



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL HOME AFFAIRS

REGIONAL WORKSHOP EU ANTI-CORRUPTION REPORT

SOFIA, 10- 11 DECEMBER 2012

Sheraton Sofia Hotel Balkan

AGENDA

Monday, 10 December

19:00-21:00 Dinner buffet hosted by the Commission at the Sheraton Sofia Hotel Balkan.

Tuesday, 11 December

09.00- 9.45 **Opening Plenary Session** (*open to the press*)

Welcoming remarks

- Ms. Maria Åsenius, Head of Cabinet Commissioner MALMSTRÖM
- Mr. Ognian Shentov, Chairman of the Center for the Study of Democracy
- Minister of Interior of the Republic of BULGARIA, H.E. Tsvetan TSVETANOV

9.45 – 10.00 **Presentation of the EU Anti-Corruption Report**

Jakub Boratynski DG Home Affairs Head of Unit: Fight against Organised Crime.
Introduction and explanation of the EU Anti-Corruption Report. The rationale of the Report, the foreseen challenges and the expectations of the Report.

10.00-10.30 Q&A

10.30-10.45 **Division in sub-groups and explanations on working method**

The 14 countries should be divided into 7 sub-groups of two countries with circa 12 participants in each subgroup.

Each sub-group shall have one secretary/rapporteur. The rapporteur will present the groups' main findings and conclusion in the Plenary. There will be two plenaries, one in the morning and one in the afternoon.

Coffee 10.45 – 11.00

11.00-11.45 **First panel - Good and negative practices regarding:**

- **financing of political parties and electoral campaigns;**
- **integrity of elected officials** (including federal/central/regional and local level);
- **systemic obstacles to investigation, prosecution, and/or adjudication of corruption cases.** Such obstacles may regard: political pressure, insufficient capacity (human and financial resources), procedural or legal obstacles (e.g. deficient criminal law and criminal procedure law provisions); problems with statutes of limitations; problems with immunities; lack of knowledge or expertise; excessive length of proceedings; insufficient or excessive discretionary powers, etc.
- **regulation and transparency of lobbying and revolving door policies;**

11.45-12.15 **Second panel - good and negative practices regarding:**

- **prevention and fight against corruption in the private sector;**
- **protection and incentivising of whistleblowers in both public and private sector;**
- **ownership and independence of media.**

12.15 12.45 **Wrap-up of main findings in each group**

Lunch buffet 12.45-13.45.

13.45-14.45 **Presentations by 7 rapporteurs of main finding by each group (Plenary)**

14.45-15.30 **Third panel - good and negative practices regarding:**

- **impact of specialised anti-corruption agencies/services/institutions/bodies.** This should include both the prevention and the law enforcement side and would include any type of specialised authorities/services, autonomous or not, multifunctional or not, independent or as part of another institution;
- **capacity of the judiciary to deal with corruption cases, included aspects of integrity within the judiciary;**
- good practices only regarding **other institutions than law enforcement** which proved to contribute significantly to the fight against corruption and detection/investigation of corruption cases (e.g. audit institutions, tax authorities, Ombudsman, FIUs, etc).

15.30-16.15 **Fourth panel - good and negative practices regarding:**

- **transparency and easy access to information on public spending.** Any examples of benefits and disadvantages of publication of concluded contracts (or certain clauses thereof) should also be mentioned under this item;
- practices for detection and removal of **conflicts of interests in public procurement;**
- practices for effective **red flagging systems for detecting fraud and corruption in public procurement** and for **centralising data** on fraud, corruption and conflicts of interests in public procurement;
- mention maximum three **most common public sectors vulnerable to corruption or affected by corruption** in the Member States.

Coffee 16.15 – 16.30

- 16.30 – 17.00 **Wrap-up of main findings in each group**
- 17.00- 18.00 **Presentations by 7 rapporteurs of main finding by each group (Plenary)**
- 18.00-18.30 **Overall feedback from workshop participants and recommendations to the EU
Anti-Corruption Report**
- 18.30 End of workshop
- 18.30 *Cocktail/drinks and finger food*