

ACN

Anti-Corruption Network
for Eastern Europe and Central Asia

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

7th General Meeting

AGENDA

25-27 June 2008, Tbilisi, Georgia
Sheraton Metechi Palace

Hosted by the Government of Georgia

Organised by the OECD, in cooperation with
the OSCE, the American Bar Association Rule of Law Initiative and USAID

For any information about the meeting, please contact the organisers:

Government of Georgia

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BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Anti-Corruption Network for Eastern Europe and Central Asia (ACN) was established in October 1998. The ACN includes transition economies in Central, Eastern, and South Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia, as well as OECD member states. International organisations, multilateral development banks (MDBs), donor agencies, civil society and business associations also participate in its activities. The Secretariat of the ACN is based at the OECD.

The main objectives of the ACN is to support its members in their fight against corruption by providing a regional forum for the promotion of anti-corruption activities, exchange of information, elaboration of best practices and donor coordination. The ACN operates through its general meetings, thematic activities and sub-regional initiatives. The ACN Steering Group provides guidance to the Secretariat in elaborating, implementing and monitoring the Work Programme. The ACN web site www.oecd.org/corruption/acn provides regularly updated information about its activities.

General meetings provide a unique regional multi-stakeholder forum for the transition economies, with flexible structure and high-level political attendance. They gather about 100 participants and allow for an open discussion between national governments, civil society, donors, international organisations and IFIs, and provide valuable networking opportunities. The most recent General Meeting took place on 30 – 31 May 2005 in Istanbul.

7TH GENERAL MEETING

The 7th General Meeting will pursue the objectives of the ACN: it will review progress achieved by its members in fighting corruption and will provide a forum for the ACN members to exchange experiences and good practices on the key priority areas of fighting corruption in the region, including the following:

1. International anti-corruption conventions and monitoring mechanisms: prioritises for the ACN region
2. Role of business in preventing and fighting corruption
3. Investigation and prosecution of complex and high level corruption cases
4. Prevention of corruption: management of conflict of interest and asset declarations for public officials
5. Ways to mobilise societal support to anti-corruption political agenda.

The special session on the agenda will allow learning about the recent experience of Georgia in fighting corruption. Meeting of donor representatives will provide an opportunity for bilateral and multilateral assistance agencies and international organisations to share their views on the anti-corruption priorities for the region and planned donor activities. The ACN Steering Group meeting, which will meet back-to-back with the General Meeting, will discuss future activities of the ACN, including Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan. In addition to the official programme, the meeting will provide useful opportunities for informal exchange of information, networking and building contacts.

PARTICIPANTS

The 7th ACN General Meeting aims to bring delegates from the transition economies together with delegates from some OECD and EU governments, international organisations and MDBs, academic and other experts working on anti-corruption issues in the region.

As in the past, we expect some 100 participants at the meeting. Participation in the meeting is open to all ACN members and partners free of charge. All delegates must register with the ACN Secretariat in order to get access to the meeting.

Funding will be available for two public officials and one civil society delegate from the following countries: Albania, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, FYR of Macedonia, Moldova, Montenegro, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Tajikistan, Ukraine, Uzbekistan and Turkmenistan. This funding will cover travel, accommodation and meals during 3 days of the meeting.

AGENDA

Wednesday, 25 June 2008

13.00 *Registration*

14:00 **OPENING**

Introductory speeches:

- **Mr. Vladimer Gurgenzidze**, Prime Minister of Georgia
- **Mr. John F. Tefft**, Ambassador of the United States of America to Georgia
- **Mrs. Terhi Hakala**, Head of the OSCE Mission to Georgia
- **Mr. Nicola Bonucci**, Director for Legal Affairs, OECD

14.45 **PLENARY SESSION 1: International Anti-Corruption Agenda**

Chair: **Mr. Nicola Bonucci**, Director for Legal Affairs, OECD

Key Note Speakers:

- **Mr. Drago Kos**, President, GRECO: *"Monitoring anti-corruption efforts in Europe"*
- **Mr. Patrick Moulette**, Head, Anti-Corruption Division, OECD: *"Fighting international bribery and building anti-corruption partnerships"*
- **Mr. Giovanni Gallo**, Anti-Corruption Expert, UNODC: *"The UN Convention against Corruption and its review mechanism in the making"*
- **Mrs. Monica Macovei**, UK Consultant for Advising the Prime Minister of Macedonia on Anti-corruption Issues, former Minister of Justice of Romania: *"Vital elements for the success of the fight against corruption in post-communist countries: how to address political corruption"*

Discussion: *Where do ACN countries stand vis-à-vis international conventions and monitoring mechanisms: achievements, challenges and priorities for action.*

15.45 *Coffee break*

16.00 **PLENARY SESSION 2: Georgia Fighting Corruption**

Recent experience of Georgia in fighting corruption

Presentation by the Georgian authorities:

- **Mr. Vakhtang Lejava**, First Deputy Minister of Economic Development of Georgia
- **Mrs. Tiko Burjaliani**, First Deputy Minister of Justice of Georgia
- **Mrs. Eka Zguladze**, Deputy Minister of Interior of Georgia

Questions and answers

18.00 *Welcoming cocktail at the Sheraton Metechi Palace on behalf of the co-organisers*

Thursday, 26 June 2008

9:30 **PLENARY SESSION 3: Role of Business in Fighting Corruption**

Chair: **Mr. Nicola Bonucci**, Director for Legal Affairs, OECD

Key Note Speakers:

- **Mr. Kakha Bendukidze**, Head of the Chancellery of the Government of Georgia
- **Mr. Francois Vincke**, International Chamber of Commerce
- **Mr. Archil Bakuradze**, ICC-Georgia
- **Mr. Gunnar Björkenor**, ABB, Switzerland
- **Mr. Michael Davey**, EBRD Director for Caucasus, Moldova and Belarus

10.45 *Coffee break*

11.00 Key Note Speakers (continued):

- **Mr. Nadjat Kadyrov**, Confederation of Employers of Kazakhstan
- **Mr. Michael D. Jarvis**, Business, Competitiveness, and Development Programme, World Bank Institute

Discussion: *What can governments do to promote integrity in the private sector; what can companies do to prevent and fight corruption in the private sector; what can governments and companies do together? What worked in other countries, and what can be done in the ACN region?*

12.30 **Transparency International presentation of Global Corruption Report 2008**

- **Mr. Manoj Nadkarni**, Transparency International
TI Global Corruption Report 2008 featuring good governance in the water sector

12.50 *ACN 'family photo'*

13.00 *Lunch*

14:00 **THEMATIC SESSION 1: Investigation of complex and high level corruption cases**

Chair: **Mr. Robert Leventhal**, Director, Anticorruption Programs and Governance Initiatives, Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, State Department, USA

Presentation of cases:

- **Mr. Daniel Morar**, Head, National Anti-Corruption Directorate (DNA), Romania
- **Mr. Kamran Aliyev**, Director, Anti-Corruption Department, Azerbaijan

THEMATIC SESSION 2: Conflict of interests and asset declarations of public officials

Chair: **Mr. Drago Kos**, President of GRECO and Chairman of the Commission for the Prevention of Corruption, Slovenia

Presentation of existing practices

- **Mrs. Jane Ley**, Deputy Director, Office of Government Ethics (OGE), USA
- **Mrs. Patricia Dufour**, Central Service for Prevention of Corruption (SCPC), France

- **Mrs. Tanya Nedkova**, District Prosecutor, Bulgaria
- **Mr. Peter Strasser**, Federal Prosecutor, USA
- **Mrs. Jolanta Petkevičienė**, Chairperson of Chief Official Ethics Commission (VTEK), Lithuania
- **Mrs. Fatmira Laska**, Inspector General, High Inspectorate for Declaration and Audit of Assets, Albania

Questions and Answers, Discussion

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15.30 *Coffee break*

15.45 Presentations (continued):

- **Mr. Daniel Thelesklaf**, Executive Director, Basel Institute on Governance, Switzerland: *“Recovery of stolen assets – challenges and practical solutions”*
- **Mr. Klaudio Stroligo**, Senior Financial Sector Specialist, World Bank: *“Use of anti-money laundering tools for anti-corruption purposes”*

Presentation of existing practices (continued):

- **Mr. Alexandru Catalin Macovei**, Director, National Integrity Agency (ANI), Romania
- **Mrs. Mari-Liis Sööt**, Ministry of Justice, Estonia

Discussion: What are the key obstacles and solutions for effective prosecution of corruption, based on the presentation of cases involving political corruption, privatisation, procurement, foreign bribery, immunities, MLA, legal persons, asset recovery, confiscation, financial investigations and independence of law enforcement bodies.

Discussion: What is the emerging best practice in the area of conflict of interest; based on the presentation of countries’ approaches for managing of conflict of interest and asset declarations. Other measures to prevent corruption in public administration (black listing, codes of ethics, lobbying, revolving doors, and whistleblower protection) could also be addressed.

**17.30 CONSULTATION SESSION:
Role of donors and international organisations in the fight against corruption**

This session is for the representatives of the donor agencies and international organisations only.

The purpose of this session is to allow bilateral and multilateral assistance agencies and international organisations to share information about their priorities for anti-corruption work in the ACN region.

Friday, 27 June 2008

9:00 THEMATIC SESSION 3: Public support for fighting corruption

THEMATIC SESSION 4: Business integrity

Chair: **Mrs. Tamuna Karosanidze**, Transparency International Georgia

Chair: **Mr. Francois Vincke**, International Chamber of Commerce

Presentations:

- **Mr. Pauls Raudseps**, Editor, Daily

Presentations:

- **Mr. Michael D. Jarvis**, Business,

newspaper Diena, Latvia: “*Role of citizens, media, politicians and government in influencing the future of the Latvian anti-corruption body*”

- **Mrs. Laura Stefan**, Romanian Academic Society, Romania: “*Role of NGOs - taking the process one step further on stormy days*”
- **Mrs. Lilia Carasciuc**, TI Moldova
- **Mr. Mustafa Nayem**, Journalist, Internet Edition Ukrayinska Pravda, Ukraine: “*Role of investigative journalism in the fight against corruption*”

Discussion: How to build trust of public in government and law-enforcement bodies. How to promote reporting of corruption by public. NGOs as watch dogs. How can government and media mobilise public to support anti-corruption efforts. Public participation in decision making. Complaints mechanisms.

Competitiveness, and Development Programme, World Bank Institute

- **Mr. Archil Bakuradze**, International Association of Business and Parliament

Discussion: This thematic session will build on the Plenary Session 3, and will provide an opportunity for business delegates and business associations to discuss any possible follow-up they may wish to organise after this ACN meeting on regional or country level.

10.45 Coffee break

11.00 PLENARY SESSION 4: ACN Steering Group Meeting

Chair: **Mr. Patrick Moulette**, OECD

Summary of the meeting discussions

Reports back from the thematic sessions

Future activities of the ACN

Mrs. Olga Savran, ACN Manager, OECD

Mr. Daniel Thelesklaf, Basel Institute on Governance, Switzerland

Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan: monitoring proposal for 2008-2010

Thematic activities: recent publications and future activities

Closure of the meeting

13.00 Lunch

15.30

Trip to Signagi, historic town in Eastern Georgia

18.30

National dinner on behalf of the Government of Georgia

22.00

Return to Tbilisi