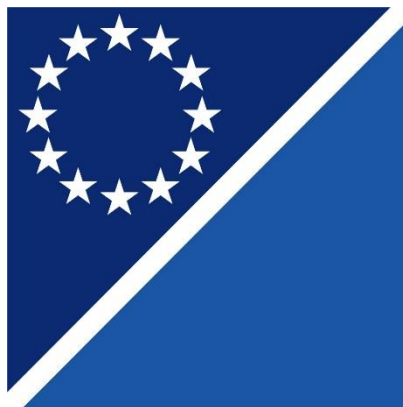


REGIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVE

34th STEERING GROUP MEETING



Summary, Conclusions and Decisions

April 28, 2021 (Online)

34th Regional Anti-corruption Initiative (RAI) Steering Group (SG) Meeting took place on April 28, 2021 in the teleconference format, due to continued travel and gathering restrictions brought upon by the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting was organized by the RAI Secretariat via the Zoom platform.

Participants

34th RAI SG Meeting was chaired by the RAI Chairperson, Ms Laura Stefan. It was attended by 9 member countries' representatives:

Albania – Ms. Rovena Pregja – Deputy Senior Representative, Head of the Anticorruption Programs Unit in the Anticorruption Directorate in the Ministry of Justice of Albania;

Bosnia and Herzegovina – Mr. Adnan Dlakic - Senior Representative, Expert Adviser, Department for Combating Organized Crime and Corruption, Ministry of Security;

Bulgaria – Ms. Dora Zgurovska – Deputy Senior Representative, Head of International Legal Affairs Unit, EU and International Co-operation Directorate, Ministry of Interior;

Croatia – Ms. Tamara Mišerda, Senior Representative, Head of the Anti-Corruption Sector, and Mr. Tomislav Matoc, Deputy Senior Representative, Senior Advisor, the Anti-Corruption Sector, Ministry of Justice and Public Administration

Moldova – Mr. Valeriu Cupcea, Deputy Senior Representative, Head of the International Cooperation Directorate, National Anti-corruption Centre;

Montenegro – Ms. Marina Micunovic, Senior Representative Head of Unit for International Cooperation, Agency for Prevention of Corruption;

North Macedonia – Ms. Elena Dimovska, Deputy Senior Representative, Advisor, Unit for Coordination of the Activities Against Corruption, Ministry of Justice;

Romania – Ms. Anca Luminita Stroe, Senior Representative, Legal counsellor, Crime Prevention Department, Ministry of Justice.

Serbia – Ms. Bojana Scepanovic, Senior Representative, State Secretary, Ministry of Justice and Ms. Katarina Nikolic, Deputy Senior Representative, Advisor on International Co-operation Matters, Ministry of Justice.

RAI Secretariat was represented by:

Mr. Vladan Joksimovic – Head of Secretariat;

Ms. Aida Zukic – Chief Finance and Operations Officer.

Summary of Discussions

RAI Chairperson, Ms. Laura Stefan, opened the meeting and welcomed all participants joining the Zoom meeting.

1. Adoption of Agenda

The proposed Agenda was adopted unanimously.

2. Selection process for the Head of Secretariat

The Chairperson and Chief Finance and Operations Officer presented the process of interviewing and evaluation of the 6 short-listed candidates for the vacant position of the Head of Secretariat.

Following a discussion, it was decided that the exact template for Candidate Interview Evaluation available in the Annex 11.3 of Office Policies Manual will be used for evaluation of all candidates – following the indicated scoring and number of questions as proposed by the template.

Secretariat presented the list of potential questions for interviews with candidates. Interview questions were approved by the Steering Group, following an online voting on proposed questions.

Ms. Zukic made a detailed presentation of the process of interviewing and evaluation of all candidates, followed by an overview of how the collection and calculation of all scores will happen.

Chairperson addressed interview questions with candidates, while the Steering Group members evaluated all interviewed candidates using an evaluation form. All interviews followed the same procedure, including approved core questions and timing, to ensure all candidates have an equal opportunity to present themselves. Additionally, Steering Group members had an opportunity to ask up to 2 follow up questions per candidate. Following the questions posed by the Chairperson, all candidates were given an opportunity to add any additional information they find relevant, or to ask any questions they might have.

One of the candidates sent an email 5 minutes prior to the scheduled interview, notifying the Secretariat on the unavailability to attend the scheduled interview. Following the discussions, the majority of the Steering group members decided that the candidate will not be offered a new slot for the interview, given that the candidate did not provide explanation on circumstances that led to unattendance to the initially confirmed interview time. Given that initially there were 6 candidates short-listed for an interview, no additional candidates were to be invited for interview.

Following the discussion on the performance of the 5 interviewed candidates and the evaluation procedure, the candidate that received the highest total score out of technical evaluation and interviews was Ms. Desislava Nikolaeva Gotskova.

Following the selection procedure, the Steering Group decided that the contract shall be offered to Ms. Gotskova.

Conclusions and Decisions

1. Following the selection procedure, the Steering Group selected Ms. Desislava Nikolaeva Gotskova for the position of Head of Secretariat.