



Workshop on the APC's methodology for collecting, processing data on financial management and activities, and controlling financial reports of political entities during election campaigns

29 June 2020 – Hotel Hilton, Podgorica

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 Neighborhood Policy, in which both Organizations agreed to further strengthen their co-operation in key areas of joint interest.

In the field of fight against economic crime, three country specific interventions have been designed within the Horizontal Facility Programme and more specifically: Albania, Montenegro and North Macedonia. Those actions will aim to improve implementation of key recommendations of the CoE's 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 each country's national reform priorities and other policy level required reforms that emanate from their enlargement agreement process.

Programme's Specific Objectives (SO) in Montenegro (HFII-AEC-MNE):

- (1) Improved legal and operational framework on preventing and combating corruption
- (2) Enhanced AML/CFT prevention mechanisms

The Action will last for 36 months is implemented by the Economic Crime and Cooperation Division- DG with an estimated budget of €700,000 Euros and will provide participating jurisdictions with expert advice on regulatory and operational reforms, skills development training, and platform for discussion on best practices regarding exchange of information.

Objectives

The objective of the workshop is to discuss the APC's methodology for collecting, processing data on financial management and activities, and controlling financial reports of political entities during election campaigns in order to gather comments and input from the participants to further improve the Agency's methodology.

Participants

Participants to this event will be representatives from relevant authorities responsible for controlling the financing of political entities and civil society organizations dealing with the monitoring of election rules and processes.

For more information please contact:	
Ms Ana Selic, Project Officer Council of Europe Programme Office in Podgorica Blvd. Džordža Vasiingtona 98, floor I, Capital Plaza, 81000 Podgorica, Montenegro	E-mail: ana.selic@coe.int Tel: +382 20 673 868 ext.115 Fax: +33 (0)3 88 41 27 05 www.coe.int/HF-AEC

Workshop on the APC's methodology for collecting, processing data on financial management and activities, and controlling financial reports of political entities during election campaigns

29 June 2020 – Hotel Hilton, Podgorica

- 09:00 – 09:30 Registration of participants**
- 09:30 – 10:00 Introductory remarks – current state of affairs**
- Savo Milašinović, a.i. Director of the Agency for Prevention of Corruption
 - Ana Nenezić, Executive director of CeMI,
 - Vanja Čalović, Executive Director of NGO MANS
 - Biljana Papović, Executive Director of Center for Democratic Transition,
 - Ana Selic, Senior Project Officer, ECCD – DG I Council of Europe
- 10:00 – 10:15 Introduction to the methodology, workflow of control process, preliminary risk assessment**
- Barbara Jouan Stonestreet, Council of Europe expert
 - **Alvis Vilks**, Council of Europe expert
- 10:15 -10:45 Comments to the methodology, workflow of control process, preliminary risk assessment**
- Q and A with the participants
 - Recommendations on improvement of the workflow and risk assessment
- 10:45 – 11:00 Coffee break**
- 11:00 – 11:15 Sources of information, methods of collection**
- **Barbara Jouan Stonestreet**, Council of Europe expert
 - Alvis Vilks, Council of Europe expert
- 11:15 – 11:45 Comments to the Sources of information, methods of collection,**
- Q and A with the participants
 - Recommendations on improvement of the sources of information, methods of collection
- 11:45 – 12:15 In depth review of reports submitted by political subjects, red flags**
- Barbara Jouan Stonestreet, Council of Europe expert
 - **Alvis Vilks**, Council of Europe expert
- 12:15 – 13:00 Discussion**
- 13:00 -14:30 Lunch**
- 14:30 – 14:45 Reviewing of complaints and investigation of possible violations**
- **Barbara Jouan Stonestreet**, Council of Europe expert
 - Alvis Vilks, Council of Europe expert
- 14:45 – 15:15 Discussion**
- 15:15 - 15:30 Coffee break**
- 15: 30 -16:00 Decision-making, sanctioning , cooperation with other institutions**
- **Barbara Jouan Stonestreet**, Council of Europe expert
 - **Alvis Vilks**, Council of Europe expert
- 16:00 – 17:00 Discussion and wrap up of day 1**