

Strasbourg, 18 October 2017

Greco(2017)19

77th GRECO Plenary Meeting
(Strasbourg, 16-18 October 2017)

DECISIONS

At its 77th Plenary Meeting (Strasbourg, 16-18 October 2017), the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) took the following decisions (see also the Summary Report of the meeting (Greco(2017)20):

1. adopted the agenda as it appears in the Summary Report of the meeting;

Information

2. took note of the information provided by Marin MRČELA, President of GRECO, by Jan KLEIJSEN, Director of Information Society and Action against Crime of the Council of Europe, and by Gianluca ESPOSITO, Executive Secretary of GRECO;
3. took note of the list of items discussed and decisions taken by Bureau 81 (Greco(2017)18);

Evaluation procedures

Fourth Round

4. adopted the Fourth Round Evaluation Report on:
 - the Russian Federation (GrecoEval4Rep(2017)2)and set the deadline of 30 April 2019 for the submission of a situation report on measures taken to implement the recommendations contained in the report;
5. invited the authorities of the Russian Federation to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the report mentioned in decision 4 above;

Compliance procedures

Joint First and Second Evaluation Rounds

6. adopted the *Interim* Joint First and Second Round Compliance Report on:
 - Belarus (GrecoRC1-2(2017)3 – 3rd *interim* report)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;
7. in accordance with Rule 32, paragraph 2(ii)b) of the Rules of Procedure, invites the President of the Statutory Committee to send a letter to the Permanent Representative of Belarus to the Council of Europe drawing attention to this member’s non-compliance with GRECO’s recommendations;
8. pursuant to Rule 32, paragraph 2(i) of the Rules of Procedure, requests the head of delegation of Belarus to provide a report on the action taken to implement the pending recommendations by 31 July 2018 at the latest;
9. reserved the right to request Belarus to receive a high-level mission (Rule 32, paragraph 2(iii)) before end 2018, with a view to reinforcing the importance of complying with its recommendations, if the fulfilment of the pending recommendations remains unsatisfactory;
10. invited the authorities of Belarus to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the report mentioned in decision 6 above;

Third Round

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

- Germany (GrecoRC3(2017)3)

and, in accordance with Rule 31 revised, paragraph 9 of the Rules of Procedure, requests the head of delegation of Germany to submit additional information regarding the implementation of certain recommendations by 31 July 2018;

12. adopted a Reassessment of the Compliance with recommendation ii(i) on Transparency of Party Funding of

- Greece (GrecoRC3(2017)14)

and invites the authorities to keep GRECO informed of further developments relating to the issues subject to this reassessment at one of its forthcoming meetings in 2018;

13. invited the authorities of Germany and Greece to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the reports mentioned in decisions 11 and 12 above;

Fourth Round

14. adopted the Fourth Round Compliance Reports on:

- Greece (GrecoRC4(2017)20)
- Montenegro (GrecoRC4(2017)14)

and, in both cases, set the deadline of 30 April 2019 for the submission of a situation report on additional measures taken to implement the recommendations;

15. adopted the Fourth Round Compliance Reports on:

- Serbia (GrecoRC4(2017)8)
- Turkey (GrecoRC4(2017)16)

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

16. pursuant to Rule 32, paragraph 2(i), requests the heads of delegation of Serbia and Turkey to provide reports on progress in implementing the recommendations by 31 October 2018;

17. invited the authorities of Greece, Montenegro, Serbia and Turkey to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the reports mentioned in decisions 14 and 15 above;

18. adopted the 2nd Fourth Round Compliance Report on:

- Luxembourg (GrecoRC4(2017)17)

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

19. pursuant to Rule 32, paragraph 2(i), requests the head of delegation of Luxembourg to provide a report on progress in implementing the recommendations by 31 October 2018;
20. adopted the 2nd Fourth Round Compliance Report on:
 - the Slovak Republic (GrecoRC4(2017)19)and, in accordance with Rule 31 revised, paragraph 9 of the Rules of Procedure, requests the head of delegation of the Slovak Republic to submit additional information regarding the implementation of certain recommendations by 31 July 2018;
21. adopted the 2nd Fourth Round Compliance Report on:
 - Sweden (GrecoRC4(2017)21)and terminated the compliance procedure in respect of that member, in this round;
22. noted with satisfaction that the authorities of Luxembourg, the Slovak Republic, Sweden authorise the publication of the reports mentioned in decisions 18, 20 and 21 above;

Publication of adopted evaluation and compliance reports¹

23. called on the authorities concerned to authorise without further delay the publication of the following reports:
 - 2nd Addendum to the 2nd Third Round Compliance Reports on Hungary (adopted in March 2017)
 - 2nd Fourth Round Compliance Report on the United Kingdom (adopted in March 2017)
 - Fourth Round Evaluation Report on Andorra (adopted in June 2017)
 - Fourth Round Compliance Report on Hungary (adopted in June 2017]
24. strongly urged the authorities of Belarus to lift the confidentiality of the Joint First and Second Round Evaluation Report (adopted June 2012), Compliance Report (adopted June 2014) and *Interim* Compliance Report (adopted June 2015), summaries of which were published by GRECO on 3 February 2014, 27 May 2015 and 1 September 2016 respectively;
25. adopted, pursuant to Rule 35, paragraph 2 of the Rules of Procedure, a Summary of the 2nd *Interim* Joint First and Second Round Compliance Report on Belarus (adopted July 2016) and decided that the summary will be made public on 30 November 2017 if the authorities of Belarus do not authorise publication of the full report by that date;
26. adopted, pursuant to the same Rule, a Summary of the Third Round Evaluation Report on Belarus (adopted October 2016) and decided that the summary will be made public on 30 November 2017 if the authorities of Belarus do not authorise publication of the full report by that date;

¹ *Action to be taken when publishing adopted reports* (as specified in decision 26, GRECO 58):

- 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.

Fourth Evaluation Round – Conclusions and Trends

27. took note of the information provided by the delegation of the Czech Republic on the state of preparation of the *Conference on the Prevention of corruption in respect of parliamentarians, judges and prosecutors: main trends and lessons learned from GRECO's Fourth Evaluation Round* to be held in Prague on 9-10 November 2017 [\[LINK\]](#), and by the Secretariat on the horizontal study of conclusions and trends from the Fourth Round that will be presented on that occasion;

Exchange of views – Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic

28. held an exchange of views with His Excellency Mr Robert FICO, Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic, noted with interest the details provided of anti-corruption reforms underway in the country, and welcomed the Prime Minister's clear statement of political will to advance with anti-corruption reforms and continued commitment to the GRECO process and the implementation of GRECO's recommendations;
29. thanked the Prime Minister for the generous voluntary contribution made by the Slovak Republic to support GRECO's budget for 2017;

Exchange of views – G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG) and G7

30. held an exchange of views with representatives of the German co-chairmanship of the G20 ACWG [\[LINK\]](#) and the Italian Presidency of the G7 [\[LINK\]](#), and welcomed the prospect of enhanced cooperation with both the G20 ACWG and the G7;

Expertise to the Conference of International Non-Governmental Organisations of the Council of Europe, provided by GRECO under Rule 21.3 of its Rules of Procedure, at the request of the President of the Conference

31. adopted, and agreed to publish, an Assessment of the rules controlling risks of corruption and conflicts of interest of the Conference of International Non-Government Organisations of the Council of Europe (Greco(2017)16-fin);

Topical anti-corruption developments/events in member States

32. took note of the information on developments provided by the delegations of Cyprus, Italy, Poland, Romania, Switzerland and "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" (cf. the Summary Report of the meeting – Item 4 of the Agenda);
33. noted that as of 2018 a page on GRECO's website will be dedicated to information (in English, French, or language(s) of the country concerned) on topical national anti-corruption developments or events that GRECO members wish to share;

Miscellaneous

34. took note of a paper published by Transparency International (TI) on *Transparency and Participation – an evaluation of anti-corruption review mechanisms*;
35. approved Comments on TI's paper (Greco(2017)17) and instructed the Secretariat to forward them to TI;

36. took note of the side events on (i) *Interests and Asset Disclosures by Public Officials: What works and what does not? – Latest insights from anti-corruption monitoring bodies* (Vienna, 8 November 2017) and (ii) *Enhancing the cooperation between the secretariats of international anti-corruption peer review mechanisms* (Vienna, 9 November 2017), which will be held during the Seventh Session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (Vienna, 6-10 November 2017) and will be open to all member states;

Forthcoming meetings

37. took note of the following dates :
- 82nd Bureau meeting (Prague, 8 November 2017)
 - Conference on the *Prevention of corruption in respect of parliamentarians, judges and prosecutors: main trends and lessons learned from GRECO's Fourth Evaluation Round* (Prague, 9-10 November 2017)
 - 78th Plenary Meeting (Strasbourg, 4-8 December 2017).