



## **COOPERATION AGREEMENT LETTER**

### **Agreement between the South Eastern Europe Police Chief Association and Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe Working Table III**

#### *Preamble*

The South Eastern Europe Police Chief Association (SEPCA) and the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe Working Table III (SCSP WT III) and especially its Police Forum Initiative (PF),

Considering that the overall goal of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe is to enhance the stability and security in the South Eastern European Region (SEE), including through its Working Table III initiatives and activities, which are supporting the efforts of the SEE governmental authorities to meet the EU standards and integrate the *EU acquis communautaire*,

Taking account of the commitment of SEPCA to improve regional policing, to promote principles of equality within police organisations in the Region, and to facilitate the regional police cooperation,

Recognizing that the police services have an important role in the promotion of the rule of law, thus building trust and bridges between citizens and State authorities,

Recognizing the utility of the training of police officers in management and investigation tasks, as a means to improve their capacities,

Desirous of establishing a mutually supportive partnership to harmonize the activities between them, and to support SEPCA's role as a strategic partner for implementing regional projects of police cooperation,

Agree as follows:

#### *Initiation of projects*

Each party shall inform the other party of any new project proposals from the earliest stage of development, for feedback and support, and in order to avoid duplication.

#### *Existing projects*

(1) Each party shall inform the other about existing projects to scrutinize them and to give supportive feedback.

(2) If a Police Forum project moves towards regional cooperation, development steps shall be discussed between the partners and SEPCA shall give advice and support.

#### *Exchange of information*

(1) The parties shall exchange information about their activities by means of meetings, reports and mail exchange.

(2) Information concerning project related contact points, project documents and mailing lists shall be exchanged.

#### *Meetings*

(1) The parties shall mutually invite each other to their regular meetings and undertake their utmost to attend or send a representative to these meetings for reporting and networking purposes.

(2) The meetings concerned are:

For SCSP WT III: - Police Forum Meeting,

For SEPCA: - Annual General Meeting,  
- Executive Board Meeting,  
- Other common project related meetings, as identified by each party.

(3) In addition, SEPCA will be invited to the:

- SCSP WT III Table meeting,
- SCSP Regional Table Meeting.

#### *Project strategy*

The parties shall harmonise their strategies and action plans with a view to facilitate mutual cooperation and to avoid duplication. Therefore, before adopting their respective strategies, parties will consult and seek comments from each other.

#### *Support of SCSP WT III to SEPCA*

(1) SCSP WT III shall support SEPCA in strengthening their regional role by sharing information about SEPCA's activities during its meetings with Governments, International Organisations and police chief networks, and by facilitating contacts between them.

(2) SCSP WT III shall inform SEPCA about meetings, where the dissemination of SEPCA's activities would be in the interest of the Association.

### *Contact points*

- (1) SCSP WT III contact point will be the Police Forum Initiative.
- (2) SEPCA contact point will be the SEPCA Secretariat.
- (3) The partners shall exchange contact details of the designated persons. Each party shall advise the other party of any change of contact details.

### *Review*

- (1) This CAL shall be reviewed on an annual basis during the SEPCA Annual General Meeting.
- (2) Any proposed amendments shall be submitted to the other party to this CAL no later than one month before the yearly review.

Signed in Plovdiv on 22<sup>nd</sup> of June, 2006.



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Director of SCSP WT III



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President of SEPCA