

## Dear Colleagues and Friends,

We hope all of you have started the year full of spirits and ready for working together to achieve our common goals.

### Adoption Manchester Declaration 2008

After integrating some last and belated comments into the declaration subsequently to the Manchester Conference, we are pleased to announce the adoption of the Manchester Declaration 2008 by an overwhelming majority of the EPAC (one opposed vote). This final declaration will be published in the Contact Catalogue 2009 as well as in our virtual catalogue on [www.epac.at](http://www.epac.at).

### Contact Catalogue 2009

It is a pleasure for us to inform you that the Contact Catalogue 2009 is near completion and will soon provide you with the latest overview on the nature and competences as well as the contact details of the EPAC Police Oversight Bodies (POB) and Anti-Corruption Authorities (ACA).

## EPAC Working Groups

### PO Principles Working Group

The PO Principles Working Group is currently organizing the first meeting, which is envisaged to be held in March or April 2009. It will either be conducted by telephone or video conference or take place at the Independent Police Complaints Commission in London. Based on the work already accomplished, the meeting aims at enhancing and promoting the PO principles.

### EPAC Partners Working Group "Constitution"

On 20 April 2009, the EPAC Partners WG "Constitution", hosted by the Federal Bureau for Internal Affairs, will be held in Vienna. Due to the demand for the further development of EPAC, some basic terms of reference will be discussed.

### EACN Constitution Working Group

By request of several organizations and due to considerations of efficiency, the EPAC Partners WG "Constitution" will be directly followed by the EACN Constitution WG on the subsequent day. Thus the EACN Constitution WG will be held on 21 April 2009. All those who were nominated or have registered as EACN contact points at the EPAC Secretariat according to article 2 in connection with article 5, para. 1, Council Decision on a contact-point network against corruption (OJ L 301, 12.11.2008) are invited to take part in this meeting.

The participants of both WGs will be welcome to join the evening activity on 20 April.

### EPAC Conference 2009

From 4 to 6 November 2009, the ninth EPAC Conference will take place in Nova Gorica, Slovenia. The Commission for the Prevention of Corruption, which kindly agreed to host this conference, has already started to prepare the event.

A more detailed programme, the topic and further information concerning the conference will be provided in the near future.



### 5th Regional Central European Forum

The 5th Regional Central European Forum of the Internal Protection Services will be held from 6 to 8 May 2009 in Valbandon, near the town of Pula, Croatia. Since 2005, the Forum has been held every year; it addresses all areas of the fight against corruption as well as the state of play, the development and competences of regional internal protection services. The objectives of the Forum are to improve and develop cooperation and further contribute to the exchange of experiences and best practices, legislative solutions and legal instruments. The topic of this year's Forum is „The Importance of Complaints in the Protection of Human Rights and Suppression of Corruption”. The delegates from the participating countries shall discuss the methods of receiving and recording complaints which point out to illegal and unprofessional conduct of police and other employees, as well as their role and importance in the development of democratic standards and the protection and promotion of human rights, in particular concerning the suppression of and the fight against corruption. In the end the delegates will harmonize their opinions and sign the Final Declaration. For more information on the Forum please see <http://www.mup.hr/main.aspx?id=12806>.



**5<sup>th</sup> REGIONAL CENTRAL EUROPEAN FORUM  
OF THE INTERNAL PROTECTION SERVICES**  
Valbandon, Republic of CROATIA, 6<sup>th</sup> - 8<sup>th</sup> May 2009

### IACSS 2009

Already for the third time, the Austrian BIA - in cooperation with renowned international scientists and experts and supported by several EPAC partners as well as the European Commission - organizes the International Anti-Corruption Summer School (IACSS 2009) under the title "Practice Meets Science". It will be held from 9 to 18 July 2009 near Vienna.



At this year's summer school a selected audience from EU Member States, Candidate and Western Balkan States, and countries of the European Neighbourhood Policy will again be offered numerous seminars, lectures and fireside chats presented by European and extra-European scientists and experts in the field of fighting and preventing corruption.

One of the main aims of the summer school is to introduce anti-corruption practitioners to diverse scientific aspects of corruption going beyond their everyday experience. An interdisciplinary transfer of knowledge from science to practice shall be achieved. Moreover, the IACSS 2009 will promote the exchange of experiences between the different participating anti-corruption authorities.