REGIONAL WORKSHOP

ENGAGING SEE PARLIAMENTARIANS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ORGANISED CRIME

10-12 April 2006, Tirana, Albania

at Tirana International Hotel and Conference Center, Room Consortium

DRAFT AGENDA

Tuesday 11 April 2006

8:30-9:00	Registration
9:00-09:45	**INTRODUCTION TO THE WORKSHOP**
Chair	Mr. Leonard DEMI, Chairman of the Committee for National Security, Assembly of the Republic of Albania *Welcome address,* **Ms. Jozefina TOPALLI (Çoba), Speaker of the Assembly of the Republic of Albania** *Opening speeches,* *Common multi- and bilateral co-operation in the fight against organised crime - A task for national parliaments in SEE* **Mr. Bert VERSMESSEN, Coordinator - Organized Crime Issues /Human Dimension, OSCE Belgian Chairmanship in Office** **Ambassador Janez PREMOZE, Chair of Stability Pact WT for Security** **Representative of the Austrian Development Agency**
9:45-10:15	**SET-UP OF THE PROBLEM** **ORGANISED CRIME IN AND FROM SEE IN FACTS AND FIGURES**
	The status of economic organised crime in the Balkan region **Mr. Jean-Charles de CORDES, Council of Europe** *Question and Answers*
10:15-10:30	Coffee break – Press

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10:45-12:45	**PLENARY WORKING SESSION I**
Topic	**THE FIGHT AGAINST ORGANISED CRIME IN SEE AND OC FIGHTING PENDING ISSUES**
Chair	Ambassador Pavel VACEK, Head of the OSCE Presence in Albania
Keynote Speakers	*Legal reform and criminal policies in the fight against organised crime in SEE countries: issues and prospects* **Dr. Rosario AITALA, PAMECA Senior Legal Expert** *Activities of the European Commission in the field of fighting organised crime and lessons learned in the SEE countries* **Mr. Hervé BOUGE, European Commission, DG Enlargement** *The importance of the United Nations Convention to fight Transnational Organised Crime (Palermo Convention)* **Mr. Dimitri VLASSIS, UNODC, Chief, Crime Conventions Section** *Monitoring the implementation of the Palermo Convention in SEE – An overview Matrix and concrete specific aspects* **Mr. Moritz HILDEBRAND, SPOC Secretariat** *Questions and Answers*
Description	The development of organised criminal activities in SEE is an affront to the efforts of the national and international institutions in strengthening the Rule of Law in SEE countries. Furthermore, organised crime hampers the national economic development and the good international financial investment climate for SEE countries. The countries of SEE are recognised as countries of transit, but also countries of origin for organised criminal activities such as, trafficking in human beings, trafficking of drugs, money laundering, bank cards and IDs falsification, weapons and cigarettes smuggling. Even if the countries of SEE are at different stages in their Rule of Law enhancement efforts, the fight against organised crime is a problem for which global solutions need to be found. Besides OC trends and actual pending issues, a specific focus needs to be set on the regional and international approach in fighting organised crime in the perspective of EU integration of each SEE country.

12:45-14:00 (14:30)	Lunch Break

14:30-16:30	**PLENARY WORKING SESSION II**
Topic	**MY PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ORGANISED CRIME**
Chair	Mr. Leonard DEMI, Chairman of the Committee for National Security, Assembly of the Republic of Albania
Moderator	*Country-by-country interventions* (results of the questionnaire) **Mr. Sorin STERIE, Acting Head of SPOC Secretariat**
Panelists	Chairmen of the responsible parliamentary committee **Mr. Leonard DEMI, Assembly of the Republic of Albania** **Mr. Bosrislav BULGARINOV, National Assembly of Bulgaria** **Mr. Bosko SILJEGOVIC, House of the People of Bosnia and Herzegovina** **Mr. Nikola APOSTOLOVSKI, Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia** (FYROM) **Representative of the Parliament of Moldova** **Mr. Dragan KUJOVIC, National Parliament of the Republic of Montenegro** (Serbia and Montenegro) **Mr. Goran JAKSIC, National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia** (Serbia and Montenegro) **Mr. Hydajet HYSENI, PISG, Assembly of Kosova** *Comments and reflection, Discussion* *Feed-back on country-by-country presentation* **Mr. Kevin CARTY, OSCE Vienna representative** **Dr. Hubert PIRKER, Member of the European Parliament, Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs** **Mr. Bill NEWTON DUNN, Member of the European Parliament, Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs**
Description	Parliamentary Chairmen coordinating the fight against organised crime legislative activities in South Eastern European countries will address the current status and future plans in control at the legislative level the implementation of their national anti-organised crime strategies. Furthermore heads of permanent parliamentary staff will address the issue of implementing the principle of regional ownership in the fight against organised crime by enhancing national parliament capacities to cooperate and coordinate with regional and international partners. In addition Chairmen will provide first inputs for the first draft of the MPs Toolkit with "10 points to fight organised crime in South Eastern Europe"

16:30-17:00	Coffee Break

17:00-18:30 **Topic**	**TECHNICAL WORKSHOP FOR PARLIAMENT'S PERMANENT STAFF, COMMITTEES WORKING ON ORGANISED CRIME ISSUES** **HOW CAN I SUPPORT MY MPS AND RAISE THEIR AWARENESS ON THE FIGHT AGAINST ORGANISED CRIME?**
Moderator Keynote Speakers	Mr. Johan HOMMES, OSCE PiA Parliamentary Project Manager *The development of a Database of networking contacts for parliamentary hearing on the fight against organised crime* *The improvement of the research capacity of my committee* *Enhancing the working visits for permanent staff to experts and professionals of the fight against organised crime: courts, prosecutors, etc.* *How does the daily activity of a parliament officer working in OC fight look like?* *The importance of regional networking between parliamentary experts for South Eastern European Countries* **Ms. Chara PAPAZOUDI, Hellenic Parliament's Expert, European Relations Department** **Ms. Petra BLAESS, Former Vice President of German Parliament, Senior Consultant to the Stability Pact on Parliamentary Cooperation** *Discussion*
19:30	Cocktail at the invitation of the Albanian Parliament **Dr. Erhard BUSEK, Special Coordinator of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe**

Wednesday 12 April 2006

8:30-9:00 Registration

9:00-10:15 **Topic**	**OPENING SESSION** **CONTRIBUTION OF REGIONAL INITIATIVES, EU SPECIALISED ASSISTANCE TO SEE STATES AND INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS FIGHTING ORGANISED CRIME**
Chair Keynote Speakers	Ambassador Janez PREMOZE, Chair of Stability Pact Working Table for Security Issues *Overview of European and International organisations fighting against organised crime* **Ms. Estelle CARRELET de LOISY, Stability Pact WT for Security** *The cooperation of the international community for the exchange of data* **Plenipotentiary Minister Mitja MOCNIK, Director SECI Center** *The Police needs in SEE to fight organised crime at the regional level* **Mr. Zivko SIPCIC, SEPCA Member, Advisor to the Minister of Interior of Montenegro** *The EU Police Assistance Missions in SEE at the example of PAMECA: Role and aim, support functions and activities* **Mr. Peter LINDEN JONES, PAMECA Strategic Advisor to the Albanian Ministry of Public Order** *The Stolen vehicles issues in SEE: case and example in different perspectives* **Mr. Sorin STERIE, Acting Head of SPOC Secretariat** *Questions & Answer session*
Description	Developing a specialised knowledge on OC fighting issues as a Member of specialised Parliamentary Committee can be seen as a prerequisite in view of further improvement of their specialised legislative work. A specialised understanding of the OC fighting national and international institutions/organisations can provide a precious basic knowledge of the chain of actors involved in the fight against organised crime, in order to be able to better understand the consequences of the laws presented for discussion and ratification to the SEE specialised parliamentary committee in each national parliament.

10:15-10:30	Coffee break

10:30-12:15	**PLENARY WORKING SESSION III**
Topic	**STRENGTHENING THE PARLIAMENTARY OVERSIGHT IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ORGANISED CRIME**
Chair	Dr. Hubert PIRKER, Member of the European Parliament, Member of the Committee for Security and Defence, Sub-Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs
Keynote Speakers	*Enhancing the link of the Parliament with the Society: The preliminary expert hearing to the Committee* **Representative of an SEE Parliament, Public Order Committee** *Enhancing the parliamentary oversight on Police and Prosecutor daily work through hearing and report mechanisms – The Hellenic Parliamentary Committee for Public Order and Justice in the fight against organised crime* **Mr. Georgios V. GAROUFALIAS, Member of the Hellenic Parliament** *Capacity Building by providing the government with implementation tools: Allocating to an OC fighting legislation the necessary financial support (equipment, staff capacity) – At the example of the Italian Parliament* **Representative of the Italian Parliament, Justice Committee** *The role of Parliament and its oversight power: Limitation and Opportunities* **Ms. Petra BLAESS, Former Vice President of German Parliament, Senior Consultant to the Stability Pact on Parliamentary Cooperation** *Raise public awareness, network and gain media, NGOs and civil society support for my parliamentary OC fighting actions: A crucial necessity at national and regional level* **Mrs. Marijana GRANDITS, SCSP Director Working Table for Democracy issues** *Question & Answer session*
Description	In order to facilitate the practical difficulties faced by the responsible ministries in implementing laws, the Parliaments, in their national legislative power, can support the smooth implementation of the ratified OC fighting law by enhancing its oversight capacity. Through its State budget voting power, the national Parliaments in SEE have the possibility to, on the one hand: enhance their knowledge on OC fighting national and regional issues and on the other hand, provide the necessary budgetary support in terms of technical equipment and staff/personal to the OC fighting law. Each Parliamentary State budget allocation can be followed up by a regular reporting obligation from the responsible Minister to the Parliamentary Assembly for a better control and support of the law implementation.

12:15-12:30	Break

12:30-12:45	**PLENARY SESSION**
Topic	**ENDORSEMENT OF A FIRST TOOLKIT WITH "10 POINTS FOR PARLIAMENTS TO FIGHT ORGANISED CRIME IN SOUTH EASTERN EUROPE"**
Chair	Mr. Erik KROIHER, Head of International Office of the Political Academy of the Austrian People Party

12:45-13:00	Group Photo

13:00-13:30	Press Conference

Buffet lunch

Departure of the participants

This seminar is the first one in the framework of two seminars. It takes place in the region in the spring 2006. The second one will take place in the autumn in Brussels.

The result of this first seminar shall be:

- *strengthening the overview and knowledge of MPs of the respective committees on the fight against organised crime issue,*
- *providing MPs first tools and advices, to be proofed until next seminar before being summarized in an Handbook during the next autumn seminar in Brussels,*
- *bringing all Chairmen and parliamentary permanent staff reflecting on the fight against organised crime for the first time together,*
- *enhancing the regional cooperation capacity of MPs and Parliaments' permanent staff in their common work against organised crime,*
- *establishing a network among committees and European organisations in their common work against organised crime.*