

INFORMATION NOTE FOR THE LAUNCH OF GLOBAL JUDICIAL INTEGRITY NETWORK MEETING ON 9-10 APRIL 2018 IN VIENNA

Introduction

On 9-10 April 2018, the Launch of Global Judicial Integrity Network was held in Vienna. President of the Court of Cassation Mr. İsmail Rüştü CİRİT was officially invited to the meeting regarding the activities carried out in cooperation with United Nations Development Program within the framework of "Ethics, Transparency and Trust Project of the Court of Cassation. Deputy Secretary General Mr. Dr. Mustafa SALDIRIM and Project Expert Mrs. Gözde HÜLAGÜ accompanied Mr. CİRİT.

Doha Declaration and the Process of Judicial Integrity

In 2015, at the 13th Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice launched the project on judicial integrity in Doha. One of the main features of the Project rests with the establishing "Global Judicial Integrity Network" which will support the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Code of Conduct and the implementation of Article 11 of UN Convention Against Corruption which Turkey has become a party. Once the Global Judicial Integrity Network is launched, it will link various judicial Networks, judiciary associations and Judiciary Integrity Groups operating at national, regional and international levels.

UNODC (United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime) has begun to organize a series of regional meetings with the senior judicial officials to discuss the regional challenges and priorities in the judiciary in terms of integrity, independence, transparency and accountability. The first of these meetings was held in Tunisia in September 2016, the second one in Bangkok in 2016 and the third in Panama.

The Global Judicial Integrity Network is expected to provide the following in the 2015-2020 period:

- Training more than 1500 judges, prosecutors and court managers on judicial integrity standards
- Adopting measures to strengthen code of conduct in more than 20 countries
- Improving the code of conduct in criminal justice system in more than 35 countries.
- Adopting comprehensive national strategies for enhancing corporate integrity and ethics in more than 10 countries.
- Preventing and/or investigating ethical violations in the public and private sectors, establishing specialized institutions and/or adoption of measures for strengthening the capacities in more than 10 countries.

At the end of regional meetings, the participants agreed that Global Judicial Integrity Network would provide the following benefits:

- (a) Bringing together the judges to discuss common problems regarding the judicial integrity
- (b) Providing a database for the judges about the standards and norms, training manuals, disciplinary decisions etc.
- (c) Assisting to design new instruments such as asset declaration, performance evaluation, best practice reviews by the judicial authority to increase integrity and prevent corruption
- (d) Providing information technology applications for case management, court users' feedback and complaint system
- (e) Providing technical assistance to judges in areas such as capacity building, research and evaluation, performance evaluation and drafting code of conduct.

At the meeting, information was gathered on ongoing works, good practices and priorities and the needs and expectations of the judges in the region were assessed and it has been decided to append provisions regarding the use of social media and sexual harassment to Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct.

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