

Annex VIII



European Commission and Council of Europe provide support to good governance: Launching of the project against Corruption in Ukraine

Kyiv, 25 September 2006: The Ukrainian Minister of Justice, Mr Roman Zvarych, will officially introduce the launching of the Ukrainian Project against Corruption (UPAC). The project is funded with 1, 75 Million Euros from the European Communities' Tacis Programme and will be implemented by the Council of Europe.

The European Commission assistance to Ukraine on eradicating corruption is governed by the European Neighbouring Policy (ENP) EU-Ukraine Action Plan. The Action Plan, adopted in February 2005, contains provisions regarding the need to ensure the effectiveness of the fight against corruption. The project will be implemented by the Council of Europe in close partnership with the Ministry of Justice and other Ukrainian stakeholder institutions, and will last until May 2009.

UPAC will, *inter alia*, provide the Ukrainian counterparts with assistance in the implementation of the recently adopted National Anti-corruption Concept (Strategy); this includes support to the elaboration of an Action Plan, and to the creation of effective monitoring mechanisms to oversee the success of the Concept.

UPAC will also help the Ukrainian authorities' to increase their capacities for the prevention of corruption, and contribute to the approximation of Ukrainian legislation to international standards in the fight against corruption, in particular those set by the Council of Europe Criminal and Civil Law Conventions against Corruption, and the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

For more information please contact:

Council of Europe, Directorate General of Legal Affairs, Crime Problems Department
(Tel: + 33 388 41 23 54); (Fax: + 33 388 41 39 55)