

ACN

**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 45241319, Fax: +33(0)1 44306307,
E-mail: anti-corruption.contact@oecd.org
Website: www.oecd.org/corruption/acn

**8TH MONITORING MEETING OF THE ISTANBUL ANTI-CORRUPTION
ACTION PLAN,**

**10TH STEERING GROUP MEETING OF THE ANTI-CORRUPTION
NETWORK FOR EASTERN EUROPE AND CENTRAL ASIA**

AND

**2ND EXPERT SEMINAR “ASSET DECLARATIONS FOR PUBLIC OFFICIALS
– A TOOL AGAINST CORRUPTION”**

29-31 March, 2010

Room 13, OECD Conference Centre, 2 rue André-Pascal, 75016 Paris

AGENDA

This Agenda was developed by the ACN Secretariat and adopted by the delegates.
For more information, please contact Ms. Inese Gaika, ACN Secretariat, tel.: 33 1 45 24 13 19,
fax: 33 1 44 30 63 07, e-mail: inese.gaika@oecd.org



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Federal Department of Economic Affairs FDEA
State Secretariat for Economic Affairs SECO

BACKGROUND

The **Anti-Corruption Network for Eastern Europe and Central Asia** (ACN) was established in 1998. The main objective of the ACN is to support its member countries in their fight against corruption by providing a regional forum for promotion of anti-corruption activities, exchange of information, elaboration of best practices and donor coordination. The ACN targets countries in Central, Eastern, and South Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Central Asia. OECD and EU Member Countries, international organisations, multilateral development banks, donor countries, civil society and business associations also participate in the activities of the ACN. The Secretariat of the ACN is based at the OECD Anti-Corruption Division. It is guided by the ACN Steering Group and it reports to the OECD Working Group on Bribery as a part of its global relations work programme. The ACN operates through general meetings and conferences, sub-regional initiatives and thematic projects. The last ACN Conference took place in Astana on 16-18 September 2009.

For proceedings of the Astana conference and further information on ACN visit our web site at www.oecd.org/corruption/acn.

The **Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan** has been the main sub-regional initiative of the ACN since 2003. It brings together Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and Ukraine. In November 2009 Uzbekistan expressed willingness to join the IAP.

Implementation of the Istanbul Action Plan includes: review of legal and institutional framework for fighting corruption and adoption of recommendations; monitoring progress in implementing the recommendations; and providing regular updates. The reviews were completed in 2004-2005. The first round of monitoring lasted from 2005 to 2007. The 2nd Monitoring Round was launched in 2008; the first two countries reviewed under this procedure are Georgia and Azerbaijan.

In the past the ACN has implemented several thematic projects and developed a number of analytical publications, including "Corruption: A Glossary of International Standards in Criminal Law" and "Specialised Anti-Corruption Institutions: Review of Models ". In 2009 the ACN has launched a new project "Asset declaration as a tool to prevent corruption" that includes expert meetings and a study containing policy recommendations. The first seminar under this project was organised in October 2009 in Belgrade.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

The purpose of the monitoring meeting is to discuss progress made by the Istanbul Action Plan countries in their anti-corruption reform efforts, including the following:

- Assess progress made by Georgia and Azerbaijan and endorse the monitoring reports prepared by the examiners on the basis of the monitoring questionnaire and on-site visits;
- Discuss progress made by Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and Ukraine during the *tour de table* based on progress reports prepared by these countries.

The purpose of the expert seminar is to:

- Discuss a draft study with the focus on the policy recommendations;
- Provide inputs to the completion of the case studies.

The purpose of the ACN Steering Group meeting is the following:

- Discuss the ACN Work Programme 2010 and beyond;
- Discuss the participation of Uzbekistan in the Istanbul Action Plan.

MONITORING MEETING

PREPARATORY MEETINGS

The preparatory meetings are organised on Sunday, 28 March in the afternoon. These meetings aim to bring together the monitoring team for each country (see below) and the national delegations of Georgia and Azerbaijan. The meetings will provide an opportunity to discuss any outstanding technical issues which can be resolved on a bi-lateral basis.

Georgia

Mr. Daniel Thelesklaf, Switzerland – Team Leader
 Ms. Mari-Liis Sööt, Estonia
 Ms. Olena Smirnova, Ukraine
 Mr. Peter Strasser, USA
 Mr. Dmytro Kotliar, OECD
 Ms. Olga Savran, OECD/SIGMA

Azerbaijan

Ms. Anne Lugon-Moulin, Switzerland – Team Leader
 Ms. Diāna Kurpniece, Latvia
 Mr. Gheorghe Bocsan, Romania
 Mr. Ali Ibragim Saidzoda, Tajikistan
 Ms. Cynthia Eldridge, USA
 Ms. Olga Savran, OECD/SIGMA

Note: *Preparatory meetings are **only** open for delegations of Georgia and Azerbaijan and monitoring teams.*

MONITORING REPORTS

The discussion and endorsement of monitoring reports will consist of two readings at plenary sessions, open to all the delegates to the meeting. 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, the updated and new recommendations, following the three pillars of the reports:

- Anti-corruption policy (5-10 min);
- Criminalisation of corruption (5-10 min);
- Prevention of corruption (10-15 min).

Afterwards, 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 questions 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 in the margins of the plenary sessions.

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

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

Upon the endorsement, the reports will become public.

TOUR DE TABLE

Starting with this meeting the *tour de table* will shift its focus from general country updates on all recommendations to presentation of main highlights of anti-corruption efforts and key corruption cases by each country, as agreed in the “Second Round of Monitoring: Procedure and Questionnaire” adopted in 2008.

At this meeting Armenia, Tajikistan, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic and Ukraine will be invited to present and submit in writing progress reports according to the new format, which is as follows.

The report should include two to three main highlights of anti-corruption efforts undertaken by the country since its last progress update. The report should also include summary on one or two most important corruption cases, which are currently under investigation, prosecution or adjudication.

Criteria for selection of the cases are as follows: - investigation of bribery or other corruption related offence; - at least one accused is a public official at senior level or the case has attracted major public attention; and - international dimension.

Following information should be included about each case: - how the case was detected; - short description of established facts; - offences involved; - stage of proceedings (investigation/prosecution/trial); - main results (arrested, suspected, or convicted persons); - provisional measures applied (e.g. arrest of assets); - MLA requests prepared and other relevant information that can be provided.

Following each presentation, specific questions related to presentations can be asked. Following all the presentations, the Chair will open the floor for any questions to reporting countries and discussion.

Countries are invited to submit their presentations in writing 2 weeks prior to the meeting and indicate if any parts of the presentation related to the cases cannot be made public according to the country’s legislation or in the interest of investigation.

BACK-TO-BACK SEMINAR ON ASSET DECLARATIONS

In the framework of the project jointly implemented by the ACN and the [OECD-EU SIGMA programme](#) “Asset Declarations for Public Officials as a Tool against Corruption” the second expert seminar will take place back-to-back with this meeting.

The draft study “Asset Declarations for Public Officials as a Tool against Corruption” was developed by Mr. Valts Kalnins (Latvia) and Ms. Laura Stefan (Romania). This study presents a systematic overview of existing systems of declarations for public officials, case studies on selected countries and policy recommendations. The study is based on results from the questionnaire filled and returned by 20 countries – Albania, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Estonia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kosovo, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Romania, Slovenia, Spain (Catalonia), Tajikistan, and Ukraine.

As outlined below, this second expert seminar on asset declarations aims to:

- Discuss the draft study;
- Discuss and endorse policy recommendations;
- Discuss case studies and agree on further inputs needed from countries in view of the finalisation of the study.

ACN STEERING GROUP

This meeting is open to all members of the ACN and the Istanbul Action Plan, including country delegates, national coordinators, monitoring experts, international partners and donors, as well as civil society organisations.

The first part of the meeting will address the participation of Uzbekistan in the Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan. Uzbekistan will be invited to make a presentation. The members of the Steering Group will invite Uzbekistan to join the Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan. The Secretariat will inform about steps taken by Uzbekistan to complete the questionnaire and propose a schedule for the review of Uzbekistan.

The second part of the meeting will discuss the ACN Work Programme for 2010 and beyond. The meeting will discuss the monitoring under the Istanbul Action Plan and the ACN/ Istanbul Action Plan Peer Learning Programme. The Steering Group will be invited to provide feedback about this programme and indications regarding possible involvement and support.

PARTICIPANTS

The meeting will bring together delegates from ACN and Istanbul Action Plan countries. OECD and European Union member states, as well as selected other countries are invited. Representatives of international organisations and multilateral development banks, civil society and business associations will be invited. Invitations are extended to the ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific, OECD-AfDB Initiative to support business integrity and anti-bribery efforts in Africa and the OECD-Latin America Anti-Corruption Initiative.

The Istanbul Action Plan national coordinators are invited to take part in the monitoring meeting. Officials from ACN countries responsible for Asset Declarations are invited to participate in the expert seminar. All delegates are invited to attend other sessions of the meeting and take part in the Steering group.

MEETING VENUE AND OTHER LOGISTICAL INFORMATION

Participation in the meetings is by invitation, only.

Venue for monitoring meeting, Steering Group meeting and expert seminar –

OECD Conference Centre
Room 13
2 rue André-Pascal, 75016 Paris

Venue for preparatory meetings and bilateral consultations –

OECD annex Marshall Building
2nd floor, meeting room 2122
2 rue André-Pascal, 75016 Paris

(building in front of the OECD Conference Centre)

More information on OECD Conference Centre at www.oecd.org/conferencecentre.

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), the US Department of State and the OECD.

The **costs will be covered** to one delegate per country and to two delegates per monitored country. Funding will be provided to monitoring experts and authors of the asset declaration study. In some cases funding will be provided to experts on asset declaration, if no other country delegate can cover this topic.

CONTACT DETAILS OF ORGANISERS

For information about the agenda, contact:

Ms. Inese Gaika
Anti-Corruption Division
OECD
Tel. : +33 1 45241319
Email : inese.gaika@oecd.org

For information about organizational matters, contact:

Ms. Dianne Fowler
Anti-Corruption Division
OECD
Tel.: + 33 1 45 24 17 19
Fax: + 33 1 44 30 63 07
Email: dianne.fowler@oecd.org

DRAFT AGENDA

Sunday, 28 March 2010

BILATERAL PREPARATORY MEETINGS

15.00 Azerbaijan (only for delegation of Azerbaijan and the monitoring experts)

17.00 Georgia (only for delegation of Georgia and the monitoring experts)

Monday, 29 March 2010

8TH MONITORING MEETING OF THE ISTANBUL ACTION PLAN

9.30 *Chair: Mr. Patrick Moulette, Head, Anti-Corruption Division, OECD*

Opening remarks

Mr. Richard Boucher, OECD Deputy Secretary-General

Adoption of the agenda

Plenary 1 COUNTRY EXAMINATIONS

10.00 *Chair: Mr. Daniel Thelesklaf, Basel Institute on Governance, Switzerland*

Examination of Georgia: 1st Reading

- Presentation of the draft report by the monitoring team
- Comments of the national delegation
- Discussion of outstanding issues

11.30 *Coffee break*

12.30 *Lunch break*

Plenary 2 TOUR DE TABLE

14.00 *Chair: Mr. Daniel Thelesklaf, Basel Institute on Governance, Switzerland*

Progress report by Armenia

14.30 **Progress report by Kazakhstan**

15.00 **Progress report by Kyrgyzstan**

15.30 *Coffee break*

16.00 **Progress report by Tajikistan**

16.30	Progress report by Ukraine
17.00	Discussion

18.00-20.00 *Bi-lateral consultations with Georgia*

Tuesday, 30 March 2010

Plenary 3	COUNTRY EXAMINATIONS (continued)
10.00	<i>Chair: Mr. Daniel Thelesklaf, Basel Institute on Governance, Switzerland</i>
	Examination of Azerbaijan: 1st 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
11.30	<i>Coffee break</i>
12.30	<i>Lunch break</i>
Plenary 4	BACK-TO-BACK EXPERT SEMINAR ON ASSET DECLARATIONS AND DISCUSSION OF POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS
14.00	<i>Facilitator: Ms. Olga Savran, OECD SIGMA</i>
	ACN/SIGMA joint project “Asset Declarations for Public Officials – a Tool to Prevent Corruption”
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Ms. Olga Savran, OECD SIGMA</i>
	World Bank study on income and asset declarations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr. Gary J. Reid, World Bank</i>
	Draft study “Asset Declarations for Public Officials – a Tool to Prevent Corruption” and policy recommendations
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr. Valts Kalniņš, Centre for Public Policy “Providus”, Latvia</i> • <i>Ms. Laura Stefan, Romanian Academic Society, Romania</i>
16.00	<i>Coffee break</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Discussion and endorsement of policy recommendations • Discussion of case studies and next steps
	Strategy of the New Asset Department in Afghanistan
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Mr. Qaseem Ludin, Deputy Director General/ Mr. Ahmad Zaki Ahmadzai, Director of Asset Registration, High Office of Oversight and Anti Corruption, Afghanistan</i>

18.00-20.00 *Bi-lateral consultations with Azerbaijan*

Wednesday, 31 March 2010

Plenary 5	COUNTRY EXAMINATIONS (continued)
10.00	<i>Chair: Mr. Daniel Thelesklaf, Basel Institute on Governance, Switzerland</i> Examination of Georgia: 2nd Reading and Adoption of the Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion of the outstanding issues• Adoption of the monitoring report
11.00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.30	Examination of Azerbaijan: 2nd Reading and Adoption of the Report <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Discussion of the outstanding issues• Adoption of the monitoring report
12.30	<i>Lunch break</i>
Plenary 6	ACN STEERING GROUP MEETING
14.00	<i>Chairs: Mr. Patrick Moulette, Head of Anti-Corruption Division, OECD and Ms. Oksana Markeeva, National Security and Defense Council, Ukraine</i> Participation of Uzbekistan in the Istanbul Action Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Mr. Evgeniy Kolenko, General Prosecutor's Office of Uzbekistan</i> ACN Work Programme in 2010 and beyond <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Ms. Inese Gaika, ACN Manager, OECD</i>• Discussion ACN donor support <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Mr. Martin Shenton, SECO, Switzerland</i> Update on GRECO's 3rd and 4th Evaluation Rounds <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Mr. Wolfgang Rau, Executive Secretary, GRECO</i> Education corruption – proposal for sub-sectoral follow-up work <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Mr. Mihaylo Milovanovich, Directorate for Education, OECD</i> OECD Working Group on Bribery – role of global relations and global awareness raising campaign <ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>Mr. Patrick Moulette, Head of Anti-Corruption Division, OECD</i> <i>End of the meeting</i>
17.00	<i>Cocktail</i>