Activities of the Kosovo Prosecutorial Council

March 2020
Pristina, 5 March 2020 - The Committee on Normative Issues of the Kosovo Prosecutorial Council, led by its chairman, Zejnullah Gashi, organized the presentation of the Draft Regulation on the Organization and Activity of the KPC to Representatives of the US Embassy, EU Office in Kosovo and the Group for Legal and Political Studies.

The Chairman of the Committee, Gashi, thanked the Working Group and the representatives of local and international institutions for their contribution in drafting this regulation, which is of particular importance and aims at facilitating the work and functioning of the Prosecutorial Council.

Consequently, some articles of this regulation were discussed at the meeting and comments made by representatives of the US Embassy, the EU Office in Kosovo and the Group on Legal and Political Studies, which after incorporation by members of the Commission have been incorporated into the draft of this Regulation.
Meeting of the Committee for the Administration of Prosecution offices

Pristina, March 6, 2020 - The Committee for the Administration of the Prosecution Offices of Kosovo Prosecutor Council, led by its chairwoman, Prosecutor Radica Milic, has held the regular meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the detailed report of the Prosecution Performance Review Unit on the case load of prosecution offices and prosecutors of serious crime departments within the basic prosecution offices.

The Commission assessed the analysis which contains the report and agreed that the same except analysis for 2019 to be amended with the latest changes on promotions and transfers of prosecutors, as well as the trend of accepting cases in 2020, according to which recommendations for the Kosovo Prosecutor Council will be prepared.
KPC and KJC have signed an agreement on electronic data Exchange

Pristina, March 9, 2020 - Kosovo Prosecutorial Council (KPC) and Kosovo Judicial Council (KJC) have signed a cooperation agreement on electronic data exchange and joint maintenance and advancement of CMIS which was signed by KPC Chairman Bahri Hyseni and KJC Chairman Skender Çoçaj, where the Norwegian Ambassador to Kosovo Jens Erik Grondahl and representatives of other local and international institutions were present.

On this occasion, the Chairman of the Prosecutorial Council, Bahri Hyseni, thanked the State of Norway for facilitating the implementation of the Case Management Information System (CMIS) project, stressing that the launch of electronic data exchange by the prosecution in court and vice versa will enable fast and secure communication, as well as great benefits for both institutions, ranging from saving time to handing over physical files, saving on copying the case to multiple copies, to equipment for scanning of cases, human resources and most importantly the data sent - received cannot be lost or deleted.

On the other hand, the Chairman of the Judicial Council, Skender Çoçaj, said that the signing of the agreement on interconnection of court and prosecution systems is of great importance for new processes, as it constitutes an effective advancement of the work process in courts and prosecutors enabling the exchange of quick and accurate data, this process will continue for the CMIS further advancement.

Whereas, Norwegian Ambassador to Kosovo, Jens Erik Grondahl, said that he believes that this project will bring transparency and we will see positive effects on the work of Kosovo's prosecutorial and judicial system.

On the other hand, after the signing ceremony, electronic data exchange between KPC and KJC was presented.
FRRLP agrees on further steps to finalize the Functional Review process

Pristina, 11 March 2020 - Meeting of the Steering Committee of the Functional Review for Rule of Law Process (FRRLP) was held.

The FRRLP is a reform initiative of the Ministry of Justice, in collaboration with the Kosovo Prosecutorial Council (KPC), the Kosovo Judicial Council (KJC), and key sector actors, to provide a comprehensive and consolidated rule of law vision to increase citizens' confidence in the justice system, accelerate economic development and bring Kosovo closer to the European Union.

The Steering Committee, chaired by the Minister of Justice, is composed of representatives of the KJC, KPC, Office of the Prime Minister, Ministry of Internal Affairs, Ministry of Finance, and Office of the President and Faculty of Law of the University of Pristina. In addition to members of the Steering Committee, representatives of international donors, including the US Embassy, the EU Office, the British Embassy and USAID, also attended the meeting.

At today's meeting, the Steering Committee has adopted 16 policy documents that identify key challenges and follow-up recommendations to address them, and have given the green light for drafting the Rule of Law Sector Strategy.

Members of the Steering Committee also agreed on further steps to finalize the Functional Review process.
Workshop on drafting the Regulation on the performance evaluation of prosecutors

Pristina, 12 March 2020 - The Chairman of the Kosovo Prosecutorial Council, Bahri Hyseni, has organized the workshop on the drafting of a Regulation on the Performance Evaluation of Prosecutors, attended by KPC members, members of the working group on the drafting of this Regulation, representatives of the US and British Embassies in Kosovo.

At the opening of this workshop, Chairman Hyseni spoke about the need for drafting and the importance of this regulation for the prosecutorial system in advancing the process of evaluating the performance of prosecutors.

Furthermore, the participants of this workshop continued their work with discussions on the structure and content of the draft of this regulation.

This workshop is expected to conclude with the finalization of the draft of the aforementioned regulation, which will also be processed for approval to the Committee for Normative Issues.
Decision - Activities within Kosovo Prosecutorial Council and Office of the Chief State Prosecutor are essentially reduced

Kosovo Prosecutorial Council, pursuant to Article 7 of Law No. 06 / L-056 on the Kosovo Prosecutorial Council and in implementation of the Decision of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo to take measures after confirmation of positive cases with Corona Virus Covid-19, issued the following:

Decision

I. Activities within Kosovo Prosecutorial Council and Office of the Chief State Prosecutor are essentially reduced.

II. The Chief State Prosecutor and Chief Prosecutors of the Prosecution offices of the Republic of Kosovo are authorized to appoint sufficient prosecutors and administrative staff to oversee and carry out only urgent activities and actions specified by legal deadlines.

III. The Director General of the Secretariat of the Kosovo Prosecutorial Council and the Director of the Prosecution Performance Review Unit are hereby authorized to substantially reduce office staff in coordination with the responsible units and to carry
out only the essential administrative activities within the Secretariat, Unit and the Office of the Chief State Prosecutor.

IV. All employees of the prosecutorial system who are released from office work are obliged to carry out their activities and work from their places of residence through various forms of electronic communication.

V. The Director General of the Council Secretariat is hereby authorized to take all necessary measures to ensure the maintenance and security of the facilities and equipment of the Council and the Office of the Chief State Prosecutor in accordance with the state of emergency created by the Covid-19 virus.

VI. The measures outlined in points I to V of this decision will be valid until a new decision of the Kosovo Prosecutorial Council.

VII. This Decision shall enter into force on 16 March 2020.
Office of the Director - In the framework of administrative responsibilities and support for the Kosovo Prosecutorial Council, the Office of the Chief State Prosecutor and the country's prosecution offices, the General Director of the Kosovo Prosecutorial Council Secretariat, Lavdim Krasniqi, has held various meetings with local and international organizations, with the aim of empowering and professionalizing the administration of the prosecutorial system to increase efficiency and effectiveness at work. Supervised all work processes to be carried out by the Kosovo Prosecutorial Council and Office of the Chief State Prosecutor Work Plan. It has set up working groups for drafting specifications in contracts (where appropriate, work continues from home) and has drafted several draft analyzes related to work processes according to Government decision.

Legal Office - Provided support to the Office of the Chairperson, the Office of the Director and other KPC units and worked on the Draft Regulation on the organization and activity of the KPC.

Office of Public Communication - Monitored on a monthly basis, drafted 6 press releases and continued coordination with the Dutch CILIC Project and the British Project on external and internal communication in the Kosovo prosecutorial system. The office has been co-ordinating this month to strengthen the website with materials in both Serbian and English.

Internal Auditor - Prepared and submitted Internal Audit Questionnaire to the HR Leader, held a meeting with the BP Administrator in Prishtina to obtain audit samples for the on-call process, completed the staff recruitment audit process and handled on-call samples for three departments at the Pristina Basic Prosecution.

Certification Office - During this month based on its obligations and competencies has certified 280 subject matters, received 398 subject matters and checked 257 matters.

Office for European Integration - Finalized the program and implementing measures and legislation of the NPISAA for 2020, completed and sent information to additional CEPEJ questionnaire questions and responded to various requests from MEI and KPC support projects.

Department of Human Resources, Procurement and Administration - Took all measures based on the Decision of the Government of the Republic of Kosovo to take
preventive measures, as well as the KPC Decision dated 15.03.2020, has prepared contracts for 21 interns volunteers who will follow the practice, have done the registration of prosecutors' leave, verification and intervention in the registration, according to the requirements of personnel in the system. Has reviewed the procurement plan for fiscal year 2020, has received and protocoled 66 internal memos and 253 invoices. 261 pages have been translated during this month.

Department of Budget, Finance and General Services - Inspected the prosecution offices, where the security of their premises was checked, prepared the annual report of the Committee on Budget, Finance and Personnel. It has also taken preventive measures in defense of the COVID-19 virus, allocated the budget for Q3 from the treasury, committed 225 subject matters, spent 250 subject matters and registered 496 subject matters.

Department of Information Technology - Prepared Guidelines for handling cases, exchanging data electronically by CMIS (prosecutor - court) and launching automatic distribution of cases to the prosecution, as well as exchange of data by the prosecution in court and conversely through SMIL.
Prosecution Performance Review Unit of the KPC

The Prosecution Performance Review Unit (PPPU) has drafted the Analytical and Comparative Report on Caseload of Serious Crimes Departments (DKR) and the Case Report of the DKR Case Compared to Other Departments, at the request of the Prosecution Administration Committee, also monitored the performance of CMIS for generating statistical reports and identified omissions and supported the realization of the duties and responsibilities of the KPC committees.

It has also collected statistical data, processed it and compiled reports on prosecutors' caseload and efficiency in solving them, for February 2020 for BP Pristina (44 prosecutors in total); BP Prizren (21 prosecutors in total); BP Peja (16 prosecutors in total); BP Gjilan (15 prosecutors in total); BP Mitrovica (19 prosecutors in total); BP Ferizaj (18 prosecutors in total); BP in Gjakova (10 prosecutors in total); Appellate Prosecution Office (total of 5 prosecutors) and SPRK (total of 14 prosecutors).

In cooperation with the Center for Equality and Freedom of the LGBT Community in Kosovo, CEL organized a training under the project "Access to Justice for LGBTI persons in the Western Balkans", supported by the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs for Kosovo prosecutors. The beneficiaries of this training were prosecutors, professional associates and victims' advocates from all regions of Kosovo prosecution offices.

In the meantime, it has compiled reports on the numerical status of cases in the prosecution offices by department and type of registries for February 2020 and the numerical status of cases by groups of offenses by the Tracking Mechanism for February 2020.