44th GRECO Plenary Meeting  
(Strasbourg, 6 – 8 October 2009)

DECISIONS
At its 44th Plenary Meeting (Strasbourg, 6 – 8 October 2009), the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO):

1. adopted the agenda as it appears in the Summary Report of the meeting (Greco (2009) 20E);

Information

2. took note of the information provided by the Vice-President and the Executive Secretary (cf. the Summary Report of the meeting - Greco (2009) 20E);

Third Evaluation Round

3. adopted the Third Round Evaluation Report on Malta (Greco Eval III Rep (2009) 2E – Themes I and II);

4. invited the authorities of Malta to authorise, as soon as possible the publication of the report mentioned in decision 3 above;

5. approved the list of rapporteur countries for Third Round Compliance Procedures regarding Finland, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia and the United Kingdom (Greco Eval III (2009) 10E);

Second Evaluation Round

6. adopted the Addenda to the Second Round Compliance Reports on:
   - Albania (Greco RC-II (2007) 12E Addendum);
   - Croatia (Greco RC-II (2007) 13E Addendum);
   - the Netherlands (Greco RC-II (2007) 7E Addendum);
   - Spain (Greco RC-II (2007) 10E Addendum) and
   - “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” (Greco RC-II (2007) 8E Addendum);

7. invited the authorities of Albania, the Netherlands, Spain and “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the reports mentioned in decision 6 above;

8. noted with satisfaction that the authorities of Croatia authorise the publication of the report mentioned in decision 6 above;

Tour de table

9. held a tour de table on corruption in sport, with the participation of keynote speaker, Mr Wolfgang MAENNIG, Professor, Chair of Economic Policy, Hamburg University and Mr Stanislas FROSSARD, Executive Secretary of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) – Council of Europe;

10. asked the Secretariat to prepare and publish a summary record of the tour de table;
11. agreed to address the following message to the Third Session of the Conference of States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (Doha, Qatar, 9 – 13 November 2009):

"On 5 October 2009 the Strasbourg-based Council of Europe’s Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) celebrated its 10th Anniversary with a High-level Conference which brought together a large number of Ministers and Secretaries of State as well as other representatives from 46 member States, several non-member States and international organisations, including the United Nations, and representatives of civil society.

Throughout its ten years of existence GRECO has monitored, on the basis of its peer review methodology, the compliance of member states with six Council of Europe anti-corruption instruments, including the Criminal Law Convention on Corruption (ETS 173) of 1999, issued tailor-made recommendations and subsequently assessed the implementation of these recommendations in practice.

The achievements of GRECO and its member States over the last decade evidence, as highlighted by numerous speakers at the Conference, that international norms are at risk of remaining dead letters if they are not backed up by a credible review mechanism and process.

In light of its broad monitoring experience the Group of States against Corruption encourages the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption to complement this universal instrument with an effective review mechanism, while avoiding duplication.

Only then will it be possible to address corruption which is a threat to the whole international community in an effective manner.

The Group of States against Corruption confirms its willingness to offer its long-standing expertise and knowledge and to support the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption to the extent possible."

Calendar of forthcoming meetings

12. noted that the Bureau will hold its 51st meeting in Strasbourg on 2 November 2009;

13. decided to hold its 45th Plenary Meeting in Strasbourg on 30 November – 4 December 2009.