

PRESS RELEASE

Three – year project against corruption, money laundering and terrorism financing for the Republic of Moldova (MOLICO-Moldova 2006-2009) is launched on 31.10.06

Start-up Conference of the project will take place on 31.10.06 in Chisinau . Venue "Rose Hall" of CODRU Hotel (Maria Cibotaru str.).

This three-year project (2006-2009) is one of the most important initiatives and support, substance and budget wise, ever allocated by the European Institutions to the Republic of Moldova. The project is co-funded by the European Commission and Swedish International Development and Cooperation Agency (SIDA).

The Conference will be opened by Mr. Vasile Tarlev, Prime-minister of the Republic of Moldova, Mr. Ristovski, Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe in the Republic of Moldova, Mr. Mejinschi, director of the Centre to Combat Economic Crimes and Corruption, Council of Europe, European Commission and SIDA representatives.

About seventy representatives from different institutions concerned by the National Anti-Corruption Strategy will attend the conference.

Main counterparts of the project such as Centre to Combat Economic Crime and Corruption, Ministry of Internal Affairs, General Prosecutor's Office will report on: "Evaluation of effectiveness during previous years, difficulties encountered. Challenges for 2006. Vision of cooperation with other law-enforcement institutions and civil society to increase effectiveness, expectations from MOLICO project"

These reports will be commented by the representatives of civil society and NGOs active in anticorruption field: "Transparency International", "Investigative journalism Centre" and "Centre for the Analysis and Prevention of Corruption"

General Information about the project:

Project activities will be implemented in close cooperation with main law-enforcement bodies and NGOs.

They are divided into two main areas:

- 1) anti-corruption
- 2) anti-money laundering

It covers broad range of activities including; strengthening capacity of law-enforcement bodies and criminal justice system; financing of political parties and electoral campaigns; conflict of interest; investigative journalism and anti-corruption measures at the level of local and regional authorities.

In addition, the project will contribute to the harmonization of Moldovan legislation in line with Council of Europe and United Nations standards in the fight against corruption and money laundering and in accordance with GRECO and MONEYVAL recommendations.

The European Commission assistance to Moldova to eradicate corruption is governed by the European Neighboring Policy EU-Republic of Moldova Action Plan.

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