



Anti-Corruption Network for Transition Economies
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**Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan for
Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan,
the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Ukraine**

**LEGAL AND INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORKS FOR FIGHTING
CORRUPTION**

**FOURTH REVIEW MEETING
AND
SIXTH ADVISORY GROUP MEETING**

20-21 October, 2005
Room 4, OECD New Building, 2, rue André-Pascal, 75016 Paris

DRAFT AGENDA

This draft Agenda has been developed by the ACN Secretariat to structure the discussion at the review meeting of the Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan, which will examine the Status Reports presented by Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation, and will discuss the updates about the implementation of recommendations by other countries of the Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan. The draft Agenda also provides the structure for the meeting of the Advisory Group meeting.

Action Required: Participants are invited to adopt this Agenda at the meeting.

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SUMMARY DESCRIPTION

ISTANBUL ACTION PLAN

The Anti-Corruption Action Plan for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Ukraine was endorsed in September 2003, in Istanbul. The ACN Secretariat, based at the OECD Anti-Corruption Division, provides support for the implementation of the Istanbul Action Plan. An Advisory Group provides guidance to the Secretariat on the implementation of the Action Plan.

The implementation of the Istanbul Action Plan includes several phases: review of legal and institutional framework for fighting corruption; implementation of the recommendations endorsed during the reviews; and monitoring progress in implementing the recommendations.

COUNTRY REVIEWS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In September 2003 the Advisory Group endorsed the Terms of Reference for the reviews of legal and institutional frameworks for fighting corruption in the Action Plan countries. The countries agreed to submit self-assessments in the form of Status Reports for international peer review. To help the countries in developing their Report, the Secretariat prepared Guidelines.

The reviews of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan and Ukraine have been completed in 2004. The recommendations endorsed at the review meetings are available at the ACN site www.anticorruptionnet.org. Full reports, containing the recommendations, Status Reports and other review materials, are published in the series *Fighting Corruption in Transition Economies*, and can be ordered at www.oecdbookshop.org.

MONITORING OF NATIONAL ACTIONS

In May 2005 the Advisory Group endorsed the Terms of Reference for the monitoring of national actions to implement recommendations. The monitoring includes two forms: regular progress updates by countries at the Istanbul Action Plan meetings, including a brief written update in a standard format; and country examinations by peers, based on detailed questionnaires and including on-site visits, at least one examination of each Istanbul Action Plan country over 2005-2006.

Two rounds of national updates were organised: in June and in December 2004; the results were summarised in a report, available at the ACN site. First on-site visits to Georgia and Tajikistan are scheduled for October/November 2005.

OBJECTIVES OF THE MEETING

The purpose of the fourth review meeting is two fold:

1. to review the legal and institutional framework for fighting corruption as presented in the Status Reports developed by the governments of Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation, and to adopt recommendations for remedial action;
2. to discuss progress in implementing the recommendations as presented in the updates prepared by the governments of Armenia, Azerbaijan, the Kyrgyz Republic, and Ukraine.

The purpose of the sixth Advisory Group meeting, which will meet back-to-back with the fourth review meeting, is to evaluate progress in implementing the Istanbul Action Plan and to prepare next steps, including the update of the monitoring schedule, on-site visits and plenary meetings.

PARTICIPANTS

Participation in the meetings is by invitation, only. Invitations are extended to all members of the Advisory Group, which include the national co-ordinators from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, Tajikistan and Ukraine as well as OECD members-countries, representatives of IFIs and other international organisations, civil society and business associations. Review experts will also participate in the meetings.

LOGISTICS AND DOCUMENTS

Preparatory meeting of review experts and bilateral consultations of the Kazakh and the Russian delegations with the review experts will be organised on Wednesday, 19 October 2005, at the following address: Room 8, New Building, OECD, 2 rue André-Pascal, 75016, Paris. Please note that this meeting is open only for the review experts and the national delegations of Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation.

The review meeting will take place on Thursday, 20 October and on Friday, 21 October. The back-to-back meeting of the Advisory Group will be held immediately upon the closure of the review meeting in the evening of Friday, 21 October. The review and the Advisory Group meetings will take place at the following address: Room 4, New Building, OECD, 2 rue André-Pascal, 75016, Paris.

The meetings will be conducted in English; simultaneous interpretation into Russian will be provided.

The key documents for the meetings, a complete set of which will be sent to participants in due course, include:

- draft Status Reports submitted by Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation
- draft assessment and recommendations for Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation prepared by the review experts;
- updates about national actions to implement recommendations by Armenia, Azerbaijan, the Kyrgyz Republic and Ukraine;
- updated schedule of monitoring and on-site visits.

SPONSORS

The funding for this meeting is provided by the European Commission and the OECD.

REVIEWS

REVIEW TEAMS AND PREPARATORY MEETINGS

Mr. Goran Klemencic, the Legal Advisor to the Istanbul Action Plan, provides overall coordination and supervision of the review process, including the work of the Review Team. In accordance with the Terms of Reference for the review process, on the basis of the nominations by the Advisory Group members and in consultations with the reviewed countries, the Secretariat has established the following Review Teams:

Review team of Kazakhstan

1. Dennis Hawkins, American Bar Association, Central Eastern European Legal Initiative (ABA CEELI), USA
2. Ilze Krastina, Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau (KNAB), Latvia
3. Olga Zudova, UNODC, Regional Office for Central Asia
4. Ruslan Ryaboshapka, Ministry of Justice, Ukraine
5. Laura Stefan, Ministry of Justice, Romania
6. Zdenka Vidovic, Court of Audit, Slovenia

Review team of the Russian Federation

1. Alan Becarese, Crown Prosecution Service, UK
2. Valts Kalnins, Centre for Public Policy 'Providus', Latvia
3. Armen Khudaverdyan, Commission for Public Sector Reform, Armenia
4. Martin Polaine, Crown Prosecution Service, UK
5. Georgi Roupchev, Ministry of Justice, Bulgaria
6. [To be Confirmed], USA

Members of the OECD Working Group on Bribery will be invited to attend the review meeting. OECD Directorates for Financial and Enterprise Affairs, Public Governance and Territorial Development, and Economics Department will be invited to provide inputs for the review. The Council of Europe will be invited as well. Civil society and business community are also invited to provide their inputs to the reviews.

As soon as the review team is established, the experts are provided with the draft Report by Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation, in order to carry out an in-depth analysis and to prepare their comments, questions and preliminary recommendations. The draft Reports are also sent to all the invitees of the review meeting, to allow sufficient time for preparation.

Draft assessment and recommendations will be sent to the reviewed countries in advance of the review meeting for their information.

Preparatory meetings will be organised as closed sessions immediately before the review meeting. The meetings will bring the review team together with the delegation of the reviewed countries. The aim of the preparatory meetings is to discuss possible outstanding issues regarding the draft Status Reports, the draft assessment and recommendations. It will allow each side to provide additional information and clarifications before the plenary meeting.

REVIEW MEETING

The meeting will be chaired by the review team leader in co-ordination with the Secretariat. The meeting will provide an international forum at which the delegations of Kazakhstan and of the

Russian Federation will present the self-assessment Status Reports prepared by their governments. The review team will present their assessment of the draft Report and the draft recommendations for the countries. All participants will be invited to discuss the Reports. The reviews will consist of two readings:

- First plenary reading of the draft Status Report and draft recommendations
- Second plenary reading and adoption of the final recommendations

FIRST READING AND FOLLOW-UP CONSULTATIONS

The first reading session will be conducted in the following order:

- Summary presentation of the draft Status Report by the national delegation (10 min)
- Summary presentation of the assessment of the Report by the review team (10 min)
- Detailed discussion on the Report and recommendations per topic:
 - National anti-corruption policy, institutions and enforcement (20 min)
 - Legislation and criminalisation of corruption (20 min)
 - Transparency of the civil service (20 min)

The national delegation will introduce the report and the review team will present the overall assessment. After the introductions, under each separate topic the members of the review team will present their assessment and draft recommendations. The national delegation will be invited to respond. The floor will then be opened to all participants for questions, comments and discussion.

At the end of the first reading, the Chairs will summarise outstanding issues on which consensus has either not been reached or where further elaboration is required. The Chairs will invite the review team and the national delegation to conduct further informal consultations and prepare proposals and further clarifications for the second reading of the report.

SECOND READING AND ADOPTION OF RECOMMENDATIONS

The review team and the national delegation will inform the plenary of the outcomes of the informal meeting on outstanding issues and will summarise proposed amendments and suggestions. The floor will be opened to all participants for additional questions, comments and discussion.

The second reading will aim to endorse recommendations for the country; the endorsement of the recommendations will be based on consensus. The second reading will also aim to finalise the assessment of the Status Report.

MONITORING

PROGRESS UPDATES

According to the Terms of Reference for the Monitoring, approved by the Advisory Group, the monitoring process consists of two parts: progress update by countries and country examinations by peers. This meeting will focus only at progress updates by Armenia, Azerbaijan, the Kyrgyz Republic and Ukraine (Georgia and Tajikistan will not be requested to provide updates for this meeting, as they will be subject for country examination at the next plenary meeting of the Istanbul Action Plan).

The ACN Secretariat has developed a format for country reports on national actions to implement the recommendations. The Istanbul Action Plan countries were invited to fill out the

reports and to provide them to the Secretariat in advance of the meeting. The updates should cover national actions implemented since the previous update.

Mr. Daniel Thelesklaf, the Legal Advisor to the Istanbul Action Plan, provides overall coordination and supervision of the monitoring process. Mr. Thelesklaf will chair the monitoring sessions in co-ordination with the Secretariat.

The national delegations will be invited to make brief oral presentations summarising their reports at the meeting, maximum 15 minutes each. The chair will open the discussion, and will invite selected experts initially included in the review to present their comments on the update reports. The national delegations will be invited to respond to these comments. The floor will then be open for all the participants to discuss the update. The summary of the discussion will be prepared by the Secretariat, and will be made public together with the national updates after the meeting.

ADVISORY GROUP MEETING

The Advisory Group will discuss the progress in implementing the Istanbul Action Plan. The main focus will be given to the update of the schedule for country examinations.

DRAFT AGENDA

Wednesday, 19 October 2005

12.00-14.00	PREPARATORY MEETING <i>closed session for review experts only (without simultaneous interpretation)</i>
	BILATERAL CONSULTATIONS <i>closed sessions for the national delegations of reviewed countries and experts</i>
14.00-16.00	Kazakhstan
16.00-18.00	The Russian Federation

Thursday, 20 October 2005

9.30	<i>Registration</i>
Session 1	REVIEWS: First Reading
10.00	Opening of the meeting <i>Welcoming remarks and technical information</i>
10.30	Review of Kazakhstan <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Summary presentation of the draft Status Report by the national delegation• Summary presentation of the analysis of the Report by the Review Team• Detailed discussion of the Report and recommendations per topic:<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ National anti-corruption policy, institutions and enforcement➤ Legislation and criminalisation of corruption➤ Transparency of the civil service
12.30	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00	Review of the Russian Federation <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Summary presentation of the draft Status Report by the national delegation• Summary presentation of the analysis of the Report by the Review Team• Detailed discussion of the Report and recommendations per topic:<ul style="list-style-type: none">➤ National anti-corruption policy, institutions and enforcement➤ Legislation and criminalisation of corruption➤ Transparency of the civil service
16.00	<i>Coffee break</i>
Session 2	MONITORING: Progress Updates
16.30	Update of Armenia <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation of the update by the national delegation• Expert assessment and general discussion

17:30 *Consultations between the delegations of Kazakhstan and the Russian Federation and the review teams (without simultaneous interpretation)*

Friday, 21 October 2005

Session 3	REVIEWS: Second Reading and Endorsement of Recommendations
9:30	Kazakhstan
10.30	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.00	The Russian Federation
12.00	<i>Lunch</i>
Session 4	MONITORING: Progress Updates (continued)
13.30	Update of Azerbaijan <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation of the update by the national delegation• Expert assessment and general discussion
14.30	Update of the Kyrgyz Republic <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation of the update by the national delegation• Expert assessment and general discussion
15.30	<i>Coffee break</i>
16.00	Update of Ukraine <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation of the update by the national delegation• Expert assessment and general discussion
Session 5	ADVISORY GROUP
17.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Endorsement of the Summary Record of the previous meeting• Update of the schedule of on-site visits• Other business and next meeting
17.30	<i>Closing</i>