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ACTION AGAINST ECONOMIC CRIME IN ALBANIA (AEC-ALBANIA)

CONFERENCE ON FIGHTING CORRUPTION AND ECONOMIC CRIME

VENUE LAW FACULTY, UNIVERSITY OF TIRANA, TIRANA, ALBANIA; 12 NOVEMBER 2019

PROGRAMME BACKGROUND

The European Union/Council of Europe Horizontal Facility for the Western Balkans and Turkey (also referred to as: Horizontal Facility phase II or HF II) is a co-operation initiative of the European Union and Council of Europe for South East Europe. The first phase of the Horizontal Facility ran from May 2016 to May 2019, and was succeeded by Horizontal Facility phase II, which will be implemented from May 2019 to May 2022. The second phase of the Horizontal Facility will continue to build on the Statement of Intent signed on 1 April 2014 by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe and the European Union Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy, in which both Organisations agreed to further strengthen their co-operation in key areas of joint interest.

In the field of fight against economic crime, three specific actions were designed within the Horizontal Facility Programme to support tailored reform processes in Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia prioritised according to the needs within the enlargement negotiations of the countries with the European Union. Those actions will aim to improve implementation of key recommendations of the Council of Europe Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) and Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (MONEYVAL), and to further strengthen institutional capacities regarding measures to counter and prevent corruption; money laundering; the financing of terrorism in accordance with European standards. The actions have the duration of 36 months.

Programme's Specific Objectives (SO) in Albania (AEC-Albania):

- SO 1: Improve legal and institutional framework to prevent corruption
- SO 2: Strengthen asset recovery and management practices
- SO 3: Enhance mechanisms to prevent and suppress ML/TF
- SO 4: Foster inter-agency cooperation in combating economic crime

The Action against Economic Crime in Albania is implemented by the Economic Crime and Cooperation Division- DG I with an allocated budget of € 800.000 and an implementation period of 36 months.

OBJECTIVES OF THE CONFERENCE

The Conference on Fighting corruption and Economic crime will bring together representatives from academia, students from University of Tirana, civil society organisations, all main beneficiary institutions of the Action, as well as representatives of European Union Delegation and Council of Europe with the aim to discuss the on-going cooperation between Albania and the Council of Europe Monitoring bodies such as GRECO and MONEYVAL.

The conference is organised as part of marking the 70th anniversary of the Council of Europe, where a series of five thematic roundtables are held in different cities focusing in key areas of work of the Council of Europe. The activities are organised by the Council of Europe Office in Tirana, in cooperation with the French Embassy, within the frame of the France's Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the CoE, and in partnership with the Ministry of Justice and Department of Administration Transparency and Anti-corruption Prime Minister's Office.

PARTICIPANTS

The Conference will be attended by representatives from relevant public institutions, academia, civil society, students, business sector, media.

For more information please contact:

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AGENDA

TUESDAY, 12 NOVEMBER 2019	
16:00 – 16:20	<p>WELCOME REMARKS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ms Jutta Gützkow, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Tirana- Mr Artan Hoxha, Dean of the Faculty of Law, University of Tirana <p>OPENING REMARKS:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mr Gianluca Esposito, Head of Action against Crime Department and Executive Secretary of GRECO, Council of Europe- Mr Luigi Soreca, Ambassador, European Union Delegation to Albania (Tbc)- Ms Christina Vasak, Ambassador of France to Albania
16:20– 16:50	<p>Combating economic crime – from standards to action</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Mr Gianluca Esposito, Head of Action against Crime Department and Executive Secretary of GRECO, Council of Europe <p>(Moderator: Ms Jutta Gützkow, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Tirana)</p>
16:50 – 17:15	<p>Albanian contribution to GRECO and MONEYVAL</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Ms Fjoralba Caka, Deputy Minister of Justice <p>(Moderator: Ms Jutta Gützkow, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Tirana)</p>
17:15 – 18:30	Discussions with the participants