AUSTRIA (THIRD MEETING)

The code of conduct to prevent corruption within the public service was published in 2008. Linked to current legislation, the code explains possible conflicts of interest and situations in which corruption is likely to occur. However, it does not create new rules for public service employees. The aim of the code being mentioned is to provide guidelines for civil servants on how to deal with conflicts of interest as well as to raise awareness among organizational decision-makers and senior officials of their special responsibility in the field of corruption prevention.

The code had been developed in order to make all civil servants aware of corruption issues and inform citizens on standards that can be expected from public service employees. In addition to the code of conduct, special further training measures are offered for senior officials and civil servants working in areas with a particular high risk of corruption (see Code of Conduct to prevent corruption in the Public Service – available at http://www.bka.gv.at/DocView.axd?CobId=40153).

The code had been developed in order to make all civil servants aware of corruption issues and inform citizens on standards that can be expected from public service employees. In addition to the code of conduct, special further training measures are offered for senior officials and civil servants working in areas with a particular high risk of corruption (see Code of Conduct to prevent corruption in the Public Service – available at http://www.bka.gv.at/DocView.axd?CobId=40153).
The code had been developed in order to make all civil servants aware of corruption issues and inform citizens on standards that can be expected from public service employees. In addition to the code of conduct, special further training measures are offered for senior officials and civil servants working in areas with a particular high risk of corruption (see Code of Conduct to prevent corruption in the Public Service – available at http://www.bka.gv.at/DocView.axd?CobId=40153).

The code had been developed in order to make all civil servants aware of corruption issues and inform citizens on standards that can be expected from public service employees. In addition to the code of conduct, special further training measures are offered for senior officials and civil servants working in areas with a particular high risk of corruption (see Code of Conduct to prevent corruption in the Public Service – available at http://www.bka.gv.at/DocView.axd?CobId=40153).

Article 8: Austria has implemented article 8 of the UNCAC through a code of conduct being developed by the Austrian Federal Chancellery, which addresses all civil servants and additionally through codes of conduct for individual Ministries (e.g. Federal Ministry of Finance, Federal Ministry of the Interior), territorial authorities at regional and municipal level (e.g. City of Vienna), as well as government-related entities. As to article 8, paragraph 5, amendments to the existing legislation are currently being drafted in line with the recommendations of GRECO on transparency (third evaluation round).

Article 8, paragraphs 5-6

There are service regulations for civil servants at federal and regional level corresponding to these paragraphs. Elected public officials (members of domestic constitutional assemblies as being defined in § 74, paragraph 1 (4a) of the Austrian Penal Code [Strafgesetzbuch - StGB]) do have the legal obligation to disclose all activities and employments for which they receive more than 1,142.40 € per year. (Ref: Bezügebegrenzungsgesetz/ Act on the Limitation of Emoluments, Federal Law Gazette No. I 64/1997 as amended by BGBI. No. I 119/2001). An amendment to the provisions on the funding of political activities of elected representatives at federal and regional level is currently being under discussion.