

Strasbourg, 22 June 2018

Greco(2018)11

**80<sup>th</sup> GRECO Plenary Meeting**  
(Strasbourg, 18-22 June 2018)

**DECISIONS**

At its 80<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting (Strasbourg, 18-22 June 2018), the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) took the following decisions (see also the Summary Report of the meeting: Greco(2018)12):

1. adopted the agenda as it appears in the Summary Report of the meeting;

#### Information

2. took note of the information provided by Marin MRČELA, President of GRECO, and by Gianluca ESPOSITO, Executive Secretary of GRECO;

#### Gender Equality Rapporteur

3. noted that Helena LIŠUCHOVÁ (Bureau member, Head of delegation, Czech Republic) has resumed the role of GRECO's Gender Equality Rapporteur, and thanked Vita HABJAN BARBORIČ (Bureau member, Head of delegation, Slovenia) for having temporarily replaced her;

#### Evaluation procedures

##### *Fifth Round*

4. adopted the Fifth Round Evaluation Reports on:

- Latvia (GrecoEval5Rep(2017)6)
- Luxembourg (GrecoEval5Rep(2017)5)

and set the deadline of 31 December 2019 for the submission of a situation report on measures taken to implement GRECO's recommendations;

5. noted with satisfaction that the authorities of Luxembourg authorise the publication of the report mentioned in decision 4 above;
6. invited the authorities of Latvia to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the report mentioned in decision 4 above;

#### Compliance procedures

##### *Third Round*

7. adopted the *Interim* Third Round Compliance Report on:

- Switzerland (GrecoRC3(2018)7 - 5<sup>th</sup> *interim* report)

and concluded 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;

8. in accordance with Rule 32, paragraph 2 (i) of the Rules of Procedure, requested the Head of delegation of Switzerland to submit additional information regarding action taken to implement the outstanding recommendations by 31 March 2019;
9. adopted the Third Round Compliance Report on:

- San Marino (GrecoRC3(2018)9)

and set the deadline of 31 December 2019 for the submission of a situation report on additional measures taken to implement the recommendations;

10. adopted the Addendum to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Third Round Compliance Report on:

- Italy (GrecoRC3(2018)8)

and, in accordance with Rule 31 revised, paragraph 9 of the Rules of Procedure, requested the Head of delegation of Italy to submit additional information regarding the implementation of the recommendations by 31 March 2019 at the latest;

11. noted with satisfaction that the authorities of Italy authorise the publication of the report mentioned in decision 10 above;

12. invited the authorities of Switzerland and San Marino to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the reports mentioned in decisions 7 and 9 above;

#### *Fourth Round*

13. adopted the *Interim* Fourth Round Compliance Report on:

- Ireland (GrecoRC4(2018)8)

and concluded 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;

14. in accordance with Rule 32, paragraph 2 (i) of the Rules of Procedure, requests the Head of delegation of Ireland to provide a report on progress in implementing the outstanding recommendations by 30 June 2019 at the latest;

15. adopted the Fourth Round Compliance Report on:

- Cyprus (GrecoRC4(2018)9)

and set the deadline of 31 December 2019 for the submission of a situation report on additional measures taken to implement the recommendations;

16. adopted the Fourth Round Compliance Reports on:

- the Czech Republic (GrecoRC4(2018)5)

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;

17. pursuant to Rule 32, paragraph 2 (i), requested the Head of delegation of the Czech Republic to provide a report on progress in implementing the outstanding recommendations by 30 June 2019;

18. postponed the examination of the Fourth Round Compliance Report on the Republic of Moldova (GrecoRC4(2018)10) to its 81st Plenary Meeting owing to the late submission of some relevant information by the authorities and asked the Head of delegation to send to the secretariat supporting information on the situation regarding the implementation of the recommendations, as well as any relevant text in either English or French, by 30 September 2018;

19. adopted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Fourth Round Compliance Reports on:

- Denmark (GrecoRC4(2018)12)
- France (GrecoRC4(2018)7)
- “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” (GrecoRC4(2018)6)

and concluded in the three cases 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;

20. pursuant to Rule 32, paragraph 2 (i), requested the Heads of delegation of Denmark, France and “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” to provide reports on progress in implementing the outstanding recommendations by 30 June 2019;

21. adopted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Fourth Round Compliance Report on:

- Albania (GrecoRC4(2018)4)

22. and, in accordance with Rule 31 revised, paragraph 9 of the Rules of Procedure, requests the Head of Delegation of Albania to submit additional information regarding the implementation of certain recommendations by 31 March 2019;

23. adopted the Addendum to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Fourth Round Compliance Report on:

- Poland (GrecoRC4(2018)11)

and, in accordance with Rule 31 revised, paragraph 9 of the Rules of Procedure, requests the Head of delegation of Poland to submit additional information regarding the implementation of the recommendations by 31 March 2019;

24. noted with satisfaction that the authorities of Poland authorise the publication of the report mentioned in decision 23 above;

25. invited the authorities of the Ireland, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, France, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” and Albania to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the reports mentioned in decisions 13, 15, 16, 19 and 21 above;

26. asked the Azerbaijan delegation to provide additional, supplementary information on the prevention of corruption of members of parliament in the framework of the ongoing Fourth Round compliance procedure. For this purpose, the deadline for submitting the situation report was extended to 31 October 2018;

#### Rule 34 – Ad hoc procedure in exceptional circumstances

27. adopted an Ad hoc (Rule 34) Report (Greco-AdHocRep(2018)3) Addendum to the Fourth Round Evaluation Report on **Poland** on the theme of corruption prevention in respect of judges, and set the deadline of 31 March 2019 for the submission of a situation report on measures taken to implement the recommendations contained in the Addendum;

28. noted with satisfaction that the authorities of Poland authorise the publication of the report mentioned in decision 27 above;

29. noted the limited progress made in implementing the recommendations in the Ad hoc report on **Romania** adopted in March 2018 (Greco-AdHocRep(2018)2) and invited the Head of delegation of Romania to provide the secretariat with a written situation report on the issues dealt with in

the above-mentioned Ad hoc report by 31 December 2018, in addition to the situation report related to the ongoing Fourth Round compliance procedure which is required by the same date;

30. decided not to initiate an ad hoc procedure in respect of **Azerbaijan** (see also decision 26 above);

#### Publication of adopted evaluation and compliance reports<sup>1</sup>

31. reiterated its concern about the unprecedented refusal of Belarus to authorise the publication of all the reports addressed to it by GRECO since June 2012 (Joint First and Second Round Evaluation Report, Compliance Report, 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> *Interim* Compliance Reports, and Third Round Evaluation Report);
32. called for the publication, as soon as possible of the following reports: 2<sup>nd</sup> Addendum to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Third Round Compliance Report and Fourth Round Compliance Report on Hungary (adopted in March 2017 and June 2017 respectively); 2<sup>nd</sup> Addendum to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Third Round Compliance Report on Georgia; 2<sup>nd</sup> Fourth Round Compliance Report on Slovenia (both adopted in March 2018);

#### Budget and programme – 2018/2019 biennium

33. noted that in response to the budgetary situation for the biennium 2018/2019, to date, the delegations of Armenia, Austria, Bulgaria, 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 of America – almost half of GRECO's member States have announced additional financial contributions and/or contributions "in-kind" (eg covering the travel and subsistence expenses of their experts or covering the cost of interpretation for on-site visits);
34. noted that once the full amount of the additional financial contributions combined with the obligatory contributions of member States is known, the schedule for 2019 will be reviewed and it may be possible to return to GRECO's original programme for 2019 and hold four plenary meetings;

#### Inter-secretariat cooperation – international anti-corruption monitoring bodies: enhancing synergies

35. examined and finalised the revised set of ideas for enhancing synergies between the multilateral organizations responsible for anti-corruption review mechanisms (Greco(2018)3-rev2) prepared in the light of the exchange held on this item at GRECO 79 (19-23 March 2018);
36. invited the Secretariat to bear these ideas in mind when pursuing the on-going synergies and coordination with the Secretariats of the other multilateral organisations responsible for anti-corruption review mechanisms, within the respective mandates of these mechanisms and subject to the availability of resources;

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<sup>1</sup> *Action to be taken when publishing adopted reports* (as specified in 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.

### High-level conference

37. took note of information provided on the state of preparation of the high-level Conference: *Strengthening transparency and accountability to ensure integrity: united against corruption* organised by the authorities of Croatia in the framework of its Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers (Šibenik, Croatia, 15-16 October 2018). A ministerial segment will be held during the morning of 15 October, followed by a number of technical sessions. The anti-corruption authorities present at the event are considering signing a declaration on strengthened cooperation between them. The programme and invitation letters with details of a practical nature will also be sent to the heads of GRECO delegations;

### GRECO's 20th Anniversary - 2019

38. noted that GRECO's 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will coincide with France's chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers in 2019; all delegations are encouraged to inform the secretariat of any proposal they may have on how to mark the occasion;

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

39. took note of the information provided by the delegations of Armenia, Cyprus, Hungary, Ireland, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway and Ukraine;
40. called on the authorities of Hungary to authorise without further delay the publication of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Addendum to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Third Round Compliance Report and the Fourth Round Compliance Report on Hungary (adopted in March 2017 and June 2017 respectively);

### Information from observer organisations and Council of Europe bodies

41. took note of the information provided by the representatives of the OECD and the UNODC;

### Miscellaneous

42. noted the President's concern at the adoption at this plenary meeting of a high number of reports resulting in non-compliance procedures and his call to the countries concerned to redouble their efforts to implement GRECO's recommendations;
43. noted that the President insisted on the need for 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 very complicated for the rapporteurs and secretariat and can lead to a significant waste of plenary time;

### Forthcoming meetings

44. took note of the following dates:
  - High-level conference organised in the framework of Croatia's Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers: *Strengthening transparency and accountability to ensure integrity: united against corruption* (Šibenik, Croatia, 15-16 October 2018)
  - 85<sup>th</sup> Bureau meeting (Strasbourg, 9 November 2018)
  - October Plenary Meeting – deferred until further notice
  - 81<sup>st</sup> Plenary Meeting (Strasbourg, 3-7 December 2018)
  - dates reserved for plenary meetings in 2019: 18-22 March; 17-21 June; provisionally: 14-18 October (depending on the availability of funds); 2-6 December 2019.