



## **2<sup>nd</sup> Negotiation meeting on International Treaty on Exchange of Data for the Verification of Asset Declarations**

Podgorica, Montenegro, 27 March 2019

Recalling the conclusions from the three technical level regional meetings in Zagreb in 2015, Tirana and Sofia in 2016, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Negotiation Meeting at IACA Laxenburg, Austria in 2018, participating delegations from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Kosovo\* (Observer), Moldova (Observer), North Macedonia, Serbia and the host country Montenegro; partner organizations RCC and UNODC; and the Delegation of the EU to Montenegro and the Austrian Embassy Podgorica as guests, together with the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative as organizer have reached the following

### **CONCLUSIONS**

- Attending delegations, partners and guests reiterated their commitment to curbing corruption through strengthening regional cooperation;
- Attending delegations, partners and guests communicated their principal support for the International Treaty on Exchange of Data for the Verification of Asset Declarations;
- All attending delegations acknowledge and commend the support to the process by the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) and the Austrian Government;
- RAI Secretariat will prepare and distribute amendments and explanatory notes discussed and agreed during the second negotiation meeting within a month from the adoption of the Conclusions. Countries will communicate their feedback through silent procedure one month after the receipt of the amended text;
- Attending delegations agree to hold the International Treaty Signing Ceremony as soon as possible, preferably not later than November 2019; RAI Secretariat will propose dates and opportunities for the signing of the Treaty;
- Serbia has reiterated its readiness to be the Depository of the International Treaty;
- Bulgaria declared its readiness to be the Depository of the International Treaty;
- Delegations will submit their positions<sup>i</sup> regarding the Depository to RAI Secretariat within one month from today;
- Attending delegations acknowledge that RAI will continue to facilitate the International Treaty process multilaterally as well as bilaterally;
- RAI Secretariat will inform countries and stakeholders that were not present at the second round of negotiations of the aforementioned Conclusions.

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\* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244/1999 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

<sup>i</sup> Delegations present at the meeting – through confidential procedure – gave 3 votes to Serbia as depository, 2 to Bulgaria, and one delegation abstained; observing delegations (Kosovo\* and Moldova) did not take part in this non-binding, indicative vote.