

Strasbourg, 25 September 2020

Greco(2020)8

**85<sup>th</sup> GRECO Plenary Meeting**  
(Strasbourg | KUDO (online), 21-25 September 2020)

**DECISIONS**

At its 85<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting (Strasbourg | KUDO (online), 21-25 September 2020), the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO):

1. adopted the agenda of the meeting, noting that items 4 (topical anti-corruption developments or events in member states) and 19 (information from observer organisations) would be dealt with only if time allowed; the meeting was chaired by Marin MRČELA (President of GRECO, Croatia), and by Monika OLSSON (Vice-President of GRECO, Sweden) for the examination of the Addendum to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Fourth Round Compliance Report on Croatia;

### Information

2. took note of the following information provided by Marin MRČELA, President of GRECO who welcomed all participants, in particular the delegation of Kazakhstan – participating for the first time since the country joined GRECO<sup>1</sup>, and other newly nominated delegates:
  - the wide praise received for the Guidance on corruption risks in the context of the pandemic issued by the President in April;
  - his recent participation in meetings organised by the Albanian chairmanship of the OSCE;
  - the generous support provided by Belgium, the Russian Federation, Serbia and Sweden in the form of voluntary financial and/or in-kind contributions to GRECO's 2020/2021 budget;
  - the importance for GRECO member States to bear in mind GRECO's Communication on the Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly on Corruption (Greco(2020)2-fin) during the discussions starting on 28 September 2020;
3. took note of the list of items discussed and decisions taken by the Bureau since the last Plenary Meeting (Bureau 89: Greco(2020)3-rev; Bureau 90: Greco(2020)6; Bureau 91: Greco(2020)7);

### Evaluation procedures

#### *Fourth Round*

4. adopted the Fourth Round Evaluation Reports on:
  - **Belarus** (GrecoEval4Rep(2019)2)
  - **Liechtenstein** (GrecoEval4Rep(2019)4)
  - **San Marino** (GrecoEval4Rep(2019)1)and set the deadline of 31 March 2022 for the submission of situation reports on measures taken to implement GRECO's recommendations;
5. noted with satisfaction that the authorities of San Marino<sup>2</sup> authorise the publication of the report mentioned in decision 4 above;
6. invites the authorities of Belarus and Liechtenstein to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the reports mentioned in decision 4 above;

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<sup>1</sup> Kazakhstan – 50<sup>th</sup> member of GRECO since 1 January 2020.

<sup>2</sup> Publication on 29 September 2020.

## Compliance procedures

### *Third Round*

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

- **Belarus** (GrecoRC3(2020)1)

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. pursuant to Rule 32, paragraph 2 (i) of the Rules of Procedure, requested the Head of delegation of Belarus to submit additional information regarding action taken to implement the outstanding recommendations by 30 September 2021;

9. pursuant to Rule 32, paragraph 2 (ii) a) of the Rules of Procedure, instructed its President to send a letter – with a copy to the President of the Statutory Committee – to the Head of Delegation of Belarus on the need to take determined action with a view to achieving tangible progress as soon as possible;

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

- **Bosnia and Herzegovina** (GrecoRC3(2020)2)

and, pursuant to Rule 31 revised, paragraph 9 of the Rules of Procedure, requests the Head of delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina to submit additional information regarding the implementation of certain recommendations by 30 September 2021;

11. adopted the 2<sup>nd</sup> Third Round Compliance Report on:

- **Liechtenstein** (GrecoRC3(2020)3)

and terminated the Third Round compliance procedure in respect of that member;

12. invites the authorities of Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, and Liechtenstein to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the reports mentioned in decisions 7, 10 and 11 above;

### *Fourth Round*

13. adopted the 2<sup>nd</sup> *Interim* Fourth Round Compliance Report on:

- **Hungary** (GrecoRC4(2020)10)

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. pursuant to Rule 32, paragraph 2 (i), requests the Head of delegation of Hungary to provide a report on progress in implementing the outstanding recommendations by 30 September 2021 at the latest;

15. pursuant to Rule 32, paragraph 2 (ii) b), invited the President of the Statutory Committee to send a letter to the Permanent Representative of Hungary to the Council of Europe on the level of non-compliance with GRECO’s recommendations;

16. adopted the 2<sup>nd</sup> *Interim* Fourth Round Compliance Report on:

- **Ireland** (GrecoRC4(2020)8)

and decided not to continue applying Rule 32 in the case of that member;

17. pursuant to Rule 31 revised, paragraph 8.2 of the Rules of Procedure, requests the Head of delegation of Ireland to submit additional information regarding action taken to implement certain recommendations by 30 September 2021;

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

- **Austria** (GrecoRC4(2020)7)

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;

19. pursuant to Rule 32, paragraph 2 (i), requests the Head of delegation of Austria to provide a report on progress in implementing the outstanding recommendations by 30 September 2021 at the latest;

20. adopted the *Interim* Fourth Round Compliance Reports on:

- **France** (GrecoRC4(2020)1)
- **North Macedonia** (GrecoRC4(2020)4)

and decided not to continue applying Rule 32 in the case of both members;

21. pursuant to Rule 31 revised, paragraph 8.2 of the Rules of Procedure, requested the Heads of delegation of France and North Macedonia to submit additional information regarding action taken to implement certain recommendations by 30 September 2021;

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

- **Albania** (GrecoRC4(2020)5)

and noted with satisfaction that this terminated the compliance procedure in respect of that member in this round;

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

- **Croatia** (GrecoRC4(2020)2)

and, pursuant to Rule 31 revised, paragraph 9 of the Rules of Procedure, requests the Head of delegation of Croatia to submit additional information regarding the implementation of certain recommendations by 30 September 2021;

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

- **Bosnia and Herzegovina** (GrecoRC4(2020)6)
- the **Republic of Moldova** (GrecoRC4(2020)9)

and in both cases 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;

25. pursuant to Rule 32, paragraph 2 (i), requests the Heads of delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Moldova to provide reports on progress in implementing the outstanding recommendations by 30 September 2021;

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

- **Greece** (GrecoRC4(2019)25)

and, pursuant to Rule 31 revised, paragraph 9 of the Rules of Procedure, requests the Head of Delegation of Greece to submit additional information regarding the implementation of certain recommendations by 30 September 2021;

27. adopted the Fourth Round Compliance Report on:

- **Andorra** (GrecoRC4(2020)3)

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;

28. pursuant to Rule 32, paragraph 2 (i), requested the Head of Delegation of Andorra to provide a report on progress in implementing the outstanding recommendations by 30 September 2021;

29. noted with satisfaction that the authorities of France<sup>3</sup>, North Macedonia<sup>4</sup> and Andorra<sup>5</sup> authorise the publication of the reports mentioned in decisions 20 and 27 above;

30. invites the authorities of Hungary, Ireland, Austria, Albania, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Moldova and Greece to authorise, as soon as possible, the publication of the reports mentioned in decisions 13, 16, 18, 22, 23, 24 and 26 above;

#### *Fifth Round*

31. approved the list of rapporteur countries for the Fifth round compliance procedures in respect of the following countries: Estonia, Malta, the Netherlands, North Macedonia, Poland and Sweden (GrecoEval5(2020)1);

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<sup>3</sup> Publication on 1 October 2020.

<sup>4</sup> Publication date to be agreed.

<sup>5</sup> Publication date to be agreed.

#### Adoption by written procedure (items 16 and 17 of the Agenda)

32. noted the adoption by written procedure on 25 March 2020, for reasons of timing, of:
- GRECO's Communication on the special session of the United Nations General Assembly on corruption (UNGASS 2021) (Greco(2020)2-fin);
  - GRECO's General Activity Report 2019 (Greco(2020)1-fin);

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

33. took note of the information provided by the Delegations of Cyprus, Estonia, Greece, the Netherlands, the Russian Federation, Slovenia and Ukraine;

#### Publication of Reports<sup>6</sup>

34. noted the President's call on the authorities of Belarus to authorise without further delay the publication of all the reports addressed to them<sup>7</sup>, noting that the first of those reports dates back to 2012 and that Belarus is the only GRECO member state who has not authorised publication;

#### Any other business

35. took note of the Executive Secretary's reminder of how essential it is that Heads of Delegation inform the Secretariat of changes in the composition of their national delegations promptly so that the accuracy of the official List of Representatives and mailing lists for all correspondence (including confidential documents) can be maintained at all times; only experts already in the official List of Representatives, or other experts specifically for the examination of their country's report, can participate in GRECO Plenary Meetings;

#### Forthcoming meetings

36. took note of the following dates:
- 92<sup>nd</sup> Bureau Meeting (online, 15 October 2020)
  - 86<sup>th</sup> Plenary Meeting (Strasbourg | KUDO online, 26-30 October 2020) – *participation in person possible only for the President, member states with an Evaluation Report on the agenda and the associated GRECO Evaluation Teams.*

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<sup>6</sup> Action to be taken when publishing adopted reports (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.

<sup>7</sup> All reports from the Joint First and Second Rounds; Third Round Evaluation Report; Third Round Compliance Report.