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

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

**Monitoring of National Actions to Implement Recommendations Endorsed During the Reviews
of Legal and Institutional Frameworks for the Fight against Corruption**

GEORGIA

**Update about actions to implement the recommendations taken during
December 2006-September 2007**

Presented by Georgia at the 7th Monitoring Meeting on 26-28 September 2007

Since the last update about national implementation measures for discussion at the 6th Monitoring Meeting of the Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan on 13 December 2006, **Georgia has ratified the Council of Europe Criminal Law Convention on Corruption**. Accordingly amendments have been made in the legislation, introducing the liability of a legal person, including the definition of foreign public official in the definition of corruption offence, expanding the corruption offence on the various other accounting offences and etc.

In this period the Government of Georgia has been **working on the ratification of the UN convention on Corruption** and harmonising its principles with Georgian legislation. The Government of Georgia is undergoing an official procedure for ratification, which will be finished by the end of this year.

The Government of Georgia is working on **the new law which will combine the Law on conflict of interest and Corruption and the principles of the CoE model of code of conduct for Public officials**. The working process is in the phase of the public and political discussions.

In the past period Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination has elaborated **the updated National Anti-corruption Action Plan for 2007-2008**. On May 16th, 2007 the Government approved the new Anti-Corruption Action Plan, which was signed by the President on July 2, 2007.

The draft new National Anti-corruption Strategy is also elaborated by the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination and has presented for the discussions to other stakeholders and civil society.

To streamline the implementation of the Action Plan, an **Implementation Group was created**, included deputy ministers from all agencies involved in the Anti-corruption Action Plan (ACAP) as well as reporting system was determined, according to which the ministries report to the State Minister on Reforms Coordination about implementation of ACAP. As a result the network of responsible and informed high-ranked officials acting *inter alia* as the focal points for public outreach and relations has emerged. This mechanism has proved to be efficient in coordinating the implementation of complex reforms and in reaching out for public.

Using this network, **two reports (midterm i.e. 6 month and the annual reports) were elaborated by the Office of the State Minister on Reforms Coordination on ACAP implementation and submitted to the Cabinet of Ministers and later to the President**. The report not only describes the status quo of the ACAP implementation, but assesses the substance of the actions under the ACAP identifying strength and weaknesses. Each of the draft reports was discussed at the conferences with participation of civil society representatives and involved parties. The comments and recommendations of participants, made during conferences and also later provided in writing, were considered later in the process. The reports were made public and posted on the website of the Government of Georgia.

The compliance/adoption of the above-mentioned reforms will have positive result on the implementation of the OECD recommendations for Georgia.