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“Support to the Kazakh authorities in improving the quality and efficiency of the Kazakh justice system”

POST RELEASE

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Round Table and Presentation of the Report on the Accessibility to Judicial Decisions through Publication Standards

ASTANA – On 18 January in the framework of the European Union and Council of Europe Joint Programme entitled “Support to the Kazakh authorities in improving the quality and efficiency of the Kazakh justice system” and in co-operation with the Supreme Court of the Republic of Kazakhstan a round table was organised with the aim to present the report on the accessibility to judicial decisions through publication standards.

The report was prepared by Council of Europe experts from the United Kingdom, Italy, the Republic of Moldova, the Czech Republic and Estonia. During the round table, the group of experts presented the methodology and outlined the issues addressed by the report, as well as proposed recommendations on bringing the legislative framework and practices of the Republic of Kazakhstan on the accessibility to judicial decisions in line with international and European standards. The participants were particularly interested in such topics as open justice principles and importance of the data protection of court participants.

The outcome of the round table became the exchange of experiences between European experts and representatives of the Supreme Court of the Republic of Kazakhstan on how to ensure the openness and transparency of the court proceedings, as well as to provide the access to information on court activities in the Age of Information Technology by means of electronic databases of court decisions and electronic judicial portals.

The Joint Programme started in July 2014 and will be completed in July 2017. It aims to bring Kazakhstan’s criminal justice framework and institutional practice in line with European and international standards and practices by supporting the country’s authorities in their efforts to improve the justice system. The Joint Programme objectives are pursued through legislative assistance to develop and improve the regulatory framework and institutional capacity of the main stakeholders and address the systemic and/or structural problems that characterise Kazakhstan’s criminal justice system and human rights protection. Capacity-building activities for judges, prosecutors, investigators, defence lawyers, Ombudsman Institution, National Preventive Mechanism and other actors within the criminal justice system will be carried out to contribute to their institutional development and enable them to exercise their functions in line with human rights standards.

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