



Strasbourg, 25 March 2019

Greco(2019)4-rev

82nd GRECO Plenary Meeting
(Strasbourg, 18-22 March 2019)

DECISIONS

At its 82nd Plenary Meeting (Strasbourg, 18-22 March), the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) took the following decisions (see also the Summary Report of the meeting):

1. adopted the agenda and noted that Aslan YUSUFOV (Bureau member, Russian Federation) would chair the meeting during the absence of the President on Monday afternoon;

Information

2. took note of information provided by Marin MRČELA, President of GRECO, Jan KLEIJSEN, Director, Information Society – Action against Crime, and Gianluca ESPOSITO, Executive Secretary of GRECO;
3. took note of the list of items discussed and decisions taken by Bureau 86 (Greco(2019)3-rev), and in that context, took particular note of the following:
 - as follow-up to Resolution no. 2 “Fighting corruption in sport: scaling up action”, adopted by the 15th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport (Tbilisi, 16 October 2018), the Committee of Ministers (1332nd meeting of the Ministers, Deputies) decided to invite GRECO to prepare a study on the legal and policy measures needed to effectively prevent and fight corruption in sport when infringements are committed by private entities; that study will be prepared by a consultant and **GRECO delegations are invited to suggest suitable experts to the Executive Secretary;**

Election for the Fifth Evaluation Round - Bureau

4. elected, by secret ballot, Monika OLSSON (Sweden) to the vacant seat in the Bureau;

Evaluation of the Council of Europe support in the fight against corruption

5. welcomed and took note of the evaluation carried out by the Council of Europe’s Directorate of Internal Oversight and of the presentation by Colin WALL, Director, and Rica TERBECK, Evaluator, of the findings with respect to GRECO;
6. noted that follow up to the recommendations of the Directorate of Internal Oversight will be discussed at the May Bureau meeting (Bureau 87), and decided to discuss the same matter at the June plenary meeting (GRECO 83);

Evaluation procedures

Fifth Round

7. adopted the Fifth Round Evaluation Reports on:

- **Malta** (GrecoEval5Rep(2018)6)
- **North Macedonia** (GrecoEval5Rep(2018)7)
- **Sweden** (GrecoEval5Rep(2018)4)

and set the deadline of 30 September 2020 for the submission of the situation reports on measures taken to implement GRECO’s recommendations;

8. invited the authorities of Malta, North Macedonia and Sweden to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the reports mentioned in decision 7 above;

Compliance procedures

Joint First and Second Rounds

9. pursuant to the decision taken in December 2018 (GRECO 81 – decision 15) on the application of the last stage of the non-compliance procedure (Rule 32, paragraph 2.iv) with respect to Belarus, adopted, and published on 19 March 2019:
 - the public Declaration of non-compliance in respect of **Belarus** (GrecoRC1-2(2019)1)
10. pursuant to the Bureau decision, agreed to transmit the Declaration to the Statutory Committee with a view to it considering issuing a public Statement at its next meeting (Rule 33);

Third Round

11. adopted the Third Round Compliance Report on:
 - **Belarus** (GrecoRC3(2019)2)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;
12. in accordance with Rule 32, paragraph 2 (i) of the Rules of Procedure, requests the Head of delegation of Belarus to provide a report on progress in implementing the outstanding recommendations by 31 December 2019 at the latest;
13. adopted the 2nd Addendum to the 2nd Third Round Compliance Reports on:
 - **Germany** (GrecoRC3(2019)1)and terminated the compliance procedure in respect of this member, in this round;
14. adopted the Addendum to the 2nd Third Round Compliance Report on:
 - **Turkey** (GrecoRC3(2019)3)and, in accordance with Rule 31 revised, paragraph 9 of the Rules of Procedure, requested the Head of delegation of Turkey to submit additional information regarding the implementation of certain recommendations by 31 December 2019 at the latest;
15. invited the authorities of Belarus, Germany and Turkey to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the reports mentioned in decisions 11, 13 and 14 above;

Fourth Round

16. adopted the *Interim* Fourth Round Compliance Report on:
 - **Serbia** (GrecoRC4(2019)5)and decided not to continue applying Rule 32 in the case of that member;

17. in accordance with Rule 31 revised, paragraph 8.2 of the Rules of Procedure, requested the Head of delegation of Serbia to submit additional information regarding action taken to implement certain recommendations by 31 December 2019;

18. adopted the *Interim* Fourth Round Compliance Reports on:

- **Luxembourg** (GrecoRC4(2019)4)
- **Turkey** (GrecoRC4(2019)7)

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

19. in accordance with Rule 32, paragraph 2 (i) of the Rules of Procedure, requests the Heads of delegation of Luxembourg and Turkey to provide reports on progress in implementing the outstanding recommendations by 31 March 2020 at the latest;

20. pursuant to Rule 32, paragraph 2 (ii) a) of the Rules of Procedure, invites its President to send letters – with a copy to the President of the Statutory Committee – to the Heads of Delegation of Luxembourg and Turkey on the need to take determined action with a view to achieving tangible progress as soon as possible;

21. adopted the Fourth Round Compliance Reports on:

- **Georgia** (GrecoRC4(2019)9)
- **Switzerland** (GrecoRC4(2019)2)
- **United States of America** (GrecoRC4(2019)10)

and set the deadline of 30 September 2020 for the submission of situation reports on additional measures taken to implement the recommendations;

22. adopted the 2nd Fourth Round Compliance Reports on:

- **Azerbaijan** (GrecoRC4(2019)3)
- **Latvia** (GrecoRC4(2019)6)

and, in accordance with Rule 31 revised, paragraph 9 of the Rules of Procedure, requests the Heads of Delegation of Azerbaijan and Latvia to submit additional information regarding the implementation of certain recommendations by 31 December 2019;

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

- **Norway** (GrecoRC4(2019)1)

and terminated the compliance procedure in respect of this member, in this round ;

24. Adopted the Addendum to the 2nd Fourth Round Compliance Report on:

- **Slovak Republic** (GrecoRC4(2019)8)

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 December 2019 ;

25. noted with satisfaction that the authorities of Luxembourg, Latvia and the Slovak Republic authorise the publication of the reports mentioned in decisions 18, 22 and 24 above;
26. invited the authorities of Serbia, Turkey, Georgia, Switzerland, the United States of America Azerbaijan and Norway to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the reports mentioned in decisions 16, 18, 21, 22 and 23 above;

Budgetary situation - update

27. the Director, Information Society – Action against Crime Directorate, informed the plenary that, in accordance with Article 8, paragraph 6, of GRECO’s Statute, “unless otherwise decided by the Statutory Committee, a member which has failed to pay all or a substantial part of its compulsory contribution to the budget of the enlarged partial agreement for a period of two years, shall no longer take part in the decision-making process.” The Russian Federation has not made any contribution to GRECO’s budget since the beginning of 2017. The two year period expires on 30 June 2019. Consequently, from 1 July 2019, Article 8, paragraph 6 of GRECO’s Statute would automatically apply, together with its consequences. The Executive Secretary will inform the Statutory Committee of the situation;
28. welcomed the additional financial and/or “in-kind” contributions (e.g. covering the travel and subsistence expenses of experts or covering the cost of interpretation for on-site visits) for the 2018/2019 biennium made so far by Armenia, Austria, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Monaco, Norway, Poland, Romania, Russian Federation, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United States; and the more recent announcements of additional financial contributions from Belgium (among other things for setting up the HUDOC-GRECO data base), Montenegro and Sweden;

General Activity Report (2018)

29. adopted its Nineteenth General Activity Report – 2018 (Greco(2019)1-fin);
30. instructed the Secretariat to forward the report to GRECO’s Statutory Committee and to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, in accordance with Article 8, paragraph 1 of the Statute, and noted that it will be presented by GRECO’s President to the 1350th meeting of the Ministers’ Deputies (19 June 2019) and published immediately after an event to launch the report that will be held in Brussels on 25 June 2019;

GRECO’s 20th Anniversary - 2019

31. took note of the information provided by the Executive Secretary about the state of preparations for the conference *GRECO: past, present & future* to be held in the framework of France’s Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers to mark GRECO’s 20th Anniversary;
32. the conference, will take place in the morning of Monday 17 June 2019 and will be followed in the afternoon of the same day by the GRECO 83 plenary meeting which will be extended to the end of the day on Friday 21 June 2019;

Topical anti-corruption developments/events in member States (Item 4 of the Agenda)

33. took note of the information provided by the Delegations of Romania, the Russian Federation, Spain and Ukraine;

Publication of Reports¹

34. called on the authorities of the member States concerned (Austria², Belarus³, Hungary⁴ and the Republic of Moldova⁵) to authorise without further delay the publication of the reports adopted by GRECO at previous plenary meetings;

Information from observer organisations and Council of Europe bodies

35. took note of the information provided by the representative of UNODC;

Miscellaneous

36. invited the Bureau to consider possible principles on the use of references to external sources in evaluation reports;

Forthcoming meetings

37. took note of the following dates:

2019

- 87th Bureau meeting (Stockholm, 17 May 2019)
- 20th Anniversary Conference *GRECO: past, present & future* (Strasbourg, 17 June 2019 (morning))
- 83rd Plenary Meeting (Strasbourg, 17 June (afternoon) to 21 June (end of afternoon) 2019)
- 84th Plenary Meeting (Strasbourg, 2-6 December 2019)

2020

- 85th Plenary Meeting (Strasbourg, 16-20 March 2020)
- 86th Plenary Meeting (Strasbourg, 25-29 May 2020)
- 87th Plenary Meeting (Strasbourg, 26-30 October 2020).

¹ *Action to be taken when publishing adopted reports* (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.

² Fourth Round Compliance Report.

³ All reports from the Joint First and Second Rounds; Third Round Evaluation Report.

⁴ 2nd Addendum to the 2nd Third Round Compliance Report; Fourth Round Compliance Report.

⁵ Fourth Round Compliance Report.