

**15TH MEETING OF THE
STABILISATION AND ASSOCIATION PROCESS TRACKING MECHANISM**

CONCLUSIONS

PRISTINA, 2 DECEMBER 2008

The 15th meeting of the Stabilisation and Association Process Tracking Mechanism was held in Pristina on 2 December 2008.

The meeting was attended by the Kosovo government, the EU Special Representative, the French Ambassador for the EU Presidency, UNMIK, the European Commission (including the European Commission Liaison Office in Pristina) and by EU Member States represented in Pristina (a detailed list of participants is attached in attachment 1).

The meeting was opened by Prime Minister Hashim Thaçi and Pierre Mirel, Director for the Western Balkans at the Directorate-General Enlargement of the European Commission together with EUSR Pieter Feith and French Ambassador Delphine Borione for the EU Presidency. In his opening statement, Prime Minister Hashim Thaçi welcomed the European Commission's recently-published Progress Report, which he characterised as realistic and identifying the challenges of Kosovo's newly-declared independence. The Government of Kosovo appreciates its dialogue with the Commission, given the importance of Kosovo's European agenda, and therefore the launch of a feasibility study on how to develop this agenda. PM Thaçi also reiterated his commitment to good neighbourly relations, as well as defending human and minority rights as laid out in Kosovo's constitution.

Mr Pieter Feith, EUSR in Kosovo highlighted that this was the first direct STM meeting between the European Commission and the Kosovo authorities. This dialogue is likely to be deepened by the Council when this proposes ways to develop relations to Kosovo. For the EU Presidency, French Ambassador Delphine Borione stressed that promoting the region's European perspective has been a priority of the French Presidency.

Co-Chair Pierre Mirel stressed that Commission's commitments to Kosovo were strong and concrete: the Commission's tools for Kosovo are the same as those for all other candidates and potential candidates: European Partnership, Progress Report, Instrument for Pre-Accession (IPA). With the July 11th Donors Conference, the Commission has gone even further. Mr Mirel noted that the publication of this year's Progress Report saw a welcome wide-ranging debate in Kosovo. The Commission will be proposing a feasibility study to examine how Kosovo can progress further alongside the rest of the region in the context of the stabilisation and association process. For this, the Commission needs a strong partner in Kosovo and firm commitment from the Government.

I. European Commission Annual Regular Report

Summarising the 2008 Annual Progress Report, Mr Mirel reminded that, according to the exercise methodology, the report takes account of information from many sources. It only mentions measures actually adopted over the past 12 months. Perhaps the most important issue is public administration reform, which is vital to ensure delivery of public services and reform. Kosovo has begun this process, but has a long way to go. Reform of the judiciary is also important, as is the fight against organised crime and corruption. Nevertheless, the government should not rush proposals through the parliament, there should be a discussion on the impact of measures and consultations with stakeholders, as well as the EULEX mission. In the area of human rights or the rights of minorities, the Commission called on stronger determination and effective implementation of existing laws.

The Commission stressed that it is important that Kosovo continues to participate in regional fora and co-operation activities. The Government should develop guidelines and practical modalities that allow Kosovo's participation.

As regards the economic criteria, Kosovo has made little progress in developing a functioning market economy. In European Standards, overall compatibility with EU norms is at an early stage.

Mr Mirel stressed that the Commission was preparing the Terms of Reference for the feasibility study, to examine the means to deepen Kosovo's European integration. For this, the Commission called on Kosovo's help, as the study will be a joint exercise.

II. Update on the Agency for the Co-ordination of Development and European Integration

The Kosovo authorities explained the logic behind the establishment of the Agency for the Co-ordination of Development and European Integration. By merging its Donor Co-ordination and European Integration agendas and structures from October 8th, the government intends to co-ordinate positions at the highest level.

The new Agency is an addition to other co-ordination mechanisms, such as the Inter-ministerial Committee for European Integration and the Working Commission for European Integration, as inter-governmental structures, and the Assembly Committee for European Integration.

The structure of the Agency for the Co-ordination of Development and European Integration has been adopted by the government, and appointment procedures have been launched, including that of the Agency's CEO. The aim is to ensure that the Agency is fully operational by January, when work will begin to review both the Mid-Term Expenditure Framework (MTEF) and the European Partnership Action Plan (EPAP). A first meeting with donors of the Donor Co-ordination mechanism, as a follow-up to the July 11 Donors Conference, is planned for March. However, it was pointed out that the Agency has difficulty retaining qualified staff.

The Commission welcomed the establishment of the Agency, as a response to commitments made at the Donors Conference, and pointed out that, in the experience of the 5th enlargement, it is important that candidates set up strong and effective structures for European Integration and assistance co-ordination. As the member of the Government responsible for the agency, the Commission called on the Deputy Prime Minister to ensure that this agency becomes Kosovo's gateway to the EU. The Commission also highlighted that the new structure has to have sectoral responsibilities for both policy and assistance matters, as well as following up on EPAP commitments. The EU will continue to provide assistance to the Agency, and has received considerable interest in a forthcoming twinning project for the agency.

Follow-up

- 9 Kosovo authorities to finalise the structure of the Agency and appointment of personnel, including the CEO, as well as senior programming officers in line ministries (by end of January 2009).
- 9 Agency to organise the March meeting with donors
- 9 Agency to consult with the Commission on the revision of the MTEF and EPAP

III. Political criteria

Public Administration Reform

The Commission summarised the key challenges as firstly adopting the Civil Service Law, secondly ensuring that the Kosovo Institute for Public Administration (KIPA) becomes a key vector for Public Administration Reform, thirdly, finalise the (ongoing) functional review of public administration.

It is important that the public administration finds its right size. This could mean reducing staff in some areas and increasing it in others. Such an approach could free up resources to provide targeted salary increases, where these are accompanied by sectoral reform.

The Kosovo government presented its priority objectives in this area as creating a modern, efficient and apolitical administration. The government is creating a 'Brain Drain' fund of €1 Mio, to supplement salaries for civil servants who are essential for Kosovo's EU Integration process.

However, Kosovo's administration is young. It is looking at models in other EU Member States.

There are plans to establish a fully e-government administration by 2015 and to adapt to new working methods. The functional review of the public administration is now complete in some ministries. This will continue to cover all the government departments, although the first findings will be published already to allow the first reforms to begin (particularly eliminating unnecessary departments). Concrete measures can be expected in 2009.

A number of 'organic laws' on public administration, to replace the corresponding UNMIK legislation, are being finalised. These include the Civil Service Law (to guarantee independence and to establish the structures), the Law on E-Government, and the Law on Civil Servants' Pay. Kosovo is also establishing a cadastral office and is working to improve the statistical office (in preparation for a census). A building for the Constitutional Court has been identified, pending adoption of the law on the Constitutional Court.

The Commission highlighted the importance in the public administration of accountability as a consequence of funding: an administration which receives public money should deliver results and be accountable to the budgetary authorities. The role of the statistical system was also stressed, not only for the forthcoming census: Kosovo needs to deliver statistics for citizens and policy-makers. The EU can help the Statistical Office of Kosovo (SOK), but the Commission stressed that SOK needs to receive political support.

Follow-up

- 9 The 3 organic laws (Civil Service Law, **Government**, Civil Servants' Pay) to be adopted (Q1 2009)
- 9 The functional review of public administration is also to be finalised (Q1 2009).

Comment [v1]: This should be law on Government not Law on e-government as it was so far in the conclusions

Comment [FW2]: Ok

The fight against corruption

Creating an administration free of corruption is the highest government priority. To this end, the Government needs to improve accountability as well as to enhance co-ordination between the 3 branches of government. Kosovo is adapting the anti-corruption law. There is an inter-ministerial anti-corruption group to fight corruption within the Government, and an anti-corruption agency will do this outside the Government. This agency has presented a strategy 2009-2011, which is to be adopted by the Assembly (in January or February 2009) and will be followed by an action plan. The anti-corruption agency is also discussing with each municipality. Laws on the control of assets and amendments to the law against corruption should be completed at the latest Q1 2009. The Commission pointed out that remarks made in the Progress Report on corruption are not specific to Kosovo, they are common to all the region. Fighting corruption is important for the EU, it is particularly important for the citizens, who expect their government to be honest. Corruption is an obstacle to investment, the judiciary and can undermine reforms in other areas.

Follow-up

- 9 Laws on the control of assets and amending the law against corruption should be completed (at the latest Q1 2009).
- 9 The new anti-corruption strategy is to be adopted by the Assembly (January or February 2009) and should be followed by an action plan.

Human and minority rights

The Commission pointed out that there are several agencies and bodies in the area of human rights, gender equality, communities, and inviting the government to improve consultation and co-ordination between them. A functional review is needed to streamline the institutional framework and avoid duplicating responsibilities. The Commission also invited the Government to produce a Roma strategy and, as an urgent priority, to relocate persons living in lead-contaminated camps. Finally, it called on the government to protect cultural heritage sites and carry out investigations into incidents. As regards

displaced persons and refugees, the Commission called on the Government to accelerate the process of returns. The Government replied that more resources and enhanced coordination were needed to accelerate this process.

The government stated that it established a municipal mechanism to monitor the implementation of human rights legislation by municipalities. Kosovo is currently strengthening its administrative capacities to monitor better human rights enforcement and increase cooperation among the relevant institutions. The Strategy and Action Plan for Human Rights in the Republic of Kosovo 2009-2011 is being drafted in coordination with the Office of the Prime Minister of the Government of Kosovo / Office for Good Governance. It is being drafted in close cooperation with many relevant actors in the field of Human Rights in Kosovo and with international institutions involved in the field. The Roma, Ashkali and Egyptian (RAE) strategy should be approved in December 2008 and this will be followed by strategies for the disabled, and child rights.

In the domain of gender equality, the government is finalising the report on CEDAW Convention (Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women) that will be presented to the UN. A strategy against domestic violence is also being drafted. The Gender Equality Agency is to recruit an additional 7 persons according to the Kosovo draft Budget 2009. Each municipality will be asked to create an office of gender equality. A Gender Research Centre is to be set up. The OPM has established a commission that is in the process of reviewing the Administrative Instruction 2007/4 on the establishment of the human rights units with the aim to clarify overlapping responsibilities between AGE and OGG.

To ensure the protection of cultural heritage sites, the government has identified actions to protect orthodox churches, including (where necessary) hiring private companies. Prosecutions of those who attack these sites are ongoing, although not always at a satisfactory pace. The government is also stepping up educating people on the values of cultural heritage. A law on special protective zones has been adopted and a working group has been created to facilitate its implementation. Two more laws should be adopted by end 2008 regarding the protection of Prizren and Velika Hoca. The government gave a firm commitment to find a solution for the informal settlements and relocate persons living in lead-contaminated camps (before 2012). The government stated it would rapidly contact the leaders of these camps. As regards the return process, the government recalled the active role played by the municipalities and the will to further the cooperation between MLGA and MCR. The Government is completely committed to its policies of returns of all displaced and is working with donors to step up this process as well as improving the sustainability of the return process (revising the manual on sustainable return).

In the Community rights domain, the government stated that respective responsibilities of the three relevant bodies will be clarified. Their coordination will be ensured, including for budgeting.

Follow-up

- 9 Reviewing the legislation in the field of Human Rights and finalising the strategy and Action Plan for Human Rights (December 2008).
- 9 Approve the RAE strategy (December 2008).
- 9 Adopt the strategy for people with disabilities (Q2 2009).
- 9 Adopt the strategy on children rights during (Q2 2009).
- 9 Approve the strategy against domestic violence by the Government (Q2 2009)
- 9 Recruit an additional 7 persons to the Gender Equality Agency (Q4 2008)
- 9 Oversee the creation of offices of gender equality in each municipality. (No date)
- 9 Review of and subsequent decision on the Administrative Instruction 2007/4 on AGE (Q1 2009)
- 9 Establish a plan and timetable to relocate persons living in lead-contaminated camps (no date).
- 9 Draft a revised manual on returns (Q1 2009)

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- 9 Provide further information on the division of labour between bodies dealing with communities and returns in the next days. Adoption of two new laws on the protection of Prizren and Velika Hoca (by end 2009).

Property rights

The Government stated that there have been many property claims in Kosovo. The Kosovo Property Agency (KPA) is responsible for resolving private, agriculture and commercial property claims in the period before 1999. Whilst this should have been finalised by the end of 2007, it has had to deal with over 39,000 claims (of which 35,000 for land). So far the KPA has dealt with 16,000 claims and hopes to reach 19,000 by the end of the year. Kosovo has also started implementing these claims. Some of these will go to the courts and will have to be executed with the help of EULEX.

The Commission called upon a speedy settlement of claims and finalising the procedure to calculate and provide compensation for successful property claims.

Rule of Law / Judiciary

The Government stressed that 11 laws resulting from the Comprehensive Status Settlement package have been adopted and there have been improvements to the correctional services, including building infrastructure. However, Kosovo also needs a high security prison and intends to improve the functioning of the prisons system, particularly for juveniles.

Regarding juvenile justice, the government informed about the agreement between the MoJ and MEST to organise classes by public schools' teachers in special rooms enabling the prisoners to receive recognised certificates.

Kosovo intends to conclude laws on the Constitutional Court, Judicial Council, illegally obtained assets. This will launch the judicial reform to ensure coherence with the European judiciary to reach full independence of the judiciary.

With the entry into force of the constitution, Kosovo needs to harmonise legislation with the constitution. The Government is also finalising the laws on anti-corruption, conflicts of interest, autopsy, execution of sentences, declaration of assets, and will establish a forensics department.

The ombudsperson should be appointed before the end of the year by the Assembly.

The Commission pointed out the link between all of these laws and the EU's €25 million IPA package in this area, which includes helping build the new Palace of Justice, for which a suitable location still needs to be found, as the proposed one was unsatisfactory.

Follow-up

- 9 Conclude laws on the Constitutional Court, Judicial Council, and illegally obtained assets (Q3 2009).
- 9 Launch judicial reform to ensure coherence with the European judiciary (based on the work plans of MoJ and Kosovo Judicial Council, this should be completed by Q4 2012).
- 9 Adopt the Law on Amending the Law on Prevention of Conflicts of Interest (end June 2009)
- 9 Adopt the Law on Autopsy (Q1 2009)
- 9 Adopt the Law on Amending the Law on Penal Sanctions (end April 2009)
- 9 Government to use its weight to convince the Assembly to appoint the ombudsperson (before the end of 2008)
- 9 Clarify the seat of the High Security Prison within a very short period.

Regional Integration Initiatives

Kosovo has difficulty participating in regional integration initiatives and fora, and needs to define guidelines, with the help of the ECLO, to ensure this participation.

Follow-up

- 9 Establish guidelines to ensure Kosovo's participation in regional integration initiatives (January 2009)

IV Economic criteria

Existence of a functioning market economy

The Government will provide a response to the Commission's proposed Fiscal Surveillance Mechanism, having discussed the mechanism with the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

Kosovo's growth forecast for 2009 is +6% growth, driven by private sector development. Such figures assist in the precise execution of the budget; the level of expenditures until now is double that of the entire year of 2007, and this increase in expenditure has been carried out with the same number of personnel.

The 2009 budget is currently in its first reading in the Assembly, including a discussion with all political parties. The second reading is due before the end of the year. The government is trying to improve harmonisation between the MTEF and EPAP.

Kosovo has established privatisation committees for the 3 Publicly Owned Enterprises (KEK, Pristina International Airport and PTK, the telephone operator). By the end of the year an administrative instruction on staffing the boards of POEs will be drafted, and these boards will be appointed.

Kosovo intends to begin the full housing and population census in Q2 2009.

A new law on tax was adopted recently, which foresees the creation of a new investigative unit to combat fiscal evasion. Individual tax rates are determined by separate laws. In Q4 2009 Kosovo plans to start issuing fiscal numbers and to develop supporting tax IT systems.

Despite defects in the legal framework on public procurement, Kosovo has achieved a high rate of execution. In September 2008 the Procurement Review Board was established. The Public Procurement legal framework is to be reviewed in December to introduce flexibility as well as improving quality.

The law on State Aid is to be adopted before the end of 2009. An internal audit manual is to be published at the beginning of 2009 and licensing of auditors defined shortly afterwards.

Problems in the legislation of the Special Chamber of the Supreme Court have been an obstacle for the process of liquidating State-Owned Companies (SOEs). Redrafting the law is being finalised, it is hoped this can be completed in the first quarter of 2009.

The Commission regretted that there is still a significant backlog in the privatisation of SOEs. It also highlighted the importance of the governance of the Public-Owned Enterprises (POEs) and nomination to key posts in their boards (as well as to the boards of regulatory bodies). The forthcoming census needs to be co-ordinated with the International Civilian Representative (ICR) to ensure that the exercise covers the entire territory of Kosovo.

The Commission also expressed its concern at the way that the 2009 budget was being prepared. These concerns were shared with a number of Kosovo's partners (ICO, IMF). Salary increases need to be accompanied by sectoral reforms. Finally the Commission pointed out that a considerable investment in a budget development management system was being jeopardised by the lack of qualified personnel attributed.

Follow-up

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- 9 The Government should provide a response to the Commission on the proposed Fiscal Surveillance Mechanism (15 December 2008).
 - 9 Appoint the boards of the POEs according to the new Administrative Instruction (by the end of the year).
 - 9 Begin review of the Public Procurement legal framework (December 2008).
 - 9 Adopt law on State Aid (before the end of 2009)
 - 9 Publish internal audit manual (Q1 2009): define licensing of auditors (Q2 2009).
 - 9 Redraft the law of the Special Chamber of the Supreme Court (Q1 2009).

Capacity to cope with competitive pressure and market forces within the EU:

The Kosovo government announced that a regulation on the internal market would be adopted in the second half of next year, and the law on accreditation was waiting to be promulgated. The Accreditation Agency is being established. Kosovo is also in the process of reviewing the law on consumer protection. The Competition Commission hasn't yet been established, but the Government has nominated members to the Commission.

Next year the government will proceed with regulations on metrology and quality assurance, and is establishing a body on industrial property rights.

V. European Standards

Transport

Kosovo has made significant progress in its road building and maintenance programme, including 161 km of motorways (and significant work on regional and local roads to help expand the transport network). €126 million in capital investments have been foreseen for 2008, of which €92 million has already been spent. All this has been achieved using the same numbers of Ministry staff as last year.

Kosovo hopes to adopt its multi-modal transport strategy by June 2009. Investments in railways have been insufficient, which is why Kosovo intends to push this mode in the multi-modal strategy, in order to maintain the existing rail network. The Railway law has been adopted which foresees the creation of an Independent Rail Regulatory Authority (IRRA) which will benefit from EU assistance. The full establishment of the IRRA is foreseen for June 2009. In the meantime, the government is drawing up a shortlist for the members of its board.

In aviation, the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) has been established, although the board members are still to be appointed before the end of this year. The CAA has inherited many professional people from the previous (UNMIK) regulatory authority (CARO). All the instruments for Phase one of the European Common Aviation Agreement were adopted by November 20th 2008.

Education

Kosovo's education sector is facing 3 groups of problems: making education inclusive, linking education to the economy, and developing an inter-sectoral approach. Considerable capital investments were devoted in 2008 to improving educational space. The problem of classrooms and the shift system hampers students continuing secondary school; the government is trying to reduce the shift system in schools, and is close to achieving a reduction to 2 shifts in the larger towns. Curricula in Serbian have been developed, and the government is committed to implement them. There are agreements with Turkey and Bosnia to provide textbooks in their languages. Kosovo is reflecting whether it needs to develop all its textbooks or merely to translate those from neighbouring countries. Curricula for RAE students will be developed in 2009, including for Roma language. Kosovo is also trying to develop vocational training and special needs education.

Kosovo is implementing the law on teachers' salaries but is also re-qualifying 20,000 teachers. Those that fail the certification process are encouraged to return to university and take up teacher training studies. In parallel, Kosovo is developing teacher training curricula.

Social affairs

Kosovo's unemployment levels are high, and the cost of the present legislation is not affordable for Kosovo. A white paper on social affairs is being drafted by an inter-ministerial committee, it is hoped to finish this by January 2009, in order to target social support on those that really need it whilst bearing in mind the need for fiscal prudence and limited budget resources. At the same time, Kosovo is trying to engage with partners to develop opportunities in the European labour market.

The Commission stated the white paper should be complemented by an implementation strategy to reassure donors on the usefulness of assistance to that sector. Also accompanying measures should be developed such as the establishment of employment agencies in the municipalities.

Agriculture and rural development

The Food Law is currently in its second reading in the Assembly. The law foresees the establishment of a single Food and Veterinary Agency and integrating the Phytosanitary border management. The Agriculture and Rural Development Law is also being revised. This will create a payment agency, which will start by distributing Kosovo Consolidated Budget (KCB) funds. The Agriculture and Rural Development Plan is also being revised.

Kosovo is also preparing a strategy to upgrade agri-food establishments, and will begin by establishing an inter-ministerial working group on this.

Energy

Raising the level of billing and collection is a real challenge. The power utility (KEK) has created a new organisation structure per district to improve billing and collection, is installing meters at sub-stations and is increasing disconnection of bad payers. The net result is an increase of 12% in payment, 25% in supply and 2% in technical loss. Power tariffs increased in 2008.

KEK's unbundling was completed in September. KEK has to carry out, without any delay, the procurement procedures for key mining facilities needed in order to open the Southwest Sibovc mine as soon as possible. Until the new mine opens, KEK is stockpiling lignite. KEK intends to use this until the new mine is opened. Next year Kosovo will tender hydropower plants and is accepting proposals for wind energy. However, disagreements with Serbia hamper the system's operation.

The Law on natural gas has been approved in first reading at the Assembly and currently is being considered by the respective Assembly Committee, while the law on energy efficiency is being drafted. However, there are problems with Serbia for transmission networks. Tariffs have increased this year.

Environment

There is considerable environmental legislation in the pipeline for adoption next year, and this will be followed by implementing legislation. The law on ionising / non-ionising radiation is in second reading in the Assembly.

Kosovo is implementing its environmental action plan. However, lack of funds is a problem. Kosovo is also trying to gain membership of international organisations and protocols (including Kyoto).

Justice, freedom and security

Kosovo has drafted and carried out the review supplementing the strategy for Integrated Border Management and is finalising the plan for implementing this strategy. The Ministry of Internal Affairs

has signed a Cooperation Agreement with the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Albania, which contains an important inter-border cooperation element. It is also drawing up a strategy (with EULEX) to fight organised crime. For the moment, Kosovo has consolidated the government's action in the fight against people trafficking. The government has started to work on a strategy to combat drugs and for the fight against terrorism. The government expects to draft action plans once the strategies are adopted. There is also a strategy on the informal economy and money laundering. A draft law on money laundering is ready and the Commission asked for its copy.

There are questions as to where the FIC (Financial Investigation Centre) should be located, given the involvement of the international community. The Commission recommended that the government discusses with EULEX as to where the FIC be situated.

Follow-up

- 9 Adopt law on the internal market (Q3 2009). Implement the law on accreditation, including ensuring that the Accreditation Agency is operational (Q2 2009)
- 9 Review the law on consumer protection (Q1 2009)
- 9 Finalise establishment of the Competition Commission (Q4 2009).
- 9 Adopt regulations on metrology and quality assurance (Q4 2009)
- 9 Adopt the multi-modal transport strategy (June 2009)
- 9 Finalise the establishment of the Independent Rail Regulatory Authority (June 2009) and nominate the members of the IRRR board (end 2008)
- 9 Appoint the Civil Aviation Authority board (end 2008)
- 9 Finalise the white paper on social affairs (in consultation with international partners) (January 2009)
- 9 Adopt the Food Law (Q1 2009) and establish a single Food and Veterinary Agency (integrating Phytosanitary border management) (Q2 2009)
- 9 Revise the Agriculture and Rural Development law (Q1 2009).
- 9 Revise the Agriculture and Rural Development Plan, focusing on a limited number of priorities (Q2 2009)
- 9 Prepare a strategy to upgrade agri-food establishments (Q4 2009).
- 9 Adopt the Law on Natural Gas (Q4 2008)
- 9 Adopt the Law on Energy Efficiency consult the Commission on conformity. (Still no date)
- 9 Set targets for improvements to billing and collection rates (Q4 2009).
- 9 Adopt law on Nature Protection (Q4 2009)
- 9 Adopt Law on Protection from Ionising and Non-Ionising Radiation (Q2 2009)
- 9 Adopt amendments to the law on Environmental Impact Assessment and the law on Strategic Impact Assessment (Q1 2009).
- 9 Adopt Law on Integrated Prevention and Pollution Control (Q2 2009)
- 9 Develop curricula for RAE students, including for Roma language (by end 2009).
- 9 Adopt the law on money laundering (Q2 2009)
- 9 Adopt law on management of confiscated assets (Q3 2009)
- 9 Establish agency for management of confiscated assets (Q1 2010)
- 9 Endorse the strategy against narcotics (Q2 2009)
- 9 Endorse the strategy for the fight against organized crime (Q2 2009)

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- 9 Endorse the strategy against terrorism (Q2 2009)
- 9 Publish the Plan for the implementation of the Strategy on Integrated Border Management (Q1 2009)
- 9 Establishment of the Executive Board for the Integrated Border Management (Q2 2009)
- 9 Signing of Memorandum of Understanding with the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and the Republic of Montenegro (Q2 2009)

VI. Any other business

The minutes of the following sectoral meetings were adopted

- STM on Internal Market (14.04.2008)
- STM on Innovation (24.-25.04.2008)
- 14th Plenary STM (29.05.2008)
- STM on Good Governance (02.-03.06.2008)
- STM on Economy (17.06.2008)
- STM on Infrastructure (25/26.09.2008)
- STM on Agriculture (27/28.10.2008)

The next plenary STM meeting will take place in the first half of 2009. In the coming weeks, a calendar for sectoral STM meetings will be proposed.

The Commission thanked the Kosovan authorities for their hospitality in hosting this meeting, and the professionalism with which the meeting was organised.

**15TH MEETING OF THE STABILISATION-ASSOCIATION PROCESS
TRACKING MECHANISM**

Pristina, Kosovo, 2 December 2008

Attachment 1: List of Participants

1. Government of Kosovo:

- Mr. Hashim Thaçi, Prime Minister
- Mr. Hajredin Kuqi, Deputy Prime Minister responsible for EI
- Mr. Sadri Ferati, Minister MLGA
- Mr. Enver Hoxhaj, Minister MEST
- Mr. Idriz Vehapi, Minister MAFRD
- Mrs. Nekibe Kelmendi, Minister MoJ
- Mr. Ahmet Shala, Minister MFE
- Mrs. Justina Pula – Shiroka, Minister MEM
- Mr. Fehmi Mujota, Minister MSF
- Mr. Saša Raši, Minister MRC
- Mr. Valton Beqiri, Minister MCYS
- Mr. Mahir Yacilar, Minister MESP
- Mr. Zenun Pajaziti, Minister MIA
- Mr. Skender Hyseni, Minister MFA
- Mr. Nenad Raši, Minister MLSW
- Mr. Alush Gashi, Minister MoH
- Mr. Arsim Bajrami, Minister MPS
- Mr. Lutfi Zharku, Minister MTI
- Mr. Fatmir Limaj, Minister MTT
- Mrs. Shqipe Krasniqi, AGE Acting Chief Executive Officer
- Mr. Hasan Preteni, ACA Chief Executive Officer
- Mr. Shkumbin Bicaj, PAK Managing Director
- Mr. Xhevat Azemi, KPA Deputy Director
- Mr. Besfort Rrecaj, ACDEI Acting CEO
- Mr. Naim Fetahu, TAK Director
- Mr. Hashim Rexhepi, CBK Governor
- Mr. Naim Huruglica, Kosovo Customs Director
- Mr. Avni Kastrati, SOK Chief Executive Officer
- Mr. Hilmi Jashari, Acting Ombudsperson
- Mr. Lavdim Krasniqi, KJI Director
- Mr. Rexhep Haxhimusa, KJC Head
- Mrs. Naile Selimaj – Krasniqi, IMC Director
- Mr. Hilmi Zhitija, Kosovo Public Prosecutor
- Mr. Blerim Rudi, FIC Deputy Director
- Mr. Habit Hajredini, OGG Director
- Ms. Shqipe Mjekiqi, Office of the President EI Advisor
- Mrs. Zylfije Hundozi, Kosovo Assembly – Committee for EI Head
- Mr. Srdjan Senti, Office of Communities/OPM Director
- Mr. Fitim Krasniqi, Permanent Secretary ZKM
- Mr. Besnik Osmani, Permanent Secretary MLGA
- Mr. Enver Buqaj, Acting Permanent Secretary MEST
- Mr. Shefki Zeqiri, Acting Permanent Secretary MAFRD

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- Mr. Florian Dushi, Acting Permanent Secretary MoJ
 - Mr. Bashkim Isufi, Acting Permanent Secretary MFE
 - Znj./g- a/Mrs. Resmije Mumxhiu, Acting Permanent Secretary MEM
 - Mr. Shkelzen Sylja, Permanent Secretary MSF
 - Mr. Zana Kotorri, Acting Permanent Secretary MRC
 - Mr. Salih Morina, Permanent Secretary MCYS
 - Mr. Ismail Rudari, Acting Permanent Secretary MESP
 - Mr. Bardhyl Jashari, Acting Permanent Secretary MIA
 - Mr. Fitim Gllareva, Acting Permanent Secretary MFA
 - Mr. Eshref Shabani, Permanent Secretary MLSW
 - Mr. Afrim Sylejmani, Acting Permanent Secretary MoH
 - Mr. Fitim Sadiku, Acting Permanent Secretary MPS
 - Mr. Ibrahim Krasniqi, Permanent Secretary MTI
 - Mr. Skender Gashi, Permanent Secretary MTT
 - Mr. Ismet Krasniqi, Kosovo Assembly Secretary
 - Various EI Advisors, Assembly Committee for EI and EI Focal Points in ministries

2. European Commission:

- Mr Pierre MIREL, Director for Western Balkans, DG Enlargement
- Ms Genoveva RUIZ CALAVERA, Head of Kosovo Unit, DG Enlargement
- Mr Nicolas CENDROWICZ, Kosovo Unit, DG Enlargement
- Mr Stefano DOTTO, Kosovo Unit, DG Enlargement
- Mr Arnaud APPRIOU, Kosovo Unit, DG Enlargement
- Mr Viktor BOJKOV, Kosovo Unit, DG Enlargement
- Mr. Lukas HOLUB, Kosovo Unit, DG Enlargement
- Ms Isabelle TROCH, Kosovo Unit, DG Enlargement
- Ms. Magdalena MUELLER-URI, Kosovo Unit, DG Enlargement
- Mr Renzo DAVIDDI, Head of European Commission Liaison Office in Pristina
- Mr Khaldoun SINNO, Head of Political, Economic and European Integration Section, ECLO
- Mr Kjartan BJORNSSON, Head of Operations, ECLO
- Mr Freek JANMAAT, ECLO
- Ms Friederike WUENSCHMANN, ECLO
- Mr Emmanuel COHEN-HADRIA, ECLO
- Ms Iva STAMENOVA, ECLO
- Mr Gazmend SELIMI, ECLO
- Ms Merita GOVORI, ECLO
- Ms Besime KAJTAZI, ECLO
- Mr Wolfgang KOETH, ECLO
- Ms Carole POULLAOUPEC, ECLO
- Ms Lendiata GASHI, ECLO
- Ms Emilia GARGALLO GONZALEZ, ECLO

3. EUSR/ ICO

- Mr Pieter Feith, EU Special Representative in Kosovo and ICR
- Mr Severin STROHAL, ICO
- Ms Maria FIHL, ICO
- Mr Ruediger LOTZ, ICO

4. EU Presidency:

- Ms Delphine BORIONE, French Embassy

5. UNMIK:

- Mr Kris Pierre Litiere, Special Adviser to the Special Representative of the Secretary General

6. EU Member States:

- Mr Gernot PFANDLER, Austrian Embassy
- Mr Wim PEETERS, Belgian Office
- Mr Andy SPARKES, British Embassy
- Mr Ivo Ivanov, Bulgarian Office
- Mr Jan PLESINGER, Czech Office
- Ms Janina HREBICKOVA, Czech Republic Embassy
- Ms Kristiina HAIKIO, Finish Office
- Mr Eckart Blaurock, German Embassy
- Mr Dimitris A.MOSCHOPOULOS, Greek Office
- Mr Zoltan IMECZ, Hungarian Office
- Mr Michael GIFFONI, Italian Embassy
- Mr Pierre WEBER, Luxembourg Office
- Mr Henk VOSKAMP, Netherlands Embassy or Carel BRANDS Deputy
- Mr Gheorghe BUCURA, Romanian Office
- Mr Miloslav NAD, Slovakian Office
- Mr Vojko VOLK, Slovenian Embassy
- Ms Ingrid JOHANSSON, Swedish Office

7. EULEX

- Alessandro Rotta, Political Advisor

8. OSCE

- Joseph BRINKER
- Christopher DECKER
- Wilma THEUWS