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Project against Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing in Serbia (MOLI Serbia)

Activity Report 36

SYNOPSIS OF THE PROJECT ACTIVITY

Field of activity:

Economic Crime Cooperation Unit, Action against Crime Department, Information Society and Action against Crime Directorate, DGI – Human Rights and Rule of Law

Type of activity:

Workshop to develop and draft the 2014-2019 National AML/CFT Strategy.

Programme:

Joint EU/ CoE Project against Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing in Serbia (MOLI Serbia)

Country/Region:

Serbia

Date and place:

Hotel Aleksander Wellness Centre
Orasac, Serbia, 9-11 October 2013

Budgetary reference:

6.1.3.

Council of Europe experts:

Mr Simon Goddard, Long Term Consultant

Council of Europe Secretariat:

Ms Teodora Lukovic, Local Project Officer

Participants:

Administration for Prevention of Money Laundering (APML), Prosecution Office, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice, Tax Administration Department, National Bank of Serbia, Securities Commission, Military Security Agency, Security Information Agency.

Total number of participants:

15 (2 women)

Partner institutions/organisations:

APML

Origin/reference to other activities:

6.1.3. – Workshop for representatives of the Standing Coordination Group on AML/CFT to draft the National AML/CFT Strategy following the creation of a Technical Paper on the topic by a Council of Europe external expert.

Objectives:

To enable participants to discuss and consider the Council of Europe Technical Paper, 'Guidance paper regarding new National AML/CFT Strategy' and to draft the 2014-2019 National Strategy on AML/CFT.

General Assessment:

The workshop was fully supported throughout the three days and was facilitated by Mr Simon Goddard, Long Term Consultant to the MOLI Serbia Project. After introductions and welcome Mr Goddard gave a presentation summarising the content of the Technical Paper prepared by Mr David Artingstall, Council of Europe Expert. There then followed a round table discussion of its content and recommendations, including suggestions as to how the National Strategy for Serbia should be developed. A high level objective for the strategy was adopted that was based on the wording of the FATF but that also included the three primary threat areas identified in the National Risk Assessment, viz. tax crimes, narcotic production and distribution, and abuse of office. The group then agreed to adopt the suggested examples of strategic themes contained within Appendix 1 of the Technical Paper. There then followed a round table discussion of each theme, objective, expected results, and measures to be taken.

The meeting decided to include references to Terrorism Finance and finance of Weapons of Mass Destruction within the strategy document, albeit accepting that other strategies on combatting these issues were being developed elsewhere. In addition, the participants decided to include an element requiring the creation of a Training Strategy.

Results/conclusions:

Basic draft decided upon which will require re-drafting and further discussion.

Statement of the Problem - Next Steps:

The Serbian authorities have a clear idea of how the overall strategy should look to be a readable and understandable document. The APML will re-draft the document then circulate it within the members of the Standing Coordination Group for further comment and amendment if necessary. Once the Strategy document is agreed the participants will meet again to discuss the creation of the Action Plan that will underpin the Strategy. It is recognised that this process will be time consuming and require much thought. No timescales were provided by the participants.

Agenda:

Attached

See attached copy of Power-Point Presentation

List of Participants:

Attached