools in all regions of the Czech Republic.

Use of ICT in Schools during the Last Two Years

This quite long-lasting type of inspection focusing on one special topic tried to identify and assess the conditions for using information technologies and their impact on teaching and learning, the scope and effectiveness of support for the development of information literacy and ways to achieve it. Collected data are retained for periodic comparisons of the situations which could occur and for analyses of trends of utilising ICT in school education in all types of schools and all regions of the Czech Republic.

Mathematical Literacy not only for Mathematics

In compliance with the curricular reform in the Czech Republic, in relation to the European set of indicators for lifelong learning and according to the Plan of Principal Assignments of CSI, inspections verified within thematic observations the level of support for and development of the mathematical literacy of pupils within basic and secondary education, the level of conditions of this type of education and the effectiveness of methods used in creating and promoting the development of pupils' mathematical skills in the course of mathematics lessons and other related subjects. As regards pre-school education CSI tried to find to what extent children are supported when they are transferred from cognitive thinking