

February the 26th, 2006
Bucharest

BULLETIN

**THE GENERAL INSPECTOR OF THE BORDER POLICE, THE PROJECT MANAGER
AND THE P.M.U. DIRECTOR ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE TECHNICAL MANAGEMENT
OF THE I.B.S.S. PROGRAMME**

The new provisions resulted from the renegotiations of the procurement contract signed between the Romanian Ministry of Administration and Interior and EADS, regarding the creating and implementing of the Integrate Border Security System (I.B.S.S.), allow Romania to meet, up to the end of 2006, the commitments made in view of its E.U. accession.

Within the framework of the Implementation Project of the Integrate Border Security System much progress has been made, which led to the accomplishment of the priority actions with a great impact on the process of meeting the exigencies implied by the E.U. accession.

The main progress recorded in this field was the issuance of the Order of the Minister of Administration and Interior No. 1185/06.02.2006, by the provisions of which the general inspector of the Border Police, the Programme Manager and the Director of the Project Management Unit (P.M.U.) are directly responsible for the technical management of the I.B.S.S. Programme.

At the same time, at the end of last month, there took place two high-level meetings between the responsible managers of EADS and MAI, in the context of which some concrete ways of organising, coordinating and monitoring of the common actions were agreed on.

Also, during 24 common work sessions, 66 specialists of M.A.I. (Border Police General Inspectorate, Project Management Unit, IT@C Directorate, Logistics Management Unit) and the representatives of EADS discussed the details regarding the designing/ implementing of the sub-systems that Stage I of the renegotiated Contract refers to.

In the period to come, a common (Border Police - M.A.I. - P.M.U) documentation will be developed, for identifying all the aspects that concern the operational activities at the level of the executing units, in view of meeting the E.U. requirements.

February the 24th, 2006
Bucharest

BULLETIN

During December 2005, at the General Anti-Corruption Directorate from within the Ministry of Administration and Interior, two Chinese citizens, representatives of a commercial corporation, self-denounced regarding the illegal acts committed by some police officers within Police Inspectorate of the County of Ilfov (P.I.C. Ilfov).

On the 8 December 2005, the General Anti-Corruption Directorate informed the National Anti-Corruption Department on the corruption acts denounced, the investigations being carried on by prosecutors and judicial police officers from within N.A.D. based on the delegation issued.

The investigations carried out so far led to the following conclusions:

Inspector principal P.Florica within the P.I.C.Ilfov **received** some sums of money as bribe, as follows: in October 2005, having as accomplices P.Vasile, B.Riccardo and N.Roxana, bribe amounting to 8,000 USD (the total sum of money taken from the briber - 16,000 USD), and in December 2005, another 75,000,000 ROL, using the same persons as accomplices (the total sums of money received – 150,000,000 ROL), and **claimed** from the Chinese traders 12,000 USD.

In this cause, initially the starting of criminal proceedings against inspector principal P. Florica was disposed, but subsequently legal action was taken against him, on charge of bribery and association in view of receiving bribe.

By its Retaining Order, N.A.D. disposed his temporary custody for 24 hours, between 24.02.2006, 03.00 hours and 25.02.2006, 03.00 hours, on the above-mentioned charge.

The investigations also resulted in some clear data and clues regarding the participation of inspector V.Valentin and commissioner-in-chief M.Matei, both judicial police officers within the P.I.C.Ilfov, as **accomplices** in the crime committed in October 2005, and consequently, by the Resolution from 23.02.2006, the criminal proceedings were started against them, on charge of bribery, based on the provisions of art.254 ph.2 C.p. and of art.7 ph.1 of Law No.78/2000.

The criminal proceedings were also started against **P.Vasile, N.Roxana and B.Riccardo**, on charge of complicity to bribery.

On 24 February 2006 the Court of Appeal disposed the temporary custody for inspector principal P.Florica, for a period of 29 days.

February the 24th, 2006
Bucharest

BULLETIN

MINISTER VASILE BLAGA REQUESTED FROM THE GUARDIA CIVIL SUPPORT AGAINST THE ROMANIAN CRIMINALS WHO ARE ACTING IN SPAIN

Today, Minister of Administration and Interior - Vasile Blaga has asked the General Director of the Spanish Guardia Civil - Carlos Gomez Aruche to support him to identify and bring to justice the criminal groups who are acting in the Spanish territory. Minister Vasile Blaga has shown that these groups, of which the most important is **“the Clamparus”**, seriously affect the image of Romania and of those Romanian citizens who work legally in Spain.

Minister of Administration and Interior has expressed his gratitude to the Spanish authorities, through the Guardia Civil, for the way in which Spain received the Romanian workers. **“The countries with the greatest number of Romanians are the Republic of Moldova, Italy and Spain”**, stated Vasile Blaga, showing that our country is not disposed to be tolerant to the criminal activities developed by the Romanian citizens abroad.

The general director of the Guardia Civil showed that the issue of the Romanian groups involved in organised crime represent a serious concern to the Spanish Ministry of Interior as well. **“The legal**

migration is a real wealth to Spain, and the Romanian workers are welcomed in this country", appreciated the Spanish official, but the authorities are concerned with the illegal migration phenomenon, which is associated to the organised crime. The Romanian citizens are not the only ones involved in criminal activities in Spain, the Albanians and the Columbians being the most dangerous, has said Aruche.

At the same time, Minister of Administration and Interior has requested from the General Director of the Guardia civil specialty assistance regarding the continuous training of the Border Police's staff, considering the rich experience of Spain in this field, as well as the fact that Romania will have to manage an important part of the outer border of the European Union long after its E.U. accession.

Spain and Romania could also co-operate for implementing the integrate border security system after the success recorded in the institutional twinning project developed in view of completing the first stage of the SCOMAR system – the maritime border security, programme financed by the European Union, which officially concluded yesterday.

February the 22nd, 2006

Bucharest

BULLETIN

THE PROJECT "DEVELOPING ANTI-CORRUPTION MECHANISMS WITHIN MAP" HAS SUCCESSFULLY CONCLUDED

Today, February 22 2006, at the headquarters of the M.A.I., in the presence of Jonathan Scheele – the Head of the European Commission Delegation in Bucharest, Vasile Blaga – the Minister of Administration and Interior, Pablo Garcia Berdoy - the Ambassador of the Spanish Kingdom in Romania, Iain Lindsay – Deputy Head of Mission from the Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, has taken place the Session of conclusion of the Institutional Twinning Project – PHARE RO/02/I.B./J.H./07 "Developing anti-corruption mechanism within M.A.I."

After 24 months of project development, the representative of the European Commission Delegation said that the PHARE Programme was successful because the General Anti-Corruption Directorate was set up and made operational, as it proves the institutional willingness of M.A.I.; he also said that this project was successful thanks to the mechanisms of transparency in the activity of this institutions, ensured by the Strategic Committee.

"I strongly believe (...) that these relations will be maintained for a long time from now on, and that they will represent a model of European co-operation in the home affairs area", has stated Jonathan Scheele, the Head of the European Commission Delegation in Bucharest.

At the same time, Mr. Scheele has shown that: ***"The General Anti-Corruption Directorate had the capacity and the willingness to introduce in its internal organisation system some concepts of transparency and responsibility which the Romanian administration has never met before."***

Appreciating the involvement and co-operation of the Spanish and English partners in the Project's success, the Minister of Administration and Interior, Mr. Vasile Blaga expressed his support of and trust in the General Anti-Corruption Directorate - the first institution of this kind in M.A.I., which represents a necessity in the current context of the fight against corruption.

"In 2005, the Ministry of Administration and Interior forwarded 2,455 notifications towards the Prosecutor's Offices; out of them, 700 refer to corruption acts, the rest of them referring to different acts of misconduct regarding the professional ethics. At the same time, a series of files concerning major

crimes committed by former workers of the ministry are in different stages of the criminal proceedings and will soon get to the judiciary's table. You know very well the important case which is currently underway in the zone of Satu-Mare County, where almost all those working within the Border Police will be brought to justice. In addition to all of these, there will soon come the concrete results of the activity of General Anti-Corruption Directorate, institution set up within the framework of this Twinning Project", Vasile Blaga has also mentioned during this meeting.

Considering, as so far, corruption as the milestone of the process of Romania's accession to the European Union, the representative of the Embassy of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland appreciated the results of the Project and stated that *"The success of this Directorate (G.A.D.) will highly depend on the sustained so-operation between all the institutions with responsibility in the corruption countering. It is about working in team, a team with a common goal."*

At the end of his speech, Mr. **Iain Lindsay** has announced that the Embassy of the United Kingdom of the Great Britain and Northern Ireland supports the launching of an anti-corruption campaign for getting the general public aware of the risks raised by this phenomenon.

This event was also attended by Javier Garcia Briongos, project co-ordinator on behalf of Spain, Stephen Foster, pre-accession counsellor, general questor Virgil Ardelean, director of the General Directorate for Information and Internal Protection, questor Corneliu Alexandru – director of the General Directorate for European Accession and International Relations. At the same time, in this event also participated representatives of the General Anti-Corruption Directorate, directors of some directorates of the Central Apparatus from M.A.I., the National Customs Agency, as well as leaders of some NGOs.

X X
X

The Institutional Twinning Project "Developing anti-corruption mechanisms in M.A.I." started in February 2004 and has been developing for 24 months, being granted the important support of the British and Spanish partners. The funds of this project were as follows: 1 million euros - the Phare funds and 150,000 euros - the Romanian contribution.

One of the main purposes of this project was the future development of M.A.I., its subordinated components and authorities, and it aims at strengthening the capacity of countering corruption effectively and efficiently, for a better harmonisation with the law enforcement standards, the procedures and best practices of the E.U. It also aims at improving the existing legislation, the Code of conduct and the strategies in the area, as well as at developing the partnership with the civil society in the future.

Among the finalised results of the project, from the point of view of the legal framework, we mention the passing of Law No. 161/06.06.2005 concerning the establishment of some measures for preventing and countering corruption within M.A.I., of Government Emergency Ordinance No. 120/01.09.2005 regarding the functioning of the General Anti-Corruption Directorate, of Government Emergency Ordinance No. 124/06.09.2005 for amending and supplementing Law No. 78/2000 for preventing, identifying and punishing the corruption acts,, as well as other internal regulations of M.A.I.

At the same time, as regards the institutional development in this area, the General Anti-Corruption Directorate was set up and made functional based on Law No. 161/2005, at the central and territorial level, taken into consideration the criteria of selecting workers for the General Anti-Corruption Directorate and the conditions that they has to meet.

During the project development, have taken place different training activities in specific domain, within the framework of some workshops, the signing of some collaboration protocols between G.A.D. and other M.A.I. structures or institutions, the drawing up of a communication strategy of G.A.D., the setting of some essential procedures within G.A.D. – information flow, using the resources, decision making process etc.

The development of the partnership with the civil society materialised in the setting up of the Counselling Forum for Transparency in the project enforcement including eight important NGOs, which contributed to the establishment of the reference terms from the Strategic Committee, created at the level of M.A.I., as well as of the Strategic Committee for supporting and evaluating the activity of G.A.D. The Strategic Committee includes three representatives assigned by the NGOs that are part of the Transparency Forum as well. For raising awareness, G.A.D. designed and disseminated some posters and brochures on the fight against corruption.

Not least important, the Strategy of M.A.I. regarding the corruption prevention and countering within M.A.I.'s personnel was cancelled by the Order of the Minister of the Administration and Interior, drawn up within the framework of some workshops.

**February the 22nd, 2006
Bucharest**

BULLETIN

POLICE COOPERATION, THE TOP PRIORITY OF THE ROMANIAN AND TURKISH HOME MINISTRIES

Upon the invitation of Mr. Sahabettin HARPUT, Sub-Secretary of State within the Home Affairs Ministry of the Republic of Turkey, general questor Anghel ANDREESCU, Secretary of State, is paying a work visit to Turkey, between 22 and 25 February 2006.

This activity represents the continuation of the dialogue established in Bucharest, in the period 22-24 December 2005, in the wider context of the positive evolution recorded at the level of the bi-lateral relations.

On this occasion, the co-operation at the level of the two ministries will be evaluated, and will be identified some new possibilities of enhancing and diversifying the collaboration, by capitalizing on the opportunities offered by OCEMN, SEECPC and the SECI Centre as well.

The dialogue that is going to take place between general questor Anghel ANDREESCU and his Turkish counterpart will focus on the development and strengthening of the police co-operation, on aspects regarding the responsibilities of the two ministries in areas like public order and national security, fight against terrorism, prevention, preparedness and response in major risk situations and cross-border crime countering.

The agenda of this visit also includes official talks at the headquarters of the Turkish Police and Gendarmerie General Inspectorates, as well as at the Information Directorate with decision-makers within these entities.

This official visit in Turkey, by its aims and by the issues that are going to be discussed in this bi-lateral dialogue reconfirms the high interest of both the Romanian and Turkish responsible authorities in enhancing the specific co-operation in the home affairs area.

January the 21st, 2006
Bucharest

BULLETIN

SALZBURG GROUP SUPPORTS ROMANIA'S EFFORTS MADE IN VIEW OF ITS E.U. ACCESSION.

The representatives of the E.U. Member States which are also part of the Salzburg Group reunited within the framework of the Council J.A.I. in Brussels, on February 21st 2006, underlined their support for the efforts made by Romania and Bulgaria in view of their accession to the European Union.

The Salzburg Forum includes representatives of Austria, Slovenia, Slovakia, Poland, the Czech Republic, Romania and Bulgaria.

On the occasion of the reunion of the Salzburg Forum in Brussels, the representatives of Romania reiterated the fact that they want to play an active role in the future actions of the Salzburg Group, and to make use of this forum in order to achieve specific progresses in the process of our country's E.U. accession.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Founded in 2002, upon the initiative of Austria - country that is currently holding the presidency of the European Union, the Salzburg Group mainly aims at creating a partnership for security in the "safety strip" realised by Austria, through creating an improved protection climate at its outer border.

The main activity areas: police co-operation, border check and security, harmonisation of the asylum procedures and the opinion exchange regarding the events taken place in the European Union.

Romania joined the Salzburg Group on July 29th 2005.

February the 21st, 2006
Bucharest

BULLETIN

2 BROTHERS ARE INVESTIGATED ON CHARGE OF ATTEMPT TO BRIBE. On Sunday, February 19 2006, at the General Anti-Corruption Directorate, the Territorial Anti-Corruption Service Craiova, the leadership of the Police Inspectorate of the County of Dolj made a notification regarding the fact that two police agents refused to accept bribe from a car driver who had been stopped and discovered to carry goods without documents attesting their provenience.

Based on this notification, officers of the General Anti-Corruption Directorate – Craiova, together with the prosecutor assigned from within the Prosecutor's Office near the Dolj Court started the investigations.

Thus, on Sunday afternoon, the two police agents who were carrying out a radar filter around Pielisti locality, Dolj, stopped A. Mihai, 33, from Olt. After the control, in his car were discovered 500 l alcoholic drinks for which A. Mihai did not have documents attesting their provenience and which did not have marking band (stamps).

When A. Mihai was invited at the police station for some verifications regarding the provenience of his goods, he tried to offer the two agents 5 million ROL, sum of money that the policemen refused to accept. As A. Mihai thought that the sum of money offered was too little, he called his brother and asked him to bring 10 million ROL, saying that he had some troubles with the Police and was trying to work it out without any official documents.

After his brother arrived, A. Mihai offered once more bribe - this time 10 million ROL - to the two police agents. They refused the money and announced the Frauds Investigation Service from within the P.I.C. Dolj which carried on the investigation of the economic-related deeds.

At the same time, the workers of the General Anti-Corruption Directorate – Craiova being notified as well, made investigations in order to identify the corruption deeds committed by both A. Mihai and by his brother, after which the two acknowledged that they offered bribe to the two police agents.

The file regarding the corruption deed will be connected with the one regarding the economic-related deeds, A. Mihai not being taken in custody during the investigations.