



# SPCP 2012-16 Swiss Regional Police Cooperation Programme

July – September 2016

Issue #12

## Meetings

### PCC SEE - Friends-of-Chairmanship Subgroup on Data Protection

5-7 July | Ljubljana, Slovenia

National data protection authorities, Ministries of Interior of Hungary, Macedonia, Moldova, Romania, and Montenegro in its capacity of Chairmanship-in-Office, completed a thorough comparative analysis between their individual data protection arrangements, with the aim to identify any relevant variations. They agreed that whilst PCC SEE provides a sufficient legal basis for cross-border exchange of information, including personal data, consensus is required to specify the practical aspects of implementing PCC SEE articles. The Working Group on Data Protection will meet for the second time in November 2016, where joint solutions will be sought.

### PCC SEE - 1<sup>st</sup> Ad Hoc Meeting on Automated Exchange of Data

6-8 July | Ljubljana, Slovenia

In a step towards an EU Prüm-inspired framework for SEE, the first ad hoc meeting on automated exchange of data was convened. National legal experts discussed and finalised the draft Agreement on Automated Exchange of Data, an agreement prepared in advance by the so-called Friends-of-Chairmanship subgroup (selected experts from Austria, Hungary and Slovenia) to include dactyloscopic and vehicle registration data. By the end of 2016 the remaining necessary legal and technical documents will be drafted, i.e. the Implementing Agreement on Automated Exchange of Data and two user manuals for dactyloscopic and vehicle registration data. This will be followed by the Contracting Parties initiating the internal procedures for official negotiations of all prepared draft documents in 2017.

### UNODC-WCO Container Control Programme Steering Committee meeting

2<sup>nd</sup> September | Bar, Montenegro

The meeting provided a detailed progress on the implementation of the 2015/ 2016 CCP workplan and concrete figures of the Joint Port Control Unit achievements. Amongst the challenges identified were the need for improved cooperation with the private sector and greater gender balance within teams. Participants agreed that greater frequency of Steering Committee meetings would enhance the contribution to improved dialogue, ownership and sustainability.

### .BK - SEPCA Strategy Board and General Assembly Meetings

13-14 September | The Hague, The Netherlands



*SEPCA GA at Europol premises*

Meetings were attended by the Directors General of the national Police Organisations and the Southeast Europe Police Chiefs Association (SEPCA) Strategy Board members. The participants shared relevant experiences and devised a plan for further cooperation. They jointly expressed their will to continue and strengthen the close collaboration both on operational and strategic level.

The newly established Management Information System (MIS) for SEPCA represents the central steering

tool for the Directors in the region. Member countries are afforded further support by Europol in particular with respect to analytical expertise. A next important step of the SEPCA strategy will consist in the preparation of the MIS-Report 2017, based on the SOCTA-methodology designed by Europol.

**OSCE mission in Kosovo – Meeting with General Director of Albanian State Police (ASP)**  
**16 September | Tirana, Albania**

The Department for Security and Public Safety/OSCE Mission in Kosovo, jointly with representatives of OSCE presence in Albania, met with the General Director of ASP to discuss the technicalities of the implementation, challenges, and way forward in finalising the Kosovo and Albania Joint Serious Organised Crime Threat Assessment (SOCTA).

The joint SOCTA will be launched on 08 November, 2016 during a conference to be hosted in Prishtina, Kosovo.

**IOM - Steering Committee meeting**  
**29 September | Becici, Montenegro**

The IOM Steering Committee meeting reviewed the project's main achievements and constraints, received participants' comments on the implementation of the project, and concluded with an overview of the remaining activities scheduled during the final trimester of 2016.



*Steering Committee Meeting*

## ***Trainings***

**UNODC – WCO introduce a Public Private Partnership (PPP) Approach at the Port of Bar in Montenegro**  
**1<sup>st</sup> of September | Bar, Montenegro**

Complementing two similar workshops in Albania and Bosnia & Herzegovina, the workshop was open to business companies, shipping lines and maritime companies operating at the Port of Bar, with its aim to build capacity, enhance cooperation, and exchange of information amongst the Bar Joint Port Unit and business community. Influential decision-makers from the Montenegrin authorities were also present, discussing how to promote PPP in the area of Container Control, with a particular focus on access to electronic pre-arrival information, completed and correct import and export declarations, cooperation in container examinations, and improvement of Port infrastructure.



*UNODC-WCO PPP meeting*

**IOM – Training in Humanitarian Border Management**  
**13-14 September | Ohrid, Macedonia**

Border police officials of Macedonia benefited from a 2 day training in Respecting Human Rights in Border Management, with particular attention paid to assisting vulnerable migrant groups such as children, elderly, people with disabilities, and LGBTI.

This training was a follow up of the “Training the Trainers” course held in March 2016 for all six SPCP Western Balkan’s countries.



## **PCC SEE - Workshop on Syrian and Iraqi Forged and Counterfeit Documents**

**19-22 September | Budapest, Hungary**

This workshop was held as a follow up to the 6th meeting of the Thematic Working Group on Exchange of Information regarding Forged and Fake Travel Documents of April 2016, and designed specifically to address common challenges faced by Contracting Parties in detecting counterfeit Syrian and Iraqi documents.

With the support of the Hungarian Ministry of Interior International Training Centre, the 3-day workshop included participation of second-line officers and forensic document experts from Contracting Party countries.

Participants exchanged national experiences, examined case studies, identified forgery trends of travel documents, and highlighted specific Syrian and Iraqi document features. Useful information on Syrian and Iraqi cultural background and differences was also provided.

This sharing of experience was facilitated by international experts from Switzerland, Belgium, Germany and the United Kingdom.



*Workshop on Syrian and Iraqi Counterfeit and Forged Documents*

## **NEWS**

### **Joint SOCTAs presentations**

Two Joint Serious and Organized Crime Threat Assessment (SOCTA) - one developed jointly by police services of Serbia, Montenegro and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, and the other by the police services of Kosovo and Albania - will be officially presented and promoted, for the former in Belgrade Serbia on the 14<sup>th</sup> of November 2016, and for the latter in Prishtina Kosovo on the 8<sup>th</sup> of November 2016.

Both conferences will gather the Ministers of Interior and Police Directors of the participating countries, and include the Heads of OSCE Mission in the region, representatives of the donor country, Europol, and international and regional organisations who are active in the field of organised crime in the Western Balkans.

The conferences come at the culmination of each three-year project that has systemically strengthened the respective police services' capacities in criminal analytics and strategic assessment in the fields of serious and organised crime. Apart from promoting the joint SOCTA report, it is also expected to encourage the discussion on future endeavours in combating serious and organised crime in Western Balkans in line with the conclusions of regional SOCTA.

### **SPCP 2012-2016 "Story of Change" documentary**

Informative interviews from beneficiaries and footage of trainings are being collected throughout the final semester of 2016. This collection of footage will continue during the remaining implementation period of SPCP.

The collected material will nourish a web based multimedia platform consisting of a combination of image, text, audio and video to be published early 2017.

*The views expressed in this newsletter do not necessarily reflect the views of the institutions referred to or represented within this Newsletter.*