



## PCC SEE

<b>Sofia, 21 May 2010</b>	<b>CoM 03/10</b>
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From: PCC SEE Expert Working Group

To: PCC SEE Committee of Ministers

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Subject: Conclusions of the Third Meeting of the Committee of Ministers

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This document was drafted by the Bulgarian Chairmanship-in-Office and the PCC SEE Secretariat and was discussed at the meeting of the Expert Working Group in Sofia on 19 May 2010. The draft conclusions were amended in accordance with the comments and suggestions received from the representatives of the Contracting Parties.



**BULGARIAN CHAIRMANSHIP-IN-OFFICE**



**PCC SEE**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Committee of Ministers**

**under the**

**Police Cooperation Convention for Southeast Europe**

**Sofia, 21 May 2010**

The Ministers of the Contracting Parties to the Police Cooperation Convention for Southeast Europe (hereinafter referred to as PCC SEE), being the Republic of Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Republic of Bulgaria, the Republic of Macedonia, the Republic of Moldova, Montenegro, Romania and the Republic of Serbia,

*Gathered* for the third time in their statutory capacity under Article 33 of PCC SEE,

*Reiterating* their determination to strengthen the efficient cooperation between their law enforcement authorities and therewith to enhance the security and stability of the region and to contribute to the expanding of the single European area of freedom, security and justice,

*Recognizing* the significant progress regarding the implementation of the Convention and its positive impact on the region and beyond,

*Assessing highly* the implementation of the priorities of the Bulgarian Chairmanship-in-Office during the first half of 2010,

Have agreed on the following

## **CONCLUSIONS**

### **1. Data Protection**

Reiterating that the protection of personal data and the conducting of mutual evaluations in this area are of key importance for the effective implementation of PCC SEE, the Ministers expressed their satisfaction with the first meeting of the Ad hoc Working Group on Data Protection within PCC SEE held on 25 and 26 February 2010 in Ljubljana.

The Ministers reaffirmed the agreement reached at expert level within the Ad hoc Working Group that the mutual evaluations should start as soon as possible, right after the submission of declarations for readiness from the Contracting Parties subject to evaluations.

In this context the Ministers endorsed the list of national experts nominated by the Contracting Parties as members of the mutual evaluation team(s).

Albania expressed its readiness to be the first evaluated country and invited the evaluation team.

### **2. Harmonised Training on PCC SEE Related Matters**

Following the conclusions from their previous meetings recognising the conduct of harmonised training on Convention related matters as a key priority for the implementation of PCC SEE, the Ministers endorsed the Strategy Paper Regarding the Conduct of Harmonised Training on Convention Related Matters drafted by the PCC SEE Secretariat and endorsed by the Expert Working Group (CoM 01/10).

The Ministers congratulated the Bulgarian Chairmanship-in-office for organising a meeting of representatives of the police education and training institutions of the Contracting Parties in Sofia on 8 and 9 April 2010, estimating highly the outcomes of the discussions.

Acknowledging the discussions held at the meeting of the representatives of the police education and training institutions, the Ministers adopted a Decision on changing the term “standardised training” to “harmonised training” in all PCC SEE documents (CoM 02/10).

The Ministers welcomed the decision of the Expert Working Group to establish a Thematic Working Group on Police Education and Training within PCC SEE, in order to facilitate the introduction of harmonised training on Convention related matters in all Contracting Parties.

### **3. PCC SEE as a Modern Instrument for Information Exchange and Efficient Police Cooperation in the Region**

Acknowledging that the simple and timely exchange of information is a key factor for achieving efficient results, the Ministers held a detailed discussion on the aspects of PCC SEE as a modern instrument for exchange of information and efficient police cooperation in South East Europe.

The Bulgarian Chairmanship-in-office proposed further actions for speeding up of the practical implementation of PCC SEE.

The Ministers agreed to take particular steps for the establishment of direct contacts between the competent law enforcement structures.

The Ministers reached an agreement to focus the attention towards the “human dimension” of the cooperation and to encourage the contacts between the structures with similar competences responsible for the implementation of each of the forms of cooperation provided for in PCC SEE, in order to identify the concrete partners, to build mutual trust and to reach efficient interaction.

### **4. Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation and Support regarding the PCC SEE Secretariat**

Reconfirming the full commitment of the Contracting Parties to an effective implementation process, including the allocation of necessary financial and human resources, the Ministers and the Director of the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) signed a Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation and Support regarding the PCC SEE Secretariat (CoM 04/10). Albania announced its intention to accede to the Memorandum subsequently, being not able to sign it at the meeting due to objective reasons. The Memorandum defines the role and tasks of the Secretariat, the cooperation between the Contracting Parties and the Secretariat, the support of the Contracting Parties to the functioning of the Secretariat, as well as the organizational and operational modalities of the Secretariat.

On the occasion of their third meeting, the Ministers also took note of the discussions within the Expert Working Group at its meeting on 19 May 2010 in Sofia.

The Ministers welcomed the report by the PCC SEE Secretariat and expressed their sincere gratitude for the support provided by the Secretariat and the international partners with regard to the implementation of PCC SEE.

The Ministers also welcomed the priorities of the upcoming Macedonian Chairmanship of PCC SEE during the second half of 2010, assessing the proposals as useful and consistent.

**FOR THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS**

**FOR THE PCC SEE SECRETARIAT**

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**Tsvetan Tsvetanov**  
**Chair of the Committee of Ministers**  
**Deputy Prime Minister and**  
**Minister of Interior of the Republic of Bulgaria**

**Anton Travner**  
**Head of the PCC SEE Secretariat**

Signed in Sofia on 21 May 2010, in two original copies, in the English language.