



## **Heads of police from South-eastern Europe signed an agreement to ensure co-operation in financial investigations and confiscation of proceeds of crime**

Belgrade/Serbia – Heads of Police from South-eastern Europe (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” and UNMIK) met in Belgrade (Serbia) on 20 June 2007 to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on regional co-operation and exchange of information related to identification, seizure and confiscation of proceeds of crime. The meeting was organised by the Council of Europe as part of the "CARPO" regional police project against serious crime in South Eastern Europe it co-funds with the European Commission.

The objective of the MoU is to facilitate an effective, easy and prompt exchange of information for the purpose of identifying, tracing, seizing and confiscating proceeds of crime. The six countries and UNMIK appointed contact persons to facilitate this process. Such agreement will further enhance an informal regional networking among law enforcement institutions in South-eastern Europe and strengthen their capacities to fight effectively organised and economic crime.

Heads of Police agreed to meet again in the course of 2008, with the support of the Council of Europe and Europol, to evaluate the efficiency and results reached in the framework of the MoU and to address specific needs to reinforce, at regional level, the co-operation and exchange of information in financial investigations.

For more information please see our website: [www.coe.int/economiccrime](http://www.coe.int/economiccrime) or [www.coe.int/carpo](http://www.coe.int/carpo)