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Council of Europe Co-Operation Programme to strengthen the Rule of Law

1st meeting of the Bureau of the European Network for the Exchange of Information between Persons and Entities responsible for the Training of Judges and Public Prosecutors

(LISBON NETWORK)

(Web site of the Lisbon Network: www.coe.int/lisbon-network)

Palais de l'Europe (Room 7) Strasbourg, 16 (10h00) – 17 (13h00) December 2004

QUESTIONNAIRE “C” ON THE ROLE OF TRAINING INSTITUTIONS AS REGARDS IN-SERVICE TRAINING OF JUDGES AND PROSECUTORS

Replies of the Office of the National Council of Justice in Hungary, Budapest

Questionnaire “C” on the role of training institutions as regards in-service training of judges and prosecutors¹

I. Please indicate the measures taken with a view to enabling judges and prosecutors to exercise their right to in-service training (for example, days of leave for that purpose, etc.);

Judges have to make up for trial days they have missed in connection with their participation in training events except for the training for judges in their first three years of their career who must attend at least two one-week training courses, one in material law (civil or penal) and one in procedure law (civil or penal).

II. Is in-service training of judges and prosecutors compulsory or optional?

It is optional in general.

III. If in-service training is not compulsory as a general rule, please specify if there are areas /and/or subject matters in which in-service training is nevertheless compulsory; If so, please give details;

The training for judges in their first three years of their career who must attend at least two one-week training courses, one in material law (civil or penal) and one in procedure law (civil or penal).

IV. Is the judge or prosecutor free to choose the training actions in which he/she wishes to participate? Does he/she have to justify his/her choice? Is it possible for the judicial hierarchy and/or the training institution to oppose to the wish expressed by the judge or the prosecutor concerned and for what reason?

The judge is free to choose the training actions in which he/she wishes to participate, but the presidents of the county court collects and then submits the applications to the Office of the National Council of Justice (ONCJ). Only in one case can the application be opposed, when the number of the participants exceeds the highest possible number. In this case the ONCJ requests the presidents of the county court to reduce the number of the applicants.

V. Please identify the committees and / or trainers that develop in-service training programmes and the authority that approves planning;

¹ Members of the Lisbon Network are invited to send their replies to the Secretariat by E-mail (valerie.schaeffer@coe.int) for 31 March 2005 at the latest.

The county courts make proposals for the Office of the National Council of Justice for training programmes for each year. The Educational Council of the National Council of Justice examines these proposals and decides about them. The Department for Training and Further Education of the ONCJ assembles the yearly training programme of the courts and the National Council of Justice approves it with a decision.

VI. Please give the following statistics: number of activities per year (if possible, please specify the average duration of activities); number of training hours offered per year per magistrate; budgetary resources;

In 2003 129 training programmes altogether with 288 days (2.23 days per seminar) were carried out in the framework of the training plan of the courts. Altogether 5,113 participants attended these events. In 2003 33,000 HUF (132 EUR) were spent for each participant during the year from the courts chapter of the central state budget.

VII. Please specify and describe the in-service training methods (seminars, workshops, traditional lectures, distance learning, audiovisuals);

Most of the events are seminars with traditional lectures.

VIII. Please give details about the training environment (dedicated structures, court buildings, conference centres in hotels and the like);

One-day-seminars were held in the building of the ONCJ or the Supreme Court. Longer events took place at conference centres with hotel.

IX. What are the contents of training initiatives (role of cultural and social themes; role of ancillary sciences; management techniques);

In most training event the most important contents are the rules and the methodology of the work of a judge. We offer courses dealing with anti-discrimination, human rights as well. There are management courses for presidents of the courts and leaders of the ONCJ.

X. What are the contents and the modalities of training to support change of functions?

N. A.

XI. How is the assessment of programmes and methods done (questionnaires, interviews)?

Questionnaires to be filled out are handed out at the longer events. The Department for Training and Further Education evaluates these questionnaires.

XII. What are the modalities of the evaluation of trainers?

see XI.

XIII. What is the impact of participation to training on participants' career?

N. A.

XIV. Is there for each judge and prosecutor a file describing the in-service actions in which he/she participated?

No.

XV. Are judges and public prosecutors offered individual training programmes concerning their personal professional development?

No.