



Groupe d'Etats contre la corruption
Group of States against Corruption



COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 23 March 2012

Greco (2012) 5E

54th GRECO Plenary Meeting
(Strasbourg, 20 – 23 March 2012)

DECISIONS

At its 54th Plenary Meeting (Strasbourg, 20 – 23 March 2012), the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO):

1. adopted the agenda as it appears in the Summary Report of the Meeting (Greco (2012) 6E);

Information

2. took note of the information provided by the President, delegations and the Executive Secretary (cf. the Summary Report of the meeting);
3. took note of the information provided by Mr Martin Kreutner, Chair of the International Transition Team of the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) and President of the European Partners Against Corruption and the European anti-corruption contact point network (EPAC/EACN) concerning the activities and academic programme of the IACA as well as the publication of a Handbook on EPAC/EACN anti-corruption authority standards and police oversight principles (cf. the Summary Report of the meeting);

Joint First and Second Evaluation Rounds

4. adopted the Addendum to the Joint First and Second Round Compliance Report on Switzerland (Greco RC-I/II (2009) 2E Addendum);
5. invited the authorities of Switzerland to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the report mentioned in decision 4 above;
6. adopted the 2nd Addendum to the Joint First and Second Round Compliance Report on Ukraine (Greco RC-I/II (2009) 1E - 2nd Addendum);
7. in accordance with Rule 31 paragraph 9.1 of the Rules of Procedure, requested the authorities of Ukraine to submit, by 31 December 2012, additional information on the further implementation of recommendations, to be examined by GRECO in a 3rd Addendum to the Joint First and Second Round Compliance Report;
8. invited the authorities of Ukraine to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the report mentioned in decision 6 above;
9. invited the authorities of Switzerland and Ukraine to translate the reports mentioned in decisions 4 and 6 above into the national languages and to make the translations public;

Third Evaluation Round

10. adopted the Third Round Evaluation Reports on:
 - Italy (Greco Eval III Rep (2011) 7E – Themes I and II)
 - Monaco (Greco Eval III Rep (2011) 5E – Themes I and II) and
 - the Russian Federation (Greco Eval III Rep (2011) 6E – Themes I and II);
11. noted with satisfaction that the authorities of Monaco authorise the publication of the report mentioned in decision 10 above;
12. invited the authorities of Italy and the Russian Federation to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the report mentioned in decision 10 above;

13. adopted the Third Round Compliance Reports on:
 - “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” (Greco RC-III (2012) 2E) and
 - Turkey (Greco RC-III (2012) 4E);
14. invited the authorities of “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” and Turkey to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the reports mentioned in decision 13 above;
15. invited the authorities of Italy, the Russian Federation, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” and Turkey to translate the reports mentioned in decisions 10 and 13 above into the national languages and to make the translations public;
16. approved the list of rapporteur countries for Third round compliance procedures regarding Azerbaijan, Bulgaria and Serbia (Greco Eval III (2012) 1 – Eng. only);

Fourth Evaluation Round

17. held a Round table on the prevention of corruption in parliaments;
18. approved the composition of the teams in charge of the Fourth round evaluations of Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Iceland (Greco Eval IV (2011) 1 bil. of 12 March 2012);

General Activity Report

19. adopted its Twelfth General Activity Report – 2011 (Greco (2012) 1E Final) which includes a thematic article entitled “Corruption erodes Human Rights protection”, by Thomas Hammarberg, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights;
20. 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, iii of the Statute and noted that the President would be invited to present the report at a forthcoming meeting of the Ministers’ Deputies;
21. invited its members to translate the thematic article into their national languages and to make it available to the public;

Cooperation with the European Union

22. noted with concern that more than nine months after the release by the European Commission of its “Anti-corruption package” in June 2011, its pledge to request the Council of the European Union to authorise the opening of negotiations for EU participation in GRECO had still not materialised;
23. asked the secretariat to request the Commission to provide information on this matter, including the envisaged timetable and the possible content of a negotiating mandate;

Miscellaneous

24. noted that the first Fourth Round evaluation reports would be examined by GRECO 57 (15 – 19 October) and that the President stressed the need for the highest possible standards to be set, bearing in mind the particularities of each member State, and for precision and clarity in the recommendations issued;

25. noted the President's request that, throughout the Fourth Evaluation Round, delegations remind their evaluators of the need to make their written contributions available to the secretariat rapidly after evaluation visits, that evaluators and member states submit their comments during the drafting stages in accordance with the deadlines communicated by the secretariat in order to provide sufficient time for proper assessment as well as for translation and prior availability of the draft evaluation reports before they are examined by the plenary;
26. noted that the President insisted on the need for its members to supply all information relevant to compliance procedures - including their comments on draft compliance or interim compliance reports - to the secretariat within the deadlines set as the last minute presentation of new information makes a sound assessment of its merits extremely burdensome for the rapporteurs and secretariat and can lead to a significant waste of plenary time;

Calendar of forthcoming meetings

27. noted that the Bureau would hold its 59th Meeting in Strasbourg on 13 April 2012 ;
28. noted that the 55th Plenary Meeting would be held in Strasbourg on 14 – 16 May 2012 (three day meeting).