

**MINISTRY OF JUSTICE**

**General Directorate of Policies in the Field of Justice**

**Directorate of Programs in the Field of Justice**

**Regional round table on strengthening integrity in state authorities and electoral process**

**in AII countries**

**Budva, on 16-17 of April 2019**

**Thematic session (part I): Corruption risk assessment – integrity plans**

Dear organizers of this table,

First let me thank you for the invitation to participate in this table to share our experience. I am here to represent the Ministry of Justice of Albania and the National Coordinator Against Corruption.

Dear all,

According to the agenda of this meeting, I have prepared a brief information on the Albania corruption risk assessment in the frame of the integrity plans.

In order to ensure a better good governance based on integrity, accountability and rule of law, the Government of Albania approved in 2015 a policy document to advance the fight against corruption, the Inter-Sectorial Strategy Against Corruption (ISAC), 2015-2020, and its Action Plan.

The Strategy consists on three approaches: the prevention, the repression and awareness.

***The prevention approach:*** (11 objectives): to eliminate corruption from the public administration authorities and all the other state agencies which are providing public services to the citizens.

***The repressive approach***: (4 objectives), the law enforcement institutions as (Prosecution Office, Department of Police, State Agency dealing with confiscation of the Properties and Ministry of Interior) to monitor the implementation of the law and protect the democracy and the rule of law ensuring transparency and integrity of state institutions.

***The awareness approach***: (3 objectives) to increase the public participation in the fight against corruption by denouncing it and being active in initiatives of preventing corruption.

The Ministry of Justice of Albania, is the National Coordinator Against Corruption, since November 2017. Dealing with this tasks, the MoJ manages and coordinates the whole process of the fight against corruption in the country, as the leading institution in drafting of anti-corruption policies and monitoring the implementation on the documents in action. Under the guidance of the Minister of Justice, a Coordinating Committee for the implementation of the strategy was set up, with the participation of all deputy ministers (10 members) in charge with the anticorruption issues, a regular national mechanism for the monitoring and implementation of the ISAC and AP.

**Albanian experience on implementation of risk analysis; integrity plans**

The ISAC, 2015-2020, consists on 2 specific objectives under the preventive approach, focued on corruption risk assessment and strengthening the integrity of public officials through the approval and implementation of rules on integrity.

We have respectively:

Objective A8: Systematic use of the mechanism of identifying areas of corruption

Objective A9: Strengthening the integrity of public officials.

The Action Plan on the implementation of the ISAS, 2018-2020, (the 2nd one adopted by the CoM of Albania) consists on some concrete measures in order to achieve these objectives:

*Drafting a guideline manual on risk analysis as part of integrity plans; (by mid of 2019)*

*Training with the participation of all the institutions involved in the implementation of risk analysis as part of the integrity plans; (2019)*

*The implementation of risk analysis by all the institutions; (2019-2020)*

*Manual on drafting integrity plans; (2019)*

*Trainings with the participation of all the institutions involved in integrity plans; (2019)*

*Drafting/approving/implementation of the integrity plans by all the institutions; (2020)*

The measures are directly under the responsibility of the MoJ of Albania/ NCAC and to be adopted by other ministries.

***The status/ the implementation:***

Currently, Albania is in the process of drafting a manual for conducting risk assessment in public institutions as part of an integrity plan with the indicator of impact: harmonizing, assessing and analyzing the risk of employee integrity violations. The current status of it, is 87% done (source: 2018 monitoring report on ISAS and AC). The working group is finalizing the document, to get it adopted within the timeframe and to deliver in other executive institutions (ministries).

Also, a training program for the implementation of the manual by MoJ/NCAC has been drafted. Ministry of Justice, as the leader institution is being assisted by the EU Twinning Project “Support to the formulation, coordination and implementation of anti-corruption policies in Albania”, acting in Albania.

In several public institutions as MoJ, Ministry of Finance and Economy, Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, Ministry of Health and Social Protection and some of their subordinate agencies/institutions which have a high impact to the public, have been conducted trainings increasing the capacity of staff to assess risk on anticorruption, by the end of 2018 and also in the first quarter of 2019.

The AC 2018-2020 provides risk analyzes and risk assessment techniques should be applied in accordance with ISO 31010/2009 - Risk Management and Risk Assessment Techniques and / or Risk Assessment Methodology Guidelines of Corruption (CoE Project - PACA, 2010).

***Rules of Integrity***

The Ministry of Justice is drafting a manual for establishing integrity rules, called "Enhancing the integrity of public administration". OSCE organization in Tirana and the AC twinning project in Albania, are assisting MoJ in the process. The final manual/document is expected to be completed and adopted within the first six months of this year (2019).

The model of this manual is taken by the German Government's integrity rules. This manual includes major preventive approach issues, such as identifying areas of administrative activity particularly vulnerable to corruption, employee awareness, establishing contract award principles, setting a contact person (focal point), respecting ethical rules for performance, and communication.

The AC in action, provides that by 2020, all the central administration institutions (ministries) will adopt and implement the document on integrity rules.

Last but not least,

ISAC, 2015-2020, objective A11 consist on the adopting of anticorruption policies in local governmet units (municipalities).

The local government administration in Albania is also working on drafting and adopting of the integrity rule documents.

This is a process which has been started by the end of 2018. As to the AP, it is foreseen to have 30 municipalities with the integrity rule document adopted, by the end of 2020.

Dear colleagues,

This was a brief information on the status of the corruption risk assessment, implementation of the integrity plans in the Albanian public authorities. We have a lot to do in the very near future for a better and professional government.

I am very interested to listen and get aware of your experiences and to share it altogether.

Thank you.