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EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON CRIME PROBLEMS (CDPC)

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON THE EVALUATION OF ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING MEASURES (MONEYVAL)

MEETING REPORT

of the 21st Plenary meeting

Strasbourg, 28 – 30 November 2006

NOTE: In accordance with the Council of Europe recent practice, meeting reports are public documents. The contact details do not appear anymore in the list of participants.

Secretariat Memorandum prepared by the Directorate General of Legal Affairs

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

During its 21st Plenary meeting, held in Strasbourg from 28 to 30 November 2006, the Committee MONEYVAL:

- Discussed and adopted the 3rd round mutual evaluation report on Lithuania and its draft summary
- Took note of the on-site visits schedule for 2007
- Agreed that the adopted reports, once finalised, be transmitted also via the Permanent Representations for presentation to their Governments
- Continued the exchange of views on the organisation of the joint plenary with FATF to be held in Strasbourg in February 2007
- As regards typologies work, invited Heads of Delegations to liaise with their national experts and agreed to take a final decision as to which topics are to be taken forward at the Typologies workshop (scheduled for October 2007, 2/3 days) following a discussion on the concept papers.
- Adopted revised Rules of Procedure, covering particularly publication and compliance enhancing procedures.
- Heard information on anti-money laundering issues in other fora
- Heard and took note of the progress report from Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Agreed to keep Armenia formally in MONEYVAL's Compliance Enhancing Procedures until the next Plenary and invited the authorities to submit a report on the progress in the AML/CFT before the next Plenary meeting
- Decided in respect of Azerbaijan, in addition to maintaining Step 1, to move to Step 2 in the Compliance Enhancing Procedures and invited the authorities to submit a report on the progress before the next Plenary meeting. In addition, the President of the MONEYVAL Committee will send a letter to the Head of Delegation.
- Heard information on AML/CFT issues in MONEYVAL countries
- Invited Heads of Delegation to update the list of evaluators requiring training as well as to send to the Secretariat proposals for evaluators for the 2007 on-site visits.
- Took note and thanked Andorra and Monaco for their recent voluntary contributions.
- Re-elected Mrs Izabela FENDEKOVA for a second term as Bureau member
- Agreed that the Joint Plenary would consider the 3rd round report on Georgia and a progress report would be received from Cyprus.

INTRODUCTION

- 1. MONEYVAL held its 21st Plenary meeting at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg from 28 to 30 November 2006, under the Chairmanship of Dr. Vasil KIROV (Bulgaria).
- 2. The list of participants is appended to this report (Appendix I).

SUMMARY ACCOUNT OF THE PROCEEDINGS

Items 1 and 2 – Opening of the Plenary meeting and adoption of the Agenda

3. The meeting was opened by the Chairman following which the Committee adopted the Agenda as it appears at Appendix II.

<u>Items 3 and 20 – Elections</u>

4. The Secretariat advised that Mrs Izabela FENDEKOVA (Slovakia) had been elected in January 2005 for a two year term, which would expire at the end of this meeting. It was explained that it was permissible for the Plenary to renew a Bureau member's term of office once. There was a call for nominations by Wednesday, 29 November. There were 3 nominations: Mrs Izabela FENDEKOVA (Slovakia); Mr Arpad KIRALY (Hungary) and Mr Stefan OCHSNER (Liechtenstein). After a ballot on the last day of the meeting, Mrs Fendekova was re-elected for a second term.

Item 4 – Information from the Chairman

5. The Chairman drew attention to the Room documents which contained the replies to his letters of 28 July 2006 to the Heads of Delegation of Armenia and Azerbaijan under the Compliance Enhancing Procedures. He also advised the Plenary of developments in respect of the letter he had sent on 3 August to the President of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) reacting to FATF Plen 39 REV1 on the procedures for handling concerns raised by countries in respect of international co-operation by a third country in the Tour de table mechanism. In his letter he had pressed for a requirement that, where bilateral contacts had not been fruitful, the country should then involve the FSRB before considering taking the issue to the FATF Tour de table. The Chairman explained that a compromise had been agreed at the Vancouver Plenary whereby an FATF member should notify the FSRB of its intention to nominate an FSRB country one month before initiating the "tour de table" process within FATF. This solution is intended to allow the FSRB the first opportunity of resolving any such problem. While this FATF decision was broadly welcomed, the Chairman explained that one month may leave very little time to investigate an issue fully, and resolve it through "Compliance Enhancing Procedures", if they were necessary. However, he recognised that a process within MONEYVAL could be commenced within this timescale. If the issue was not resolved within MONEYVAL by the time of the "tour de table" discussion within FATF, he trusted that any follow-up process after the FATF "tour de table" would be handled, in the first instance, by MONEYVAL, which has an established follow-up mechanism linked with Compliance Enhancing Procedures.

Item 5 – Information from the Secretariat

5.1. Report from the Vancouver FATF Plenary

6. The Secretariat advised that this was the first FATF Plenary since MONEYVAL became an Associate Member of FATF. The MONEYVAL Delegation had comprised the Chairman and the Secretary. The Bureau countries were represented by Mrs Izabela FENDEKOVA (Slovakia), Mr Robert TYPA (Poland) and Mr Anton BARTOLO (Malta). The two other countries which had been selected on this occasion were MONACO (Mrs Danielle MEZZANA-GHENASSIA) and Hungary (Mr Arpad KIRALY). The Secretariat advised the Plenary of the FATF processes on follow-up and indicated that MONEYVAL would revisit its own follow-up procedures during this meeting. The Secretariat indicated that the FATF had decided that when it removes a country from "enhanced monitoring", it will not undertake a re-rating exercise.

5.2. Agenda of evaluations and meetings for 2007

7. The Plenary took note of the on-site visits which had taken place since the September Plenary (Croatia and Monaco and the forthcoming updating mission to Moldova). The Secretariat introduced the proposed schedule for 2007 and the Plenary took note of it. The Secretariat would explore the feasibility of utilising another week in June for Plenary 23, as a concern was raised about the proximity to an Egmont Group meeting in Bermuda.

5.3. Participation in other events & 5.4. Training for evaluators in Washington

8. From 14 to 20 September 2006, the FATF organised a training workshop for assessors in Washington which was hosted by the United States Department of the Treasury. Five people from MONEYVAL participated in this training seminar (Alexandra CARGO - Slovenia, George FARRUGA – Malta, Artur SOBOTKA – Poland, Peter STEINER – Hungary, Gerhard MILD - Secretariat). The programme was divided in two parts: during the first three days the training modules were explained (overview of the process for evaluations and assessments; methodology; roles and responsibilities of assessors; how to conduct interviews etc). On the following two days an evaluation was simulated where the participants had to conduct mock interviews and to draft a report on selected Recommendations. This combination was very much appreciated by the participants.

5.5. Publication of reports and progress reports

9. The Secretariat reminded the Plenary of the third round reports which are now on the website in English: Slovenia, Hungary, Cyprus, Albania, Slovakia and that we were awaiting completion of the Latvian report and agreement to publication. Cyprus, Hungary and Slovenia third round reports are also available in French. The third round report on Albania will be available in French in December. The Slovenian and Hungarian progress reports were presented at the last Plenary meeting and the Secretariat was awaiting confirmation that they could be published under the current Rules of Procedure.

5.5. MONEYVAL's website

10. The Secretariat informed the Plenary that, as a result of a number of changes to the Council of Europe website, the MONEYVAL website would also be gradually changed and improved. The new user name and password for access to the restricted MONEYVAL website were sent to all delegations and those who experience technical difficulties in accessing the restricted website should contact the Secretariat.

<u>Item 6 - Transmission of Adopted Reports to Countries through Permanent Representations</u>

- 11. It has been the practice in MONEYVAL to send finalised reports to the Heads of Delegation of MONEYVAL countries.
- 12. The Secretariat explained that the Bureau had considered this practice and recommended that adopted reports should also be transmitted via the Permanent Representations for presentation to their Governments once they are finalised. The Plenary agreed with this recommendation and the issue would be taken forward within the Council of Europe for future reports.

Item 7 - Joint Plenary with the FATF

- 13. The Secretariat explained the decisions which had been taken on the construction of the Agenda for the Joint Plenary week. Broadly both bodies would take forward their normal business agendas together in the Joint Plenary meeting (21-23 February 2007). There would therefore be one mutual evaluation report discussed from each body, a MONEYVAL progress report, Compliance Enhancing Procedures, etc. The first two days (19-20 February) would be FATF Working Group meetings which MONEYVAL members would be able to attend. There may need to be some distribution of MONEYVAL Delegations between the Working Groups depending on the size of FATF Delegations and the capacities of the meeting rooms.
- 14. Thus our delegations will be invited to the meeting for the full five days. The Secretariat also gave a brief description of some of the logistical issues. In any FATF confidential business (which would be kept to a minimum), it was agreed that MONEYVAL participation should be confined to those delegations that attended the Vancouver meeting, rather than select two other non-Bureau countries to attend for such a short item in Strasbourg. The countries which had applied for the Vancouver Plenary but for which there was insufficient space would be given priority for the second and third FATF Plenaries in 2007. The Cyprus Delegation questioned the priority given in the composition of the MONEYVAL delegations to Bureau countries for future FATF Plenaries after the Strasbourg meeting. The Chairman explained that the decision to give priority to Bureau countries in the composition of the delegations was as a result of the decision taken after discussion of this issue by the 19th Plenary meeting in July 2006 (after the Council of Europe / MONEYVAL had become an Associate Member of FATF).

Item 8 - Working Group on Typologies

- 15. A paper was circulated to the Plenary on this matter. Mr Robert TYPA informed the Plenary about the final composition of the WGOT and the pre-selected topics under consideration:
 - Topic 1: Money laundering in securities sector Investigation methods;
 - Topic 2: Counterfeited Products and Goods/Commercial Fraud;
 - Topic 3: Circumvention of Customer Due Diligence Requirements in Deposit-Taking Institutions.

A 4th topic might also be considered on "Terrorist Financing Typologies – Cash Couriers and Goods Movements" and the Maltese delegation expressed interest in chairing the work on this topic.

- 16. Heads of Delegations were invited to liaise with their national experts with a view to involving them in the work related to the preparation of concept papers on the preselected items.
- 17. The Plenary agreed to consider the concept papers with a view to taking a final decision as to which topics are to be taken forward at the Typologies workshop (scheduled for October 2007, 2/3 days).

Item 9 - Publication Policy

- 18. The Secretariat presented a paper which had been considered by the Bureau on this issue, and had been circulated. Currently, the MONEYVAL publication policy mirrors the FATF policy, namely that there is a presumption and expectation that publication of the mutual evaluation report will take place, but there remained a discretion in the country not to opt for publication of the report in which case a note that a country had chosen not to publish would be placed on the website including any note submitted by the country as to why it had chosen not to publish. The Secretariat paper noted that the decision on this issue had been taken after the adoption of the first two reports in the third round and at that time a majority of the delegations then present was prepared to support a general policy of publication without reservations.
- 19. Since then, no country had declined to publish its report and the Bureau unanimously recommended that a policy of general transparency on this issue should now be adopted. The Plenary accepted this recommendation and invited the Secretariat to draft an amendment to the Rules of Procedure giving effect to this decision for adoption at this meeting. The Plenary later in the week adopted revised Rules of Procedure fixing a maximum three month period from the adoption of the report in Plenary for the country to confirm the accuracy of the revised report (as amended by the Plenary) after which the Secretariat would proceed to publish the adopted report on the MONEYVAL website (Rule 34).

Items 10 and 25 – Compliance Enhancing Procedures – Future Policy

20. The Secretariat introduced a paper which had been discussed and agreed by the Bureau, which reviewed the MONEYVAL follow-up processes (Progress reports and

Compliance Enhancing Procedures) and compared them with the follow-up procedures now in place in FATF. There was a full debate on the issues in the paper later in the week. There was agreement that a balance needs to be struck between ensuring necessary peer pressure on countries where they have received poor ratings and avoiding the introduction of procedures which are over mechanistic and not cost effective. It was also agreed that MONEYVAL needed to maintain and build upon the flexible approach it has developed so far in the use of Compliance Enhancing Procedures to deal with situations which require urgent action by the Plenary when issues of non-compliance arise.

21. It was agreed that:

- Compliance Enhancing Procedures should be flexible enough to deal with situations which require urgent action by the Plenary;
- Progress reports should continue to be provided one year after the adoption of the mutual evaluation report based on the newly designed questionnaire and sent to the country 8 weeks prior to the Plenary;
- Replies should be provided at least 3 weeks before the Plenary;
- The progress report, and the adopted third round mutual evaluation report, would be first transmitted to the scientific experts and to Heads of Delegation from MONEYVAL countries which participated in the evaluation to ensure that the scientific experts and previous evaluators or the delegations from which they came are in a position to raise questions on the progress report. The progress report would continue to be circulated to the Plenary and be subject to peer review. If the Plenary is satisfied with the information provided and the progress being undertaken, the progress report would be adopted and published, and be subject to routine updates every two years between evaluation rounds. Updates would also be published;
- Where information is insufficient to form a view about progress, the Chairman will invite the country to submit a fuller progress report to the next meeting;
- Where the progress report (or fuller report requested) raises significant concerns about the extent of or speed of progress overall to rectify deficiencies the plenary may take note of the information and proceed to publish the report and invite the country to submit a further report no later than one year after the substantive discussion under step 1 of the Compliance Enhancing Procedures (Compliance Report). This report will be analysed in writing by the Secretariat and subject to Plenary peer review. The same procedure would be followed as with the initial progress report regarding circulation in advance to the scientific experts, and to the delegations from which the MONEYVAL evaluators were drawn;
- If concerns remain after discussion of the compliance report, other steps in the Compliance Enhancing Procedures may be taken until the Plenary is satisfied that a sufficient level of progress overall has been made. An updating on-site visit is not precluded in this context at the conclusion of the third round on-site visits.
- 22. The plenary subsequently endorsed changes to the Rules of Procedure to reflect these propositions and to embed the "Compliance Enhancing Procedures" into the Rules of Procedure. The draft of the amended Rules of Procedure was agreed.

<u>Item 11 – Information from the European Union</u>

- 23. The Plenary was informed that the Justice and Home Affairs Council (4-5 December 2006) will address the implementation of the EU Counter-Terrorism Strategy/ Action Plan. An analysis of the legal problems to exchange information will be carried out and an inventory of international standards for cooperation will be made. As regards the NPO sector at EU level, Member States are expected to comply with the interpretative note. The evaluation of the implementation of the Council decision regarding the exchange of information between FIUs is underway and the report is expected for the 1st quarter of 2007. The Plenary was also informed about the judgment of the Court of First Instance of 12 December 2006 which annuls the Council's decision ordering the freezing of the funds of the Organisation of Modjhedines du Peuple d'Iran in the fight against terrorism.
- 24. As regards the European Commission, the Plenary was informed that a number of transposition workshops were carried out to facilitate the implementation of the 3rd Directive in EU Member States. An informal platform was set up for FIUs from EU countries to discuss practical issues related to their cooperation, several meetings were held and the workplan is being prepared. The dialogue with the private sector is fostered.

<u>Item 12 – Information concerning anti-money laundering initiatives in other fora</u>

European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD)

25. A written report from EBRD was circulated and presented.

Egmont Group

26. The next working meeting of the Egmont Group will be held in Liechtenstein, where it is expected that the Charter will be finalised. The formalisation of the Egmont secretariat will be endorsed in the May plenary which will be held in Bermuda. The job description of the Secretary will be made public by the end of December 2006. By June 2007, every FIU is expected to be compliant with the Egmont Group criteria and definition; currently around 30 of them are not yet compliant.

FATF

- 27. The representative of FATF informed the Committee of the outcome of the Vancouver Plenary meeting. Two reports (Portugal and Iceland) were adopted and published. South Korea attended the meeting as observer. Two typologies reports were also available regarding new payments methods and the misuse of corporate vehicles.
- 28. The FATF welcomed the typologies process carried out by MONEYVAL. Within the FATF working group on terrorism financing, a follow up is carried out on the report on trade-based money laundering in order to address gaps not fully covered by the Recommendations.
- 29. The FATF also expressed interest in organising a joint training for evaluators with

MONEYVAL in 2007.

International Monetary Fund (IMF) & World Bank

- 30. The Committee was informed that in the field of technical assistance, projects for 6 MONEYVAL countries are underway. At regional level, several workshops were planned. An event will be held in Vienna in March 2007 focusing on AML/CFT on site procedures for supervisors and how to design a risk-based approach. The report on Latvia was sent to the authorities for comments. The visit to Liechtenstein is scheduled from 20 March to 4 April 2007. The IMF representative also offered assistance regarding the forthcoming training planned by MONEYVAL.
- 31. The World Bank representative informed the Plenary that twenty one assessments were carried out so far, and 10 new assessments were planned for the next year. At the annual meeting in Singapore, a paper was released on *Strengthening Bank Group Engagement on Governance and Anticorruption* which put an emphasis on anti-corruption matters in the AML/CFT context. The APG typologies workshop was held in November in Jakarta.

United Nations

32. As regards UNODC website, the Russian version of the AML/CFT law for civil law systems will be posted on the website in Russian language. The MLA writer tool is also available in Russian version. A request was made to countries which translated evaluation reports in Russian with a view to sharing them with officials from Central Asia for training purposes.

Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (EAG)

33. The representative of the Russian Federation reported on behalf of EAG about the seminars organised by EAG. 32 experts received training, including from Ukraine. An International Training Center for Financial Monitoring was established and two trainings were held for the Belarus FIU and the Kyrgyz FIU. Software was supplied for the FIU's database in the Kyrgyz Republic. The 1st evaluation visit of the Kyrgyz Republic was postponed due to the political situation and is expected to take place in the second half of December 2006. An EAG expert took part in the evaluation of China. Finally, three events were planned for December: the 2nd Donor Conference for EAG countries, a consultation with the private sector and the Plenary and working group meetings.

<u>Item 13 – Progress report – Bosnia and Herzegovina</u>

- 34. The Plenary heard a presentation from the delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina; it discussed a number of clarifications and the latest developments in the light of the written progress report.
- 35. The Plenary took note of this report.

Items 14 & 25 – Compliance Enhancing Procedures – Armenia and Azerbaijan

- The Secretariat recalled MONEYVAL's Compliance Enhancing Procedural Rules 36. which stipulate that further monitoring should be undertaken if a jurisdiction, after further review and consultation, still had five or more "partially compliant" or "noncompliant" assessments based on the criteria used in the first round of evaluations for all countries. At its 18th Plenary meeting (31 January to 3 February 2006), the MONEYVAL Committee decided that Armenia had 3 "partially compliant" and 2 "non-compliant" and Azerbaijan 6 "partially compliant" and 2 "non-compliant" ratings. Accordingly, Step 1 of the Committee's Compliance Enhancing Procedures was invoked, which requires a country to provide a report or regular reports on its progress in implementing the reference documents. At the 19^{th} Plenary meeting (3 - 7 July 2006)it was concluded that the ratings concerning Armenia remained unchanged. Though the Committee decided to change the ratings concerning Azerbaijan in some categories to "compliant", still 4 "partially compliant" and 1 "non-compliant" ratings remained. As a consequence, Step 1 of the procedures concerning both Armenia and Azerbaijan was maintained and both were requested to report on their progress before the 21st Plenary.
- 37. In the margins of this Plenary, the Bureau had a meeting with the delegations from Armenia and Azerbaijan, which presented the recent developments of their jurisdictions in the AML/CFT field since the last plenary meeting:

Armenia

38. The Armenian Delegation provided draft laws which appeared to cover - to a very large extent - the concerns of the Bureau and the Plenary. It was understood that the Parliamentary process with these amendments was well advanced. The Bureau came to the conclusion that the rating on all outstanding issues could be changed to "Compliant" if the amendments were already in force. As no final decisions could be taken on draft legislation, it was proposed by the Bureau and accepted by the Committee to keep Armenia formally in MONEYVAL's Compliance Enhancing Procedures until the next Plenary. If final legislation reflected the drafts, the Bureau will recommend the next Plenary to lift the Compliance Enhancing Procedures.

Azerbaijan

- 39. Though a number of improvements could be identified, still some shortcomings remained.
- 40. With regard to these concerns, and to underline the importance of progress on an effective AML/CFT preventive law, the Committee decided, in addition to maintaining Step 1, to move to Step 2 in the Compliance Enhancing Procedures. Step 2 comprises a letter from the President of the MONEYVAL Committee to the Head of Delegation (with a copy to the Plenary). A report on the progress of Azerbaijan in the AML/CFT field should also be provided under Step 1 before the next Plenary meeting.

<u>Items 15 & 19 - Information on AML/CFT initiatives in other MONEYVAL countries (tour de table)</u>

- 41. <u>Albania</u>: reported that MOUs were signed with UNMIK and Bosnia and Herzegovina, bringing the total of MOUs to 25. 18 requests were sent via Egmont and 14 received. IMF provided support to amend the Criminal Code, Criminal Procedure Code and the AML Law. The Minister of Finance took 7 decisions to sequestrate assets in relation to terrorist financing. In the first 9 months of 2006, assets sequestrated amounted to around 5 million Euros.
- 42. <u>Andorra:</u> was evaluated by GRECO. A new law on the FIU will soon be adopted by the Parliament, the main changes relate to TF matters. It reported successful cases of cooperation with Spain on drug trafficking and corruption. A number of accounts were frozen in Andorran banks.
- 43. Bulgaria: reported on the practical results, achieved by the Bulgarian Judiciary recently (proceedings, sentences and forfeiture). At present, there are 15 pending court trials for money laundering in Bulgaria. In the last two months, 4 Bulgarian district courts have ruled on 4 money laundering cases: there are three sentences (two of which became final already and one is under the appeal procedure); in one case the court ruled on acquittal. For the 2 final sentences, in one case the charges brought before the court by the prosecution office followed a report made by the Financial Intelligence Agency and in the other case the prosecution based its accusation act on information and evidences gathered by the police. The court rulings in all these cases showed that Bulgarian investigation, prosecution and judicial authorities do not require a sentence to be in force for the predicate offence in order to prosecute for money laundering. The Bulgarian Commission on Forfeiture has issued orders for freezing of money up to 9 million Euros. The Minister of Finance, upon proposal of the Financial Intelligence Agency postponed two financial operations to the amount of approximately 3 million Euros. Thereafter the court issued freezing orders for the relevant assets by request of the prosecutor's office. The Permanent Interagency Task Force on Measures against Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Prevention adopted a Risk Analysis Report, identifying categories of risk groups of reporting entities were identified and elaborating measures to enhance awareness and compliance of the risk groups. Bulgaria signed on 22 November 2006 the Council of Europe Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on Financing of Terrorism.
- 44. <u>Croatia:</u> a draft MOU between 11 stakeholders at national level is being prepared. Work on the action plan on EU membership is underway. The CARDS twinning project with Austria on money laundering issues is ongoing, with a very intensive schedule of trainings.
- 45. <u>Cyprus</u>: the work on the transposition of the 3rd Directive continues as well as the work on the implementation of the recommendations of the 3rd round evaluation report.
- 46. <u>Czech Republic:</u> work on the implementation of the 3rd EU directive is ongoing. A decision was made to draft a new AML Act, the draft text was sent for external commentary procedure. The text is expected to be adopted and enter into force by December 2007. The National Bank and the FIU organised in November 2006 a seminar on AML issues for the banking sector and branches of foreign banks.

- 47. <u>Estonia:</u> The new AML Commission sent to the Government its first progress report. A Council was formed gathering the various associations (around 20) market participants to which the AML refers which meets every 2 months and provides opinions and gives advice to the Commission and pre-evaluators. The twinning project with the Netherlands ended and an AML handbook was finalised.
- 48. Georgia: in the period January- October 2006, the FIU received 32000 reports from entities and 1000 STRs mainly from banks, 3200 reports from insurance, 2000 from notaries. 2 commercial banks were closed; the investigation is on-going in relation to money laundering offences. The cooperation with foreign authorities has become more regular and MOUs were signed with 14 FIUs (2 signed in 2006 with China and Croatia). Negotiations are underway with Moldova, Canada, Australia and Sweden. Trainings were carried out in May and June 2006, organised by the World Bank and an IMF seminar was held on CFT matters. The list of terrorists was revised 4 times; it was published in the legislative bulletin and the FIU's website and was distributed to monitoring entities.
- 49. Hungary: the implementation of the 3rd directive is underway. Amendments of the Criminal Code were prepared including a new version of the money laundering offence, proportionate sanctions and a separate provision on terrorism financing, with a view to submitting them by the end of 2006. The draft ratification acts of the UNTOC convention and its protocols were sent to Parliament for adoption. An interdisciplinary working group was set up to address possibilities on interlinking databases for law enforcement authorities. The FIU carried out on-site supervision on AML/CFT matters of 12 service providers, resulting in 4 legal statements and letters on CDD, AML/CFT training and fines for deficiencies. In September 2006, a conference was organised with Europol to enhance awareness on detection of ML cases. In November 2006, a conference for banking industry was held on AML/CFT matters. Within the FIU, a new electronic system is being tested and a new international cooperation unit will be established as a sub department as of February 2007. 5 confiscation orders were made in relation to ML offences.
- 50. <u>Latvia</u>: reported that on July 1st, the law on cash declaration entered into force. As a result of the evaluation, a plan was created. Several AML measures were envisaged including an order of the Head of Police to create a Confiscation Unit as of 1 December 2006 (starting with 3 employees and the possibility to employ up to 7 staff by January 2007) looking into the seizure of property as result of criminal activities and investigations of economic crime cases; the adoption of several priorities for the FIU, one being the freezing of proceeds. In 2005, 56 freezing orders were made for up to 5 million dollars while in 2006, 117 orders amounted to 20 million dollars.
- 51. <u>Liechtenstein:</u> reported having received the questionnaire from IMF for the evaluation and on preparations underway for the meeting of the working groups of the Egmont Group in February 2007.
- 52. <u>Malta:</u> reported that the recruitment for additional staff is in its final stage now. Preparations are underway for a training seminar for real estate agents, scheduled in the 1st quarter of 2007.

- 53. <u>Moldova:</u> the new draft AML/CFT law was sent to the Council of Europe for expertise. The elaboration of plans for the implementation of the AML/CFT strategy is underway. In November 2006 the MOLI-Co project started and a seminar was organised on AML/CFT issues. Preparations are underway for MONEYVAL's updating mission.
- 54. <u>Monaco:</u> the law regarding article 218 of the Criminal Code was adopted on 26 October 2006 and promulgated on 9 November 2006.
- Montenegro: received over 1400 cash transaction reports, connected transactions and suspicious transactions. 132 STR were received, 62 transactions were postponed and 160 cases on ML and/or FT were opened. The FIU exchanged information on 72 cases with other FIUs. Amendments were prepared regarding expanding the list of obliged entities.
- 56. <u>Poland:</u> the draft text implementing the 3rd Directive is expected to pass intergovernmental discussions in December 2006. In September 2006, a joint seminar was held including the FIU, the Police and prosecutors. The FIU signed in the last 2 months 3 MOUs.
- 57. <u>Romania:</u> the FIU moved to new premises. Work is underway to develop new secure electronic systems to be used by banks in the first place and later on other reporting entities.
- 58. <u>Russian Federation</u>: reported that amendments to the legislation were passed and the list of reporting agencies was broadened. A number of conventions were ratified in June and October 2006, including the Criminal Law Convention on Corruption. The follow up to the MOLI RU projects is expected to start in January 2007. Finally, the FIU was restructured to strengthen its analytical unit.
- 59. <u>San Marino</u>: reported that on 14 November it signed the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism (CETS No. 196) and the Council of Europe Convention on Laundering, Search, Seizure and Confiscation of the Proceeds from Crime and on the Financing of Terrorism (CETS No. 198). In September 2006, it joined Interpol. The Central bank issued new instructions for preventive measures in the AML/CFT field for financial institutions. The AML service received 19 STRs. As regards international cooperation, an agreement is being finalised with the Russian FIU.
- 60. <u>Serbia</u>: No major changes were reported. A working group was established, headed by the FIU, to develop the AML/CFT strategy for the next 5 years. The draft is almost completed. Plans are underway to institutionalise AML/CFT training. Under the PACO Serbia project, several training seminars were carried out (6 planned in 2006 and 3 in 2007). An MOU was signed with Poland in October 2006.
- 61. <u>Slovakia</u>: is awaiting the translation of the evaluation report to proceed with work at national level. A decision was taken to draft a new AML law, and by January 2007 the draft will be sent to the intergovernmental committee. The 2000 MLA convention and additional protocol came into force.
- 62. <u>Slovenia</u>: is finalising the new preventive law, the draft was sent to all interested parties in October 2006 for comments by November 2006 following which the new draft will

be sent to the Government by the end of December 2006.

- 63. "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia": in October, a draft proposal for amending the AML law was prepared (including harmonisation with the 3rd EU directive and CETS N° 198). The draft was sent to main AML/CFT players for comments, the deadline for submission to the Government being the end of December 2006. A Guidebook on preventing and fighting money laundering was issued in 2006 and distributed to reporting entities and supervisors. The Advisory Body held meetings to prepare the annual report on the activities and results of the AML/CFT system. A special training for using the new software is to be organised in January 2007.
- 64. <u>Ukraine</u>: In September 2006, the MOLI Ukraine 2 project started. Changes to the Criminal Code were made and terrorism financing is an autonomous offence. The FIU issued a list of persons connected to FT.
- 65. <u>Israel</u>: a committee was established gathering representatives of the police, tax, FIU, with a view to exchanging information. On October 25th an amendment to the Banking order was approved imposing obligations in respect of correspondent banking relationships. The amendment to the order also imposed obligations on credit card companies.

Items 16, 17 & 18 Discussion on the draft third mutual evaluation report on Lithuania

- 66. The Secretariat introduced briefly the background of the on-site visit and the results of the informal discussions on the draft report, outlining the major changes to the report. He presented also the key comments submitted for consideration by the Consistency Review Group which focused on recommendations 1 and 3 (effectiveness issues and justification for rating), 27, 28, 30, SR IX and certain elements of R32 (ratings and their justification), R35 and SR I (insufficient information) and Section 3.7 (missing analysis in relation to the 2nd EU Directive). Its expertise and advice were highly appreciated and almost all comments were endorsed by the examiners. The Lithuanian authorities took the floor and expressed their gratitude to the examiners. They underlined that the drafting of a new Law on the Prevention of Money Laundering was envisaged, thus giving a good opportunity to rapidly take into account several findings of the report.
- 67. The three intervener countries were: Latvia, Liechtenstein, and Moldova. In discussions on the draft Lithuanian report, the interveners and the Plenary sought further clarification and information on various issues, including:
 - ancillary offences
 - the content of the court sentence concerning the first final conviction for money laundering, and its impact
 - the penalty policy regarding the sanctions for money laundering
 - the application of seizure and confiscation measures in general practice
 - measures planned to implement the EU Directive 2005/60/EC and the Council of Europe Convention CETS N°198 (the revised Strasbourg Convention)
 - the implementation of UN Resolutions 1363 and 1267 by the obliged entities
 - the measures taken so far in respect of persons appearing on international lists
 - the application of CDD measures in relation to non-face-to-face transactions

- the rating and justification for R14
- the rating and justification for R15
- the drafting of recommendations addressed to better implement R5
- the modalities of supervision concerning accounts opened in correspondent banks and the implementation of the FATF recommendations in cases where the correspondent bank has no adequate AML/CFT mechanisms
- possible plans to strengthen the independence of the Money Laundering Prevention Division within the FCIS
- measures taken to date to facilitate the identification of beneficial owners of legal entities
- measures taken in respect to PEPs.
- 68. As a result of the discussions, the draft report was amended so as to incorporate the relevant clarifications and changes. The draft report and summary, as amended (and subject to consequential editorial changes by the Secretariat) were adopted.

Item 21 - Joint Plenary with the FATF - Further discussions

69. It was agreed that the Joint Plenary would consider the report on Georgia.

Item 22 - Reflections on the Ad Hoc Group of Experts

70. It was broadly agreed that this new procedure was valuable and that the Plenary could consider further refinements to this process after the experience of the Joint Plenary. The importance of contributions from all experts was underlined in discussions.

<u>Item 23 – Further consideration of Evaluators for 2007 on-site visits and list of Evaluators requiring training</u>

71. Heads of Delegation were invited to update the list of evaluators requiring training as well as to send to the Secretariat proposals for evaluators for the 2007 on-site visits.

Item 24 – Finance and Staffing

72. The Secretariat thanked Andorra and Monaco for their recent voluntary contributions, which remain very important for the work of MONEYVAL. The Secretariat indicated that a process of identifying a further "*mise à disposition*" for the Secretariat was under way.

* * *

APPENDIX I / ANNEXE I

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APPENDIX II / ANNEXE II AGENDA / ORDRE DU JOUR

Monday 27 November 2006 afternoon / lundi 27 novembre 2006, après-midi

14th Bureau meeting / 14e réunion du Bureau

Day 1: Tuesday 28 November 2006 / 1º jour: mardi 28 novembre 2006

Morning / matin

- 1. **Opening of the Plenary Meeting at 9h30** / Ouverture de la Réunion Plénière à 9h30
- 2. Adoption of Agenda / Adoption de l'Ordre du Jour
- 3. Elections
- 4. Information from the Chairman / Informations communiquées par le Président
- 5. **Information from the Secretariat** / *Informations communiquées par le Secrétariat*
 - 5.1 Report from Vancouver FATF plenary / Rapport de la réunion plénière du GAFI à Vancouver
 - **5.2 Agenda of evaluations and meetings for 2007** / Agenda des évaluations et réunions en 2007
 - **5.3 Participation in other events** / Participation à des activités diverses
 - **5.4 Training for evaluators in Washington** / Formations d'évaluateurs à Washington
 - 5.5 Publication of reports and progress reports / Publication des rapports et des rapports de suivi
 - 5.6 MONEYVAL's website / Site Internet du MONEYVAL
- Transmission of adopted reports to countries through Permanent Representations / Diffusion des rapports adoptés par la voie des Représentations Permanentes
- 7. **Joint plenary with the FATF** / Réunion plénière conjointe avec le GAFI
- 8. Working Group on Typologies / Groupe de travail sur les Typologies
- 9. **Publication policy** / Politique de publication
- 10. Compliance Enhancing Procedures future policy / Procédures visant à promouvoir la conformité future stratégie
- 11. Information from the European Union / Informations de l'Union Européenne
- 12. Information concerning anti-money laundering initiatives in other for a / Informations concernant les initiatives anti-blanchiment au niveau d'autres institutions

EBRD / BERD

Egmont group / Groupe Egmont

FATF / GAFI

IMF and World Bank / FMI et Banque Mondiale

UNCTC / CCTNU

United Nations / Nations Unies

Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (EAG)/

Groupe Eurasie sur le blanchiment de capitaux et le financement du terrorisme (EAG)

Afternoon / après-midi

- 13. Progress report Bosnia and Herzegovina / Rapport de suivi Bosnie-Herzégovine
- 14. Compliance Enhancing Procedures Armenia and Azerbaijan / Procédures visant à promouvoir la conformité- Arménie et Azerbaïdjan
- 15. Information on AML/CFT initiatives in other MONEYVAL countries (tour de table) / Informations sur les initiatives LAB/CFT dans d'autres pays membres de MONEYVAL (tour de table)

Day 2: Wednesday 29 November 2006 / 2^e jour: mercredi 29 novembre 2006

Morning / matin

16. **Discussion on the draft third mutual evaluation report on Lithuania** / Discussion sur le projet de troisième rapport d'évaluation mutuelle de la Lituanie

Afternoon / après-midi

17. Continuation of the discussion on the draft third mutual evaluation report on Lithuania (as necessary) / Poursuite de la discussion sur le projet de troisième rapport d'évaluation mutuelle de la Lituanie (si nécessaire)

Day 3: Thursday 30 November 2006 / 3^e jour: jeudi 30 novembre 2006

Morning / matin

- 18. Continuation of the discussion on the draft third mutual evaluation report on Lithuania (as necessary) / Poursuite de la discussion sur le projet de troisième rapport d'évaluation mutuelle de la Lituanie (si nécessaire)
- 19. Continuation of the Tour de Table (as necessary) / Poursuite du Tour de table (si nécessaire)
- 20. Elections
- **Joint plenary with the FATF further discussion** / Réunion plénière conjointe avec le GAFI poursuite de la discussion

Afternoon / après-midi

- **22. Reflections on the Ad Hoc group of Experts** / Réflexion sur les travaux du Groupe ad hoc d'experts
- 23. Further consideration of evaluators for 2007 on-site visits and lists of evaluators requiring training | Examen de la question des évaluateurs appelés à participer aux évaluations sur place en 2007 et liste des évaluateurs à former
- 24. Finance and Staffing / Financement et personnel
- 25. Compliance Enhancing Procedures further discussion (as necessary) / Procédures visant à promouvoir la conformité Poursuite de la discussion (si nécessaire)
- 26. Miscellaneous / Divers