



**Anti-Corruption Network
for Eastern Europe and Central Asia**

Anti-Corruption Division
Directorate for Financial and Enterprise Affairs
Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
2, rue André-Pascal, 75775 Paris Cedex 16, France
Phone: +33(0)1 45249106, Fax: +33(0)1 44306307,
E-mail: Anti-Corruption.Network@oecd.org,
Website: www.oecd.org/corruption/acn

6th MONITORING MEETING

of the Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia,
Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and
Ukraine

and

7th ACN STEERING GROUP MEETING

and the 8th Istanbul Action Plan Advisory Group meeting

11-13 December, 2006

OECD Chateau, 2, rue André-Pascal, 75016 Paris

DRAFT AGENDA

This draft Agenda has been developed by the ACN Secretariat. Delegates are invited to provide comments and to adopt this Agenda.

For more information, please contact Mrs. Olga Savran at the ACN Secretariat, tel.: 33 1 45 24 13 81, fax: 33 1 44 30 63 07, e-mail: olga.savran@oecd.org



BACKGROUND

ACN AND ITS STEERING GROUP

The Anti-Corruption Network (ACN) was established in 1998. Its Secretariat is based at the OECD Anti-Corruption Division. The ACN Steering Group was created in 1999 to provide guidance to the Secretariat. The Steering Group had 6 meetings in the past; the last meeting was organised in September 2004 to prepare the ACN General Meeting in May 2005, and to provide inputs for the development of the ACN Work Programme for 2005-2006.

ISTANBUL ACTION PLAN

The Istanbul Action Plan is now the main sub-regional initiative of the ACN. It was endorsed at the ACN General Meeting in September 2003, in Istanbul; it brings together Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Ukraine. The Advisory Group of the Istanbul Action Plan was established in 2003 to assist the ACN Secretariat in developing, implementing and evaluating this initiative.

The implementation of the Istanbul Action Plan includes several phases: review of legal and institutional framework for fighting corruption; implementation of the recommendations endorsed during the reviews; and monitoring progress in implementing the recommendations.

The *reviews* of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and Ukraine have been completed in 2004-2005. The review of Russia has not been completed.

Monitoring of implementation of recommendations consists of two parts: regular *progress updates* presented by the countries during plenary sessions (four rounds of progress updates were organised up to now: in June and in December 2004 and in October 2005; and in June 2006; the fifth round will take place in December 2006) and *country examinations* including country visits by groups of experts and endorsement of monitoring reports (one round of country examinations was organised: monitoring reports for Tajikistan, Georgia and Azerbaijan were endorsed in June 2006; the second round examines Armenia and Ukraine in December 2006; the third round will examine Kazakhstan and the Kyrgyz Republic in 2007).

OBJECTIVES AND LOGISTICS OF THE MEETING

OBJECTIVES

The purpose of the monitoring meeting is to discuss progress in implementing the recommendations by the Istanbul Action Plan countries, including the following:

- Assess progress made by Armenia and Ukraine and to endorse the monitoring reports prepared by the examiners on the basis of the questionnaires and on-site visits;
- Discuss progress made by Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Tajikistan based on the written updates prepared by their governments.

The purpose of the joint meeting of the ACN Steering Group and Istanbul Action Plan Advisory Group is the following:

- Assess progress in implementing the ACN Work Programme for 2005-2006;
- Prepare the programme of the next ACN General Meeting planned for 2007;
- Discuss the priorities for the ACN Work Programme for 2007-2008.

LOGISTICS

Participation in the meetings is by invitation, only. Invitations are extended to all members of the Istanbul Action Plan, selected delegates from other ACN and OECD countries, representatives of IFIs and other international organisations, civil society and business associations.

The meetings will take place in the OECD Headquarters at the following address: **2, rue André-Pascal, 75016 Paris**, in the George Marshall Room of the Chateau.

The meetings will be conducted in English with simultaneous interpretation into Russian.

The funding for this meeting is provided by the Swiss State Secretariat for Economic Affairs (SECO) and the OECD.

SUMMARY PROGRAMME

The meeting will consist of the following main parts:

- Preparatory meetings for the national delegations of Armenia and Ukraine and the monitoring team;
- Plenary session to endorse monitoring reports on Armenia and Ukraine;
- Plenary session to discuss progress reports and updates by the national delegations of Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic and Tajikistan;
- Joint meeting of the ACN Steering Group and the Istanbul Action Plan Advisory Group.

PREPARATORY MEETINGS

The preparatory meetings are organised on Monday, 11 December, in the morning. They will bring together the monitoring team for each country (see below) and the national delegations appointed by the governments. The meetings will provide an opportunity to discuss any outstanding technical issues which can be resolved on a bi-lateral basis. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided.

Armenia

Daniel Thelesklaf, Switzerland – Team Leader
Inese Gaika, Latvia
Nick Koumjan, USA
Faina Yurkina, Russia
Aibek Omokeev, the Kyrgyz Republic
Olga Savran, ACN/OECD

Ukraine

Daniel Thelesklaf, Switzerland – Team Leader
Laura Stefan, Romania
Tina Burjaliani, Georgia
Julio Nabais, SIGMA/OECD
Joop Vrolijk, SIGMA/OECD
Olga Savran, ACN/OECD

Note: *Preparatory meetings are open only for the national delegations of Armenia and Ukraine and for the monitoring teams.*

ENDORSEMENT OF MONITORING REPORTS

The discussion and endorsement of monitoring reports will consist of two plenary readings. At the outset of *the first reading*, the monitoring team will present their assessment and rating of progress in implementation of the Istanbul Action Plan recommendations, following the main pillars of the recommendations:

- Anti-corruption policies and institutions (5-10 min)
- Criminalisation of corruption (5-10 min)
- Integrity of the civil service (5-10 min)

The national delegations will have an opportunity to respond to the assessments presented by the monitoring team (maximum 15 min). All participants will be invited to ask additional question and to discuss the assessments. At the end of the first reading the Chair will summarise the outstanding issues, which will be dealt with during bilateral consultations between the monitoring team and the national delegation on the margins of the plenary sessions.

The *second reading* will open with the clarifications from the monitoring team and the national delegations about any solutions proposed to the outstanding issues. The floor will be then open for the general discussion.

The meeting will be invited to endorse the monitoring reports, including the ratings.

Upon the endorsement, the reports will become public.

DISCUSSION OF COUNTRY UPDATES

The national delegations of the countries, which have undergone the first monitoring phase (Azerbaijan, Georgia and Tajikistan) will be invited to submit a written country progress report on the implementation of the recommendations *since the first monitoring*, based on a format proposed by the Secretariat. These reports have to be submitted to the Secretariat by 30 November 2006 to be considered in the Plenary. No oral presentation will be made. The Secretariat will appoint two experts per country to prepare questions for the oral discussion of the progress reports. These questions will be presented to the national delegations at the beginning of the Plenary.

The national delegations of the countries which have not yet undergone the first monitoring (Kazakhstan and Kyrgyz Republic) will be invited to submit a written country update on the implementation of the recommendations *since the review*, based on a format proposed by the Secretariat. These reports have to be submitted to the Secretariat by 30 November 2006. These progress reports will be available in written form. No oral presentation will be made. The Chair will open the floor or all the participants to discuss the updates.

The summary of the discussion will be prepared by the Secretariat, and will be made public together with the national updates after the meeting.

Since the Russian Federation has not completed its review yet, and no recommendations were endorsed, the country will be invited to inform about its intention to complete the review. Should the review not take place by mid 2007, the members of the Istanbul Action Plan will consider suspending the membership of the Russian Federation.

ACN STEERING GROUP AND ISTANBUL ACTION PLAN ADVISORY GROUP

The joint meeting of the ACN Steering Group and of the Istanbul Action Plan Advisory Group will bring together all the members of the Istanbul Action Plan and ACN delegates, who are present at the meeting in their various capacities, such as National Coordinators or monitoring experts. The meeting will consist of two parts: the first part will take place on Tuesday, 12 December between 16.00 and 17.30 and the second part on Wednesday, 13 December between 10.00 and 12.00.

During the first part, the Chair will invite the ACN Secretariat to make a brief report about the implementation of the ACN Work Programme for 2005-2006. The Chair will invite all the delegates to identify main successes and main challenges in the ACN activities over the past two years.

During the second part, the first hour will be dedicated to the discussion of the objectives and programme of the next ACN General Meeting, planned for 2007. The Chair will invite the ACN Secretariat to make a brief presentation of the possible agenda, and will invite all the participants to express their views and to prioritise the proposed agenda items. The delegates will also discuss the timing and location of the meeting.

The second hour will be dedicated to the development of the ACN Work Programme for 2007-2008. The Chair will invite the ACN Secretariat to outline the future work programme for the next two years. Following a brief presentation of the Secretariat, the Chair will invite all the participants to express their views and to make suggestions concerning the priorities for the next two years of the ACN Work Programme.

DRAFT AGENDA

Monday, 11 December 2006

BILATERAL PREPARATORY MEETINGS	
9.30	Armenia (only for the Armenian delegation and the monitoring experts)
11.00	Ukraine (only for the Ukrainian delegation and the monitoring experts)
12.30	<i>Lunch</i>
Plenary 1	COUNTRY EXAMINATIONS
14.00	Examination of Ukraine: First Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation of the draft report by the monitoring team• Comments of the national delegation• Discussion and outstanding issues
16.30	<i>Coffee break</i>
Plenary 2	COUNTRY UPDATES
17.00	Progress Report by Azerbaijan <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion
17.30	Progress Report by Georgia <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion

18:00 *Bi-lateral consultation with Ukraine*

Tuesday, 12 December 2006

Plenary 3	COUNTRY EXAMINATIONS (continued)
9.30	Examination of Armenia: First Reading <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation of the draft report by the monitoring team• Comments of the national delegation• Discussion and outstanding issues
12.00	<i>Lunch</i>
13.30	Examination of Ukraine: Second Reading and Adoption of the Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion of the outstanding issues• Adoption of the monitoring report
Plenary 4	COUNTRY UPDATES (continued)
14.00	Update from Kazakhstan <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion
14.30	Update from the Kyrgyz Republic <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion
15.00	Progress Report by Tajikistan <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion
15.30	<i>Coffee break</i>
Plenary 5	ACN STEERING GROUP AND ISTANBUL ACTION PLAN ADVISORY GROUP – JOINT MEETING
16.00	ACN activities in the past biennium <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Report on implementation of the ACN Work Programme 2005-2006• Discussion

17:30 *Bi-lateral consultation with Armenia*

Wednesday, 13 December 2006

Plenary 6	COUNTRY EXAMINATIONS (continued)
9.30	Examination of Armenia: Second Reading and Adoption of the Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion of the outstanding issues• Adoption of the monitoring report
Plenary 7	ACN STEERING GROUP AND ISTANBUL ACTION PLAN ADVISORY GROUP – JOINT MEETING (continued)
10.00	ACN activities in the next biennium <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Programme of 2007 ACN General Meeting• Priorities for the ACN Work Programme for 2007-2008
12:00	<i>End of the meeting</i>