

Council of Europe to hold an assessment regional meeting on organised and economic crime in South-Eastern Europe

A Regional meeting of Heads of Police and senior officials of South-Eastern Europe will review the progress made in the implementation of the regional strategy against organised and economic crime

Sarajevo/Bosnia and Herzegovina - Heads of Police and senior officials from Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Montenegro, Serbia, "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" and UNMIK will meet in Sarajevo on 21 September 2006. This meeting is organised as part of the CARDS Regional Police Project (CARPO), a joint project of the Council of Europe and the European Commission (www.coe.int/carpo) which aims at strengthening police capacities of South-eastern Europe against serious crime.

The participants will review the progress made in the implementation of the regional strategy against organised and economic crime adopted by the Ministers of the Interior and Security of South-eastern Europe on 23 September 2005 in Brijuni (Croatia). They will also take stock and assess the CARPO project's achievements both at the project area and regional levels.

The main findings of the updated situation report on organised and economic crime in South-eastern Europe will be presented. The meeting is expected to reach agreement on the best way to face the challenges ahead, such as a stronger emphasis on financial investigations.

Journalists are invited to participate to the opening session from 09h00 to 09h30. They should register from 8h00 at the venue of the meeting (Holiday Inn Hotel in Sarajevo, Zmaja od Bosne 4; Telephone / fax: ++ 387 33 288 000; web page: www.holiday-inn.com/sarajevo)

Contact:

Alexander SEGER - Directorate General of Legal Affairs, Council of Europe Mobile: +33 (0)6 62 28 82 61