

Annex 2 [Note verbale reference: CU 2023/225/DTA/CEB/CSS]

“Progress made and challenges encountered in implementing resolution 9/1”

States parties are invited to provide relevant information in line with paragraph 25 of resolution 9/1, entitled Sharm el-Sheikh declaration on strengthening international cooperation in the prevention of and fight against corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery, in which the Conference:

*[Requested] the secretariat to submit to the Conference of the States Parties at its tenth session a report on **progress made and challenges encountered in implementing [resolution 9/1]**¹.*

A. Contact Information

Please provide contact details for potential follow-up questions. Contact details will be treated confidentially.

Country: Georgia

Government Agency: The Anti-Corruption Agency of the State Security Service of Georgia (SSSG)

Department:

Contact Name:

Position:

Phone Number:

Email:

B. Questions

1. Progress made

Please describe the measures or steps your country has taken (or is planning to take, together with the related appropriate time frame) to implement operative paragraphs 1 to 21 of resolution 9/1. *Please state the relevant operative paragraphs in your answer.*

¹ Please note that the secretariat has collected information on the implementation of paragraphs 22 and 23 of resolution 9/1 separately.

Operative paragraphs 12, 16, 17 and 19

The Anti-Corruption Agency of the State Security Service of Georgia (SSSG) is constantly increasing its efforts in the operational-investigative, preventive and analytical directions. **The Corruption Prevention Unit** established within the Anti-Corruption Agency of the SSSG continues its effective functioning.

Starting from December 2021 and throughout 2022-2023 (6 months), upon the initiative of the SSSG and with the support of Council of Europe, **10 informational meetings (involving international expert) were organized** for the respective target groups of the Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development, the Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure, local self-government of Tbilisi Municipality, local self-governing bodies of Kakheti, Imereti, Adjara, Guria, Samtskhe-Javakheti, Shida Kartli, Kvemo Kartli and Mtskheta-Mtianeti regions within the framework of EU/CoE Partnership for Good Governance (PGG II and PGG III) Projects on “Enhancing the systems of prevention and combating corruption, money laundering and terrorist financing in Georgia” and “Consolidating and Enhancing the Institutional and Operational Frameworks for the Prevention and Combatting of Corruption, Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing in Georgia”. **Overall, 300 persons from respective target groups** participated in the abovementioned informational meetings. The main goal of these meetings was the provision of information to the representatives of state agencies and/or local self-governing bodies on the measures of combating corruption, the role of prevention of such crime, as well as the importance of their involvement in this process. These informational meetings were preceded by **Train-the-Trainer event** on raising awareness on corruption-related crimes organized in October 2021 for the members of Anti-Corruption Agency of the SSSG within the framework of the same project.

As a result of activities carried out in the direction of prevention, **citizens’ engagement in fight against corruption-related crimes** has been remarkably increased (whistle-blowing facts), which is confirmed by the increasing number of reports received from citizens.

Year	Received Reports	Criminal Investigation Started	Reports forwarded to other responsible agencies	Reports being examined	Reports with no signs of crime	Reports attached to existing criminal case
2020	55	12	23	12	8	-
2021	83	23	29	7	23	1
2022	90	21	38	9	15	7
2023 (6 months)	30	7	8	4	10	1

As regards the operational-investigative direction, the efficiency of the measures conducted by the Anti-Corruption Agency of the SSSG is manifested by **the increasing number of criminal cases and indicted persons**. As a result of operational-searching and investigative activities, dozens of facts of corruption-related crimes (including, bribe-taking and bribe-giving, abuse of official powers, neglect of official duty, fraud in large quantities, misappropriation-embezzlement, illegal entrepreneurial activities etc.) were revealed and a number of officials and public servants (from state agencies and local municipalities) were arrested and indicted.

Year	Criminal Cases	Indicted Persons
2020	66	72
2021	53	162
2022	61	170
2023 (6 months)	28	45

One of the priorities of the Anti-Corruption Agency of the SSSG is the capacity building of its employees through their professional development and participation in local or international trainings and various study programs. Each year dozens of employees of the Agency participate in trainings and study visits organized by international partners (such as EU/CoE, OSCE, UNODC, CEPOL, etc.) with the aim of strengthening preventive, analytical, operational and investigative capabilities. In the years of 2022-2023 (6 months) **38 training courses/programs** were delivered, where **77 employees of the Agency** participated. These trainings covered the issues of combating corruption and money laundering, integrity building, cryptocurrencies and matters related to organized crime.

2. Challenges encountered

Please describe any challenges your country has encountered in implementing operative paragraphs 1 to 21 of resolution 9/1 regarding strengthening international cooperation in the prevention of and fight against corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery. *Please state the relevant operative paragraphs in your answer.*