



## **SECOND STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING - Strasbourg, 17- 18 March 2014**

### **Operational conclusions**

The partners of the EU/CoE Joint Programme « Strengthening democratic reform in the Southern Neighbourhood » (South Programme), on the occasion of the Second Steering Committee meeting (agenda and list of participants attached), adopted the following operational conclusions.

The partners :

1. Welcomed the achievements of concrete results since the beginning of the Programme's implementation, in the different components (Justice reform, Promotion of good governance, Human rights/Prevention of trafficking in human beings and Promotion of democratic values).
2. Considered that a reinforced political dialogue with relevant beneficiary countries, providing a support at high level to co-operation activities, will be beneficial for the South Programme and will facilitate the operational implementation of the commitments and reforms supported by the South Programme.
3. Took notes of the conclusions and recommendations of the mid-term evaluation prepared by IBF International Consulting at the request of the European Commission, which highlights the Programme's relevance and sustainability as well as the efficiency in its implementation.
4. Welcomed the expertise that the CoE puts at the disposal of the beneficiaries as well as the responsiveness and flexibility to reply to their demands.
5. Decided to continue involving closely civil society in Steering Committee meetings and, when appropriate, in the Programme's activities, considering the fundamental role of civil society in the democratic reform process in partner countries.
6. Took notes of the different initiatives undertaken in the framework of the South Programme to promote the exchange of experiences and the setting-up of networks between Southern Mediterranean countries and underlined their wish to continue strengthening South-South co-operation. In this respect, they also stressed the opportunity to further involve other African countries in order to deal in an appropriate

way with certain themes which go beyond the geographical scope of the Programme (e.g. trafficking in human beings).

7. Stressed the need to implement the Programme's actions as a part of a comprehensive approach (« holistic approach ») and considered, in this respect, that it would be appropriate to further strengthen synergies among the different components.
8. Recalled the need to ensure complementarity among the actions of different donors.
9. Endorsed the orientations presented during the meeting regarding the activities proposed for 2014, while stressing that the Programme remains flexible, in order to continue providing replies to the demand of partner countries.
10. Invited beneficiary countries which have not yet done so to designate a contact person as soon as possible.
11. Undertook to implement the recommendations of the Steering Committee meeting in their respective areas of work.

## ANNEX I

### Agenda

**Monday, 17 March 2014**

2:15 pm - 2:30 pm      Registration of participants

2:30 pm - 3:30 pm      **Opening session**

*Chair: V. Taylor, Director of the Office of the Directorate General of Programmes (CoE)*

Speakers:

- Introductory remarks, *L. Pavan-Woolfe, Ambassador, Head of the EU Delegation to the CoE, Strasbourg*
- Latest developments in the Council of Europe policy towards its neighbouring regions, *Z. Taubner, Director of External Relations (CoE)*
- Presentations by South Programme national coordinators

*Exchange of views*

3:30 pm - 4:30 pm      **Enhancing the independence and efficiency of the judiciary** (component 1): results for the period under review, activities and workplan for 2014

*Chair: V. Taylor, Director of the Office of the Directorate General of Programmes (CoE)*

Speakers:

- *M. Decot, Head of Unit, Secretariat of the Committees for Justice, Independance and Efficiency of Justice, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law*
- *Representatives of relevant Ministries and Agencies (Morocco, Tunisia)*

*Exchange of views*

4.30 pm – 4.45 pm      *Coffee break*

4:45 pm - 5:45 pm      **Promoting good governance notably through increased prevention of corruption and money laundering** (component 2): results for the period under review, activities and workplan for 2014

*Chair: V. Taylor, Director of the Office of the Directorate General of Programmes (CoE)*

Speakers:

- *A. Abdiu, Head of Unit, Economic crime, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law*
- *Representatives of relevant Ministries and Agencies (Morocco, Tunisia)*

*Exchange of views*

**Tuesday, 18 March 2014**

- 9:00 am - 9:45 am      **Strengthening human rights protection through the prevention and control of trafficking in human beings** (component 3): results for the period under review, activities and workplan for 2014  
*Chair: K. de Peyron, Head of Division, Multilateral relations, European External Action Service (EU)*  
*Speakers:*
- *E. Baron, Co-operation Programme Manager, Equality and Human dignity Department, Directorate General Democracy*
  - *Representatives of relevant Ministries and Agencies (Morocco, Tunisia)*
- Exchange of views*
- 9:45 am – 12:30 pm      **Promoting regional co-operation to protect human rights and promote democratic values** - first part  
*Co-chair:*  
*A. Cortezón Gómez, Head of Sector, Regional Programmes Neighbourhood South, DEVCO (EU)*  
*P. Morales, Head of Division, Programming Neighbourhood, Office of the Directorate General of Programmes (CoE)*
- 9:45 am - 10:30 am      **Schools of Political Studies** (component 4): results for the period under review, activities and workplan for 2014  
*Speakers:*
- *M. Remmert, Deputy to the Director of Policy Planning, Responsible of the Schools of Political Studies network of the CoE*
  - *Representatives of the Schools of Political Studies*
- Exchange of views*
- 10:30 pm – 10:45 pm      *Coffee break*
- 10:45 am - 11:30 am      **Parliamentary Assembly of the CoE** (component 4): results for the period under review, activities and workplan for 2014  
*Speakers:*
- *A. Mancini, Deputy to the Head of Division, Parliamentary Projects Support Division*
  - *Representative of the Moroccan Parliament*
- Exchange of views*
- 11:30 am - 12:15 pm      **Pompidou Group** (component 4): results for the period under review, activities and workplan for 2014  
*Speakers:*
- *F. Mabileau, Head of Unit, Research, Mediterranean Cooperation – Secretariat of the Co-operation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Drugs (Pompidou Group), Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law*
  - *Representatives of relevant Ministries and Agencies (Morocco, Tunisia)*
- Exchange of views*

- 12:30 pm - 2:00 pm *Lunch*
- 2.00 am – 6:00 pm **Promoting regional co-operation to protect human rights and promote democratic values** - second part  
Co-chair:  
*A. Cortezón Gómez, Head of Sector, Regional Programmes Neighbourhood South, DEVCO (EU)*  
*P. Morales, Head of Division, Programming Neighbourhood, Office of the Directorate General of Programmes (CoE)*
- 2:00 pm – 2:45 pm **North-South Centre** (component 4): results for the period under review, activities and workplan for 2014  
Speaker:
  - *J.-M. Heydt, President of the Executive Committee to the European Centre for global Interdependence and Solidarity (North-South Center) of the CoE, Directorate General of Democracy**Exchange of views*
- 2:45 pm - 3:30 pm **Venice Commission** (component 4): results for the period under review, activities and workplan for 2014  
Speaker:
  - *S. Kouznetsov, Head of Neighbourhood Co-operation Division, Secretariat of the Enlarged Agreement on Democracy through Law (Venice Commission), Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law**Exchange of views*
- 3:30 pm – 4:15 pm **Youth** (component 4): results for the period under review, activities and workplan for 2014  
Speaker:
  - *R. Gomes, Head of Division, Education and Training, Youth Department, Directorate General of Democracy**Exchange of views*
- 4:15 pm – 4.30 pm *Coffee break*
- 4:30 pm - 5:15 pm **Transversal activities – promotion of CoE conventions:** results for the period under review, activities and workplan for 2014  
Speaker:
  - *K. Markovova, Advisor, Programming Neighbourhood Division, Office of the Directorate General of Programmes (CoE)**Exchange of views*
- 5:15 pm **Concluding remarks**  
*P. Morales, Head of Division, Programming Neighbourhood, Office of the Directorate General of Programmes (CoE)*  
*K. de Peyron, Head of Division, Multilateral relations, European External Action Service (UE)*

## ANNEX II

### List of participants

#### Morocco

- **Mr. Menouar Alem**, Ambassador, Permanent Representative of the Kingdom of Morocco to the European Union, Brussels
- **Mr. Youssef Balla**, General Consul of the Kingdom of Morocco in Strasbourg
- **Mr. Abdesselam Abouddrar**, President of the Central Authority for the Prevention of Corruption
- **Mr. Abderrazak Rouwane**, Secretary General, Inter-ministerial Delegation for Human Rights
- **Mr. Larbi Tabit**, Secretary General, Ministry of Solidarity, Women, Family and Social Development
- **Ms. Najia Rahali**, Director General of Studies, Co-operation and Modernisation, Ministry of Justice and Liberties
- **Mr. Omar Hassouni**, Counsellor to the President of the House of Representatives, Parliament of Morocco
- **Ms. Fatima-Zahra Guedira**, Responsible of the International Co-operation Entity, Central Authority for the Prevention of Corruption
- **Mr. Youssef Laaraj**, Director of the Moroccan Citizenship School of Political Studies
- **Mr. Ali Bouabid**, General Delegate, Abderrahim Bouabid Foundation (representative of civil society)
- **Prof. Jallal Toufiq**, Director of the National Center of treatment, prevention and research in addictions; Correspondant in Morocco of the Co-operation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Drugs (Pompidou Group)
- **Mr. Khalid El Battachi**, Vice-Consul of the Kingdom of Morocco in Strasbourg
- **Mr. Said Ibn Taleb**, Vice-Consul of the Kingdom of Morocco in Strasbourg

#### Tunisia

- **Mr. Ridha Zguidane**, Consul of Tunisia in Strasbourg
- **Ms. Salma Nanous**, Deputy Director, Directorate General for Europe, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- **Ms. Kaouthar Chelbi**, Vice-Consul of Tunisia in Strasbourg
- **Ms. Sana Bhar**, Chargée de mission, international co-operation, Ministry of Justice
- **Ms. Ines Maatar**, Judge chargée de mission, in charge of the Office of Strategic Planning, Cabinet - Ministry of Justice
- **Mr. Samir Annabi**, President of the National Authority against Corruption
- **Mr. Ahmed Driss**, Director of the Tunisian School of Politics

#### Jordan

- **Mr. Akram Hayajneh**, Political Officer, Embassy of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan in Brussels

#### Algeria

- **Mr. Lyamine Achache**, Deputy Director of Countries of Northern Europe, Directorate General Europe, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- **Mr. Mourad Arab**, Counsellor of Foreign Affairs, Head of the office of monitoring the activities with the European Institutions, Directorate General Europe, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

## Egypt

- **Ms. Hanaa Ebeid**, Al Ahram Center for Political and Strategic Studies, Al Ahram Foundation (representative of civil society)

## Israel

- **Ms. Sybille Zaktreger**, Adviser, Embassy of Israel, Paris

## Libya

- **Mr. Aly Abuzaakouk**, President, Citizenship Forum for Democracy and Human Development (representative of civil society)

## European Union

### **European External Action Service (EEAS)**

- **Ms. Luisella Pavan-Woolfe**, Ambassador, Head of the European Union Delegation to the Council of Europe, Strasbourg
- **Ms. Kristin de Peyron**, Head of Division - Multilateral relations, Brussels
- **Mr. Jacek Grabovski**, Deputy to the Head of the European Union Delegation to the Council of Europe, Strasbourg
- **Mr. Louis Dey**, Project Manager Justice and Human Rights, European Union Delegation in Morocco
- **Ms. Cristiana Famea**, Division - Multilateral relations, Brussels

### **European Commission – Directorate General Development and Co-operation (DEVCO)**

- **Mr. Alberto Cortezón Gómez**, Head of Sector, Regional Programmes Neighbourhood South

## Council of Europe (CoE)

### **Office of the Directorate General of Programmes**

- **Ms. Verena Taylor**, Director
- **Ms. Pilar Morales**, Head of Division, Programming Neighbourhood, South Programme Coordinator
- **Ms. Gaia Manselli**, South Programme Deputy Coordinator
- **Ms. Katerina Markovova**, Adviser, Programming Neighbourhood Division
- **Mr. William Massolin**, Coordinator of activities of the Council of Europe in Tunisia
- **Mr. Mehdi Remili**, Coordinator of activities of the Council of Europe in Morocco

### **Directorate of External Relations**

- **Mr. Zoltan Taubner**, Director
- **Mr. Jean Claus**, Adviser, Department of Relations with International Organisations and Non-Member States
- **Mr. Max Gilbert**, Adviser, Department of Relations with International Organisations and Non-Member States
- **Mr. Ilya Subbotin**, Political Adviser, Council of Europe Liaison Office with the European Union (EU), Brussels

## **Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law**

Enhancing the independence and efficiency of the judiciary (component 1)

- **Ms. Muriel Decot**, Head of Unit, Secretariat of the Committees for Justice, Independence and Efficiency of Justice
- **Ms. Casandra Berlinschi**, Justice Reform Co-operation, Independence and Efficiency of Justice

Promoting good governance notably through increased prevention of corruption and money laundering (component 2)

- **Ms. Ardita Abdiu**, Head of Unit, Economic crime
- **Mr. Guillaume Parent**, Project coordinator, Economic crime

Promoting regional co-operation to protect human rights and promote democratic values (component 4)

- **Mr. Jean-Marie Heydt**, President of the Executive Committee to the European Centre for global Interdependence and Solidarity (North-South Center) of the Council of Europe
- **Mr. Serguei Kouznetsov**, Head of Neighbourhood Co-operation Division, Secretariat of the Enlarged Agreement on Democracy through Law (Venice Commission)
- **Ms. Florence Mabileau**, Head of Unit, Research, Mediterranean Cooperation – Secretariat of the Co-operation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Drugs (Pompidou Group)

## **Directorate General of Democracy**

Strengthening human rights protection through the prevention and control of trafficking in human beings (component 3)

- **Mr. Emmanuel Baron**, Co-operation Programme Manager, Equality and Human dignity Department

Promoting regional co-operation to protect human rights and promote democratic values (component 4)

- **Mr. Rui Gomes**, Head of Division, Education and Training, Youth Department

## **Directorate of Policy Planning**

Promoting regional co-operation to protect human rights and promote democratic values (component 4)

- **Mr. Michael Remmert**, Deputy to the Director of Policy Planning, Responsible of the Schools of Political Studies network of the Council of Europe

## **Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe**

Promoting regional co-operation to protect human rights and promote democratic values (component 4)

- **Ms. Despina Chatzivassiliou**, Head of the Political Affairs and Democracy Department
- **Mr. Alessandro Mancini**, Deputy to the Head of Division, Parliamentary Projects Support Division