



FLASH SPAIgram

This newsletter is a periodic update on the activities of the SPAI RSLO

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SPAIRSLO REGIONAL TOUR February 24 - 25th, 2005, PODGORICA, MONTENEGRO

SPAI RSLO's VISIT TO PODGORICA

On February 16 - 17, SPAI RSLO's representatives, **Mr. Veselin Sukovic**, Executive Secretary, and **Mr. Cornel - Virgiliu Calinescu**, Anticorruption Expert reached the 7th and the last destination of the regional tour, Podgorica, Montenegro

During the two days visit SPAI RSLO had a series of bilateral meetings and public debates with public authorities involved in the fight against corruption, NGOs, civil society and mass media.

BILATERAL MEETINGS

On February 24th SPAI RSLO's representatives, together with **Ms. Ana Nikolic**, SPAI Senior Representative, met with the following **high level officials**:

- **Mr. Dragan Djurovic**, Vice prime-minister and Minister of the Interior;



- **Mrs. Vesna Medenica**, Supreme State Prosecutor and **Mrs. Stojanka Radovic**, Special Prosecutor for Suppression of Organized Crime;
- **Mr. Zeljko Sturanovic**, Minister of Justice and **Ms. Branka Lakocevic**, Assistant Minister of Justice



ROUNDTABLE

The second day of the visit was dedicated to the public debate organized in cooperation with the **Anticorruption Initiative Directorate**.

The following institutions and organizations were represented: **Ministry of the Interior, Custom Office, Public Procurement Commission, Commission for Determination of Conflict of Interest, Director for the Suppression of Money Laundering, Group for Changes, MANS, CEMI, SRNVO, TV RCG, Chamber of Commerce, USAID, Council of Europe, UNDP, OSCE, Open Society.**

The meeting was covered by public and private TV stations and newspapers.

MAIN OUTCOMES

- The Montenegrin authorities expressed their **fully support** for the organization of the **High Level SPAI events** in May 2005, in Bruxelles;
- RSLO was requested to assist law enforcement agencies in **implementation of SIMS in corruption cases** according to the new set of criminal law provisions;
- It is expected that RSLO will be actively involved in the process of implementing the **training component** of the Action Plan of the National Program against Organized Crime and Corruption;

- Montenegrin authorities emphasized the important role of RSLO in the process of ensuring the **harmonization of the domestic legislation** with international standards, especially regarding the **UN convention against corruption**;
- The **State Prosecutor Office** expressed interest in participating in **twinning projects** with similar institutions from Croatia and Romania (USKOK and NAPO);
- RSLO was asked to organize in September, in Montenegro, a Regional Conference on **Best Practices in Public Procurement**;
- RSLO was tasked to ensure a more active participation of the **NGOs** in **national and regional anticorruption projects**;

ANTICORRUPTION NEWS

- The **National Program against Organized Crime and Corruption**, developed with assistance from Council of Europe's experts, is about to be adopted during the first half of 2005;
- In April, Montenegro will host the **GRECO expert visit** under the joint - first and second - evaluation round;
- The draft laws on **Police** and **National Security Agency** are under the final stage of the Parliamentary procedure;
- The amendments for the **Public Procurement Law** and the **Anti-money Laundering Law** are in Governmental procedure;
- The adoption of the **Agenda for Economic Reforms in 2005** is under the Governmental procedure.



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