



# FLASH SPAIgram

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

Contact info: SPAI RSLO, Bistrik 5, 71 000, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina,  
Telephone: +387 33 550 220, Fax: +387 33 550 221, E-mail: Cornel - Virgiliu Calinescu: [calinescucv@lol.ba](mailto:calinescucv@lol.ba)

## SPAI RSLO REGIONAL TOUR February 14th, 2005, SKOPJE, FYR MACEDONIA



### SPAI RSLO's VISIT TO SKOPJE

On February 14, SPAI RSLO's representatives, **Mr. Veselin Sukovic**, Executive Secretary and **Mr. Cornel - Virgiliu Calinescu**, Anticorruption Expert, reached the third destination of the Regional tour—Skopje, FYR Macedonia.

According to the agenda RSLO's representatives met with public authorities involved in the fight against corruption as well the representatives of the civil society sector and mass - media.

### MEETING WITH THE MINISTER OF JUSTICE

The first meeting of the day was with **Ms. Meri Mladenovska - Gjorjievaska**, Minister of Justice. The minister presented an overview of the recent legislative and institutional developments, with emphasize on the new provisions of the **Criminal Code** and **Criminal Procedure Code**, amendments to the **anticorruption law**, **public prosecutor's law** and **draft law on witness protection**.

The minister stressed the importance of **regional cooperation** in the fight against corruption with focus on implementing the existing international instruments.

Also, the minister received with great interest the information about the ongoing preparations for the **High level events** scheduled for May 2005, in Bruxelles. It was agreed that

RSLO will be provided with all necessary inputs for preparing the draft ministerial declaration.

### ROUNDTABLES

With the support of the SPAI Senior representative, **Mrs. Snezana Mojsova**, RSLO organized a full day roundtable with the participation of the following partners: **Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Finance - Custom Office and Public Revenue Office, State Anticorruption Commission, Supreme Court of Justice, Public Prosecutor's Office, GRECO National Coordinator, ABA CEELI, Council of Europe - National Director for PACO IMPACT and CARDS POLICE, Transparency International and Center for Education of Judges.**

### MAIN OUTCOMES

- Participants asked RSLO's support in the process of drafting the legislation on **free access to information** and **conflict of interest** by providing access to similar legislation in the region and best practices;
- RSLO was requested to organize thematic **trainings for judges, prosecutors and police officers**, in areas like: use of special investigation techniques, criminal liability of legal persons, witness protection and international anticorruption conventions.
- Additional suggested topics for RSLO's trainings were the **corruption in private sector, privatization process, relation with organized crime, cyber - criminality and seizure/confiscation of proceeds of crime.**
- Participants expressed their support for the RSLO's campaign to broadcast region wide the **UN Anticorruption Clips.**

### ANTICORRUPTION NEWS

- It is envisaged that FYR Macedonia will sign the **UN Convention against Corruption** during the first half of the year and will take all necessary measures in order to ratify it by the end of 2005;
- **Witness protection law** is to be enacted by the Parliament during March 2005;
- A multidisciplinary working group is tasked to identify and to propose legislative amendments in order to **reduce the discretionary powers of the high level public officials**;
- According to the authorities **15 out of 17 GRECO recommendations** are fully or partially implemented;
- Within Custom Office is operational an Info line (**tel. 197**) to declare **smuggling and corruption in customs**.



### NEXT SPAI RSLO VISITS

- TIRANA, 16- 17 February
- BELGRADE, 18 February
- CHISINAU, 21 - 22 February



This publication was made possible thought support provided by the Regional Services Center, U.S. Agency for International Development, under the terms of Award No. 194-A-00-04-00101-00 (SPAI).

The opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the U.S. Agency for International Development.

