

Strasbourg, 19 June 2015

Greco (2015) 9E

68th GRECO Plenary Meeting
(Strasbourg, 15-19 June 2015)

DECISIONS

At its 68th Plenary Meeting (Strasbourg, 15-19 June 2015), the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO):

1. adopted the agenda as it appears in the Summary Report of the meeting (Greco (2015) 10E);

Information

2. took note of the information provided by the President and the Executive Secretary, referring, in particular, to the discussions held at the 72nd Meeting of the Bureau (Greco (2015) 7E) (cf. the Summary Report of the meeting);

Fourth Evaluation Round

3. adopted the Fourth Round Evaluation Reports on:

- Greece (Greco Eval IV Rep (2014) 9E)
- Montenegro (Greco Eval IV Rep (2014) 6E)
- Serbia (Greco Eval IV Rep (2014) 8E)

and set the deadline of 31 December 2016 for the submission of Situation Reports on measures taken to implement the recommendations contained in the reports;

4. invited the authorities of Greece, Montenegro and Serbia to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the reports mentioned in decision 3 above;

5. adopted the Fourth Round Compliance Reports on:

- Luxembourg (Greco RC-IV (2015) 5E)
- the Netherlands (Greco RC-IV (2015) 6E);

6. in the case of Luxembourg, set the deadline of 31 December 2016 for the submission of a Situation Report on additional measures taken to implement the recommendations;

7. in the case of the Netherlands, concluded that the level of compliance with the recommendations is “globally unsatisfactory” in the meaning of Rule 31, paragraph 8.3 of the Rules of Procedure, and, pursuant to Rule 32, paragraph 2(i), requested the Head of Delegation to provide a report on progress in implementing the recommendations by 31 December 2015 at the latest;

8. invited the authorities of Luxembourg and the Netherlands to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the reports mentioned in decision 5 above;

9. noted that in 2016 the following members will be evaluated (on-site visits) in the fourth round: Andorra, Georgia, Ukraine, United States of America, Switzerland, Austria, Monaco, Italy and the Russian Federation (chronological order of the previous round);

10. noted that in order to allow the plenary to incorporate into its programme the *interim* reports that result from non-compliance procedures, a certain number of compliance reports will need to be examined after the statutory deadlines:

i) when that need arises, the Secretariat will inform the delegations concerned and the deadline for submission of the situation reports will be extended,

ii) in the present case, the Fourth Round Compliance Reports on France, Spain and “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” will be re-scheduled for adoption in March 2016 and the deadline for submission of the situation reports will be extended to 30 September 2015;

Third Evaluation Round

11. adopted the 2nd Third Round Compliance Report on:

- Georgia (Greco RC-III (2015) 4E);

12. requested the Head of Delegation to submit, by 31 March 2016 at the latest, additional information regarding the implementation of certain recommendations, in accordance with Rule 31, paragraph 9 of the Rules of Procedure;

13. invited the authorities of Georgia to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the report mentioned in decision 11 above;

14. adopted the 2nd *Interim* Third Round Compliance Reports on:

- Bosnia and Herzegovina (Greco RC-III (2015) 5E)
- Switzerland (Greco RC-III (2015) 6E)

and concluded in both cases that the level of compliance with the recommendations remains “globally unsatisfactory” in the meaning of Rule 31, paragraph 8.3 of the Rules of Procedure;

15. pursuant to Rule 32, paragraph 2 (i) of the Rules of Procedure, requested the Heads of Delegation to each provide a report on the action taken to implement the pending recommendations by 31 March 2016 at the latest;

16. in accordance with Rule 32, paragraph 2 (ii) b), invited the President of the Statutory Committee to send letters to the Permanent Representatives to the Council of Europe of Bosnia and Herzegovina and of Switzerland, drawing attention to the need to take determined action with a view to achieving tangible progress as soon as possible;

17. invited the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Switzerland to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the reports mentioned in decision 14 above;

18. adopted the 3rd *Interim* Third Round Compliance Report on:

- Greece (Greco RC-III (2015) 7E)

and decided not to continue applying Rule 32 in the case of that member;

19. in accordance with Rule 31, paragraph 8.2 of the Rules of Procedure, requested the Head of Delegation to submit additional information regarding action taken to implement the recommendations by 31 March 2016 at the latest;

20. invited the authorities of Greece to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the report mentioned in decision 18 above;

Joint First and Second Evaluation Rounds

21. adopted the 5th Addendum to the Joint First and Second Round Compliance Report on:

- Ukraine (Greco RC-I/II (2009) 1E 5th Addendum)

and terminated the Joint First and Second Round compliance procedure in respect of Ukraine, while asking the authorities to provide further information concerning appointments to the National Agency for Prevention of Corruption (NAPC) under Item 4 of the agenda of GRECO's 69th plenary meeting (October 2015);

22. invited the authorities of Ukraine to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the report mentioned in decision 21 above;

23. adopted the *Interim* Joint First and Second Round Compliance Report on:

- Belarus (Greco RC-III (2015) 2E)

and concluded that the level of compliance with the recommendations remains "globally unsatisfactory" in the meaning of Rule 31, paragraph 8.3 of the Rules of Procedure;

24. in accordance with Rule 32, paragraph 2(i) of the Rules, requested the Head of Delegation to provide a report on progress in implementing the outstanding recommendations by 31 March 2016 at the latest;

25. in accordance with Rule 32, paragraph 2 (ii) (a), invited the President of GRECO to send a letter, with a copy to the President of the Statutory Committee, to the Head of Delegation of Belarus, drawing attention to the need to take determined action with a view to achieving tangible progress as soon as possible ;

26. invited the authorities of Belarus to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the report mentioned in decision 23 above;

Publication of adopted reports

27. reminded its members of the action to be taken when publishing adopted reports in order to ensure visibility of their work in GRECO (cf. GRECO 58, decision 26);¹

¹

- agree a same-day publication date with the Secretariat
- clearly mark both the date of adoption and date of publication on the cover page
- make the national language version available and easily accessible on a domestic website
- notify the Secretariat of the location of the report by communicating the internet link to it
- include a link on the domestic website to the official language versions on GRECO's website.

Preparation of the Fifth Evaluation Round – *Tour de table*

28. held a succinct *tour de table* on the thematic options for the Fifth Evaluation Round as set out in document Greco (2015) 6E Revised and took note of the preferences (first and, where applicable, second choice) of delegations;
29. instructed the Secretariat to consult in writing those delegations who did not participate in the *tour de table* so that their preferences can also be noted;
30. asked the Bureau to examine the results of the *tour de table* with a view to preparing pertinent options on which a final decision should be taken, along with a decision on the mandate and composition of a working party to prepare the draft questionnaire and other proposals related to the Fifth Evaluation Round, by end 2015 (GRECO 69 in October or GRECO 70 in December);

Topical anti-corruption developments/events in member States

31. took note of the information provided by Delegations (cf. the Summary Report of the meeting – Item 4 of the Agenda);

Exchange of views

32. held an exchange of views with a delegation from the Kyrgyz Republic;
33. in that connection, welcomed the Kyrgyz Republic's interest in joining GRECO in the future;

Forthcoming meetings

34. noted that the Bureau will hold its 73rd Meeting in Strasbourg on 11 September 2015;
35. noted that the 69th Plenary Meeting will be held in Strasbourg on 12-16 October 2015.