

Strasbourg, 13 December 2002

Greco (2002) 38E

12th GRECO Plenary Meeting
(Strasbourg, 9-13 December 2002)

Decisions

The Group of States against corruption (GRECO), at its 12th plenary meeting in Strasbourg on 9-13 December 2002:

Information by the President

1. adopted the agenda as it appears in document Greco (2002) OJ12;
2. noted the information provided by the Vice-President on his participation in the European Commission – TAIEX Seminar on the Fight against Corruption (Brussels (Belgium), 6 October 2002) and the Round Table on Fighting Corruption in an Enlarged Europe, organised by the Open Society EU Accession Monitoring Programme (EUMAP), hosted by GRECO (Council of Europe (Strasbourg), 18 November 2002);

Information by the Executive Secretary

3. noted the information provided by the Executive Secretary regarding the preparation of Global Forum 3 (Seoul May 2003), contacts on possible new members of GRECO and the adoption on 2 December 2002 of the GRECO budget for 2003 by the Statutory Committee;

Evaluation reports

4. adopted, following two readings, the First Round Evaluation Report on Albania (Greco Eval I Rep (2002) 9E);
5. adopted, following a second reading, the First Round Evaluation Report on "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" (Greco Eval I Rep (2002) 7E);
6. adopted, following two readings, the First Round Evaluation Report on Malta (Greco Eval I Rep (2002) 8E);
7. invited the authorities of Albania, Malta and "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" to authorize as soon as possible the publication of the reports mentioned in decisions 4, 5 and 6 above.

Second Evaluation Round Questionnaire

8. adopted, following a final reading, the Questionnaire for GRECO's Second Evaluation Round (Greco (2002) 28E Revised 4)
9. instructed the Bureau to examine this document with a view to determining the questions which could usefully be included in a Checklist for Evaluators, thus reducing the length and detail of the Questionnaire for GRECO's Second Evaluation Round;

Conclusions of the Training Seminar for Second Round Evaluators

10. took note of the provisional Conclusions of the Training Seminar for Second Round Evaluators (Paphos (Cyprus), November 2002) and expressed its deep gratitude to the authorities of Cyprus for the perfect organisation of this event and their kind and generous hospitality.

Programme of Activities for 2003

11. approved its Programme of Activities for 2003, as it appears in document Greco (2002) 34E and instructed the Secretariat to introduce the necessary amendments to the final version to be distributed to all Members;

Procedure for the Follow-up of Recommendations

12. agreed on the procedure to be followed for the adoption of reports on the compliance with the recommendations of the First Evaluation Round (hereafter "compliance reports" and amended accordingly its Rules of Procedure as they appear in document Greco (1999) 4E Final Rev2;
13. appointed Romania and the United Kingdom as rapporteurs for the compliance procedure on Slovenia, and Germany and Poland as rapporteurs for the compliance procedure on Slovakia;
14. included in its Programme of Activities for 2003 the examination of a number of draft compliance reports at each of its plenary meetings;

Exchange of views with a delegation from Mexico

15. noted with interest the information provided by the delegation from Mexico during an exchange of views which took place on Thursday 12 December 2002;
16. expressed the hope that Mexico would soon ratify the Criminal Law Convention on Corruption (ETS 173) and become a member of GRECO.
17. invited the President to convey in writing to Ambassador Porfirio MUÑOZ LEDO, Permanent Observer of Mexico to the Council of Europe, GRECO's appreciation of the measures adopted in his country to combat more effectively corruption and the hope that Mexico would be soon fully participating in GRECO's activities;

GRECO's Position on the Draft UN Convention on Corruption

18. examined the paper prepared by the Secretariat on the UN Convention on Corruption (GRECO (2002) 37E) and invited the representatives sitting in GRECO to raise the issues mentioned in that document with their respective delegations participating in the UN negotiations on the draft convention;

Amendments to the Rules of Procedure

19. amended its Rules of Procedures as they appear in Greco (1999) 4E Final Rev.2;

Elections

20. elected, by secret ballot, Mr Drago KOS (Slovenia) as President of GRECO.
21. elected, by secret ballot, Ms Isabelle VAN HEERS (Belgium) as Vice-President of GRECO;
22. having decided to increase the number of GRECO Bureau members from three to five, elected by secret ballot, the following five Members (in the English alphabetical order of their countries):

Georgi RUPCHEV (Bulgaria)
Lucinda MacMAHON (Ireland)
Jacek GARSTKA (Poland)
Kazimir ÅBERG (Sweden)
Paul STEPHENSON (United Kingdom)

23. agreed, in accordance with Article 7 of the Rules of Procedure, to establish a list of non-elected candidates who will be called to fill future vacant seats in the Bureau; this list included, in decreasing order of votes, the following candidates:

Mark RICHARD (USA)
Akos KARA (Hungary)
Franck ZIENTARA (France)
Nedzad HADZIMUSIC (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Miscellaneous

24. upon a proposal from the representatives of Hungary, United Kingdom and Lithuania appointed GRECO's first President, Mr Michel GAUTHIER (France) as Honorary President of GRECO;
25. expressed to Michel GAUTHIER its gratitude and appreciation for his able, competent and fair chairmanship during the first evaluation round (2000-2002)
26. took note of the list of intervenors, approved by the Bureau, for GRECO's 13th Plenary Meeting (Greco Eval I (2002) 39bil.) and decided to reduce the number of intervenors on the Draft Evaluation Report on the United States of America from four to two : Portugal and "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia";

Dates of Forthcoming Meetings

27. noted that the Bureau will hold its 16th meeting in Strasbourg on 13 December 2002;
28. decided to hold its 13th and 14th Plenary Meetings in Strasbourg on 24-28 March and 7-11 July 2003 respectively.