PRELIMINARY DRAFT

International Conference
“Cooperation of the National Parliaments and Independent Regulatory Bodies in SEE”

House of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia, Belgrade
(Trg Nikole Pašića 13)

April 3th, 2012 (Tuesday)

15:00 – 15:30  Keynote speeches and official opening
- Slavica Djukić-Dejanović, National Assembly Speaker
- Dimitrios Kypreos, Head of the OSCE Mission to Serbia (TBC)
- Vlastimir Matejić, President of the European Movement in Serbia
Chair: Gordana Čomić, National Assembly Deputy Speaker

15:30 – 17:00  Panel 1: Correlation and mutual influence between the Parliament and Independent Regulatory Bodies
- Gordana Čomić, National Assembly Deputy Speaker
- Saša Janković, Ombudsman of the Republic of Serbia
- Jadranka Jelinčić, Executive Director of the Fund for an Open Society
- Polona Tepina, Information Commissioner's legal advisor, Republic of Slovenia
Chair: Natasa Novaković, National Legal Officer, OSCE Mission to Serbia

Discussion Topics:
- What are the main preconditions for securing adequate legal framework for proper functioning of IRB’s?
- How is the financial independence of IRB ensured?
- What should the Appointing and dismissing procedures of the IRBs member staff include?

17:00 – 17:30  Coffee break
17:30 – 19:00  **Panel 2: IRB’s involvement in the legislative processes and their initiatives toward the parliament**

- **Boško Ristić**, Chairperson of Justice and Administration Committee, National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia
- **Nevena Petrušić**, Equality Protection Commissioner, Republic of Serbia
- **Voislav Zafirovski**, President of the State Commission for Prevention of Corruption (SCPC), The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
- **Vilfrida Bushati**, Head of the Inspection and Investigation Department, Office of Anti-Discrimination Commissioner, Republic of Albania
- **Budimir Šćepanović**, Deputy Ombudsman, Republic of Montenegro

Chair: **Maja Bobić**, Secretary General of the European Movement in Serbia

**Discussion Topics:**
- Involvement of IRB’s in the legislative process on bills in the areas of their competence?
- How and why should the internal standards of cooperation with the parliament be established?
- What are the experiences of including the international conventions into national modalities?

20:00  **Dinner (upon separate invitation)**

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April 4th, 2012 (Wednesday)

10:00 – 11:30  **Panel 3: Horizontal cooperation in regard to accountability**

- **Sonila Kadare**, Legal Adviser, Monitoring Department of the Independent Institutions, Parliament of Albania
- **Rok Praprotnik**, Deputy Chief Commissioner, Commission for the prevention of corruption, Republic of Slovenia
- **Zorana Marković**, Director of the Anti-Corruption Agency, Republic of Serbia
Representative of the Commission for Protection against Discrimination, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (TBC)
Chair: Budimir Šćepanović, Deputy Ombudsman, Republic of Montenegro

Discussion Topics:
- How can IRB contribute to the parliament oversight and scrutiny function of the executive?
- How can the parliaments and IRB undertake successful enquiries?
- How can the accountability awareness be enhanced?

11:30 – 12:00  
Coffee break

12:00 – 13:30  
Panel 4: Annual reports of the IRB’s and their effects
- Gheorghe Iancu, People’s Advocate, Republic of Romania
- Ljubomir Sandić, Ombudsperson of Bosnia and Herzegovina
- Aleksandar Resanović, Deputy Commissioner for Information of Public Importance and Personal Data Protection, Republic of Serbia
- Zdenka Čebašek-Travnik, Human Rights Ombudsman, Republic of Slovenia
- Calliope Spanou, The Greek Ombudsman
Chair: Vlatko Ratković, Chairperson of the Legislative Committee, National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia

Discussion Topics:
- Is there a follow up of the IRB reports and recommendations?
- How can a successful strategy for implementation of the recommendations of IRB by relevant public authorities be created?
- Which are the mechanisms that ensure the proper consideration of the IRB recommendations by the relevant authorities?
- Are media successful tool for raising the concerns of IRB among citizens?

13:30 – 15:00  
Lunch break (National Assembly restaurant)

15:00 – 16:30  
Panel 5: Civil Society Organizations (CSO’s): perspective: inclusion, involvement and influence
• Dragan Zelić, Executive Director, GONG, Croatia
• Vesna Malenica, Think Thank Populari, Bosnia and Herzegovina
• Nemanja Nenadić, Programme Director of the Transparency Serbia
• Zlatko Vujović, President of the Governing Board, The Monitoring Center (CEMI), Montenegro
• Elena Prohnitchi, Program coordinator, Association for Participatory Democracy, Republic of Moldova (TBC)

Chair: Ivan Knežević, Deputy Secretary General of the European Movement in Serbia

Discussion Topics:
- Can CSO amplify the role of IRB?
- Is there a sufficient inclusion of the CSO in the work of IRB in the region?
- Is there a sufficient involvement and adequate approach of CSO in regard to IRB issues in the region?

16:30 – 17:00 Coffee break

17:00 – 17:30 Panel 6: Conclusions and recommendations / Closing Remarks
• Gordana Čomić, National Assembly Deputy Speaker