

BULLETIN
No. 60 on March 6th, 2009

A delegation of the Ministry of Administration and Interior (MAI), led by Mr. Radu Stancu -secretary of state in MAI, was present in Belgrade, between 5 and 7 March 2009, in order to participate in the 6th Edition of *the Annually Ministerial Conference on cooperation in the area of the South-Eastern Europe Border Security*. This event was organized by the Ministry of Interior of the Serbian Republic and the Centre of Geneva for Democratic Control of the Armed Forces (DCAF), under the aegis of the Czech Presidency of the EU.

The Romanian delegation included Mr. Corneliu Alexandru – director of the General Directorate of European Affairs and International Relations – MAI, Mr. Petre Toba – General Inspectorate of the Romanian Police (IGPR), Mr. Ioan Buda – deputy general inspector of the Border Police and Mr. Bujor Florescu – director of the Criminal Investigation Directorate within IGPR.

During the conference, the debates focused on the border management systems in the countries of the South-Eastern Europe, context in which the heads of the Border Police units had the opportunity to present their results in 2008 in the area.

At the same time, the Annual Plan for 2009 on the common activities in this domain was presented to the ministries in the region, and the strategic directions for 2010 and 2011 were also discussed.

The Ministerial conference represented a good opportunity for the participants to disseminate details on the recent evolutions of the European Union policies in the area of Justice and Home Affairs, on the stage of preparedness in implementing the Convention of Police Cooperation in South-Eastern Europe, as well as on the actions carried out under the aegis of the European Agency FRONTEX.

At the same time, in the context of this conference, upon the invitation of Mr. Antonio Manganelli - the Head of the State Police and general director of the Public Safety in the Italian Republic, Mr. Petre Toba - general inspector of the Romanian Police participated, alongside with the specialists within IGPR, in an informal meeting of the Heads of the police in the Balkans and Adriatic areas on fighting against the criminal phenomenon, illegal migration and trafficking.

Taking into account that the border security is one of the key EU concerns as well as the fact that an effective border management will only take place if common harmonised actions are taken, this Annual Ministerial Conference was extremely important in the current context. It contributed to the global approach of the process and actions in the area, so that the security of the citizens could be further strengthened through effective systems of border management.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Over the past seven years, the Centre from Geneva for Democratic Control of the Armed Forces (DCAF) developed a program meant to support the setting up of and increasing in the border security management in the South-Eastern Europe.

It includes inter-connected and integrated activities aimed at contributing to the defining, global harmonization and adjustment of the standards and best practices enforced in other European countries in the border management area.

BULLETIN
No. 63 on March 11th, 2009

The opening of the Transit Centre in Timisoara

On Thursday, 11 March 2009, at the MAI headquarters, secretary of state Anghel Andreescu welcomed a delegation of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), led by Erika Feller - assistant of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees on international protection.

This visit in Bucharest of the UNHCR high representative is taking place in the context of the official opening of the Timisoara-based Emergency Transit Centre on Thursday, March 12, 2009.

During the bi-lateral dialogue in Bucharest, the Romanian party underlined the attention that our authorities pay to the European evolution of the asylum policies, as well as their high interest in actively involving in the drafting of the communitarian acquis for the finalization of the Common European Asylum System.

At the same time, there was reiterated Romania's commitment to actively involve in the international measures of sharing responsibilities in the humanitarian area, and it has to be mentioned that the actions carried out so far enhance the contribution that our country has made in this area.

Background information

Being the first of the kind in Europe, the Emergency Transit Centre in Timisoara temporarily provides a safe environment to the persons in special situations. Thus, persons and groups requiring urgent evacuation will benefit from immediate protection in Timisoara until they are relocated in third countries.

BULLETIN
No. 79 on March 31st, 2009

THE FIRST SCHEVAL VISIT IN ROMANIA IN THE AREA OF POLICE COOPERATION ENDED ON MARCH 29

The first Schengen Evaluation visit in Romania in the area of the Police Cooperation ended on 29 March 2009. During this one-week mission the European experts evaluated on the spot the stage of fulfillment of those requirements implied by the Schengen acquis' implementation in the area.

Over this mission, the Schengen evaluators were presented the main institutions relevant in the domain, occasion on which they visited the International Police Cooperation Centre, Police Station No.1 Bucharest, Police Inspectorate of the Bihor County, the Contact Point Oradea, Police of the Oradea County and the Forensic Science Institute of Bucharest.

Following this visit, the European experts will draw up a report including the conclusions and recommendations of the evaluation team, which will consequently be approved within the framework of a Scheval Work Group, in Brussels, most likely in June this year.

The evaluation team consisted in experts of the Schengen member states, a representative of the European Commission and a representative of the General Secretariat of the EU Council.

This is the first of the Schengen evaluation missions to take place in 2009-2020 in the areas of: personal data protection, visas, maritime/ terrestrial frontiers and airports, implementation of SIS/ SIRENE.