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EUROPEAN COMMISSION FOR DEMOCRACY THROUGH LAW (VENICE COMMISSION)

UNIDEM CAMPUS TRIESTE SEMINAR

"7TH NATIONAL CO-ORDINATORS MEETING"

Trieste, Italy

Palazzo del Ferdinandeo, MIB School of Management Largo Caduti di Nasirya n°1 tel: +39 040 918 8111

28 February 2011

REPORT

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1. Welcoming address by representatives of the Region Friuli-Venezia Giulia (FVG) and short presentation of their programmes of transfrontier co-operation

Mr Pozzecco, on behalf of the Autonomous Region Friuli-Venezia Giulia (FVG), welcomed the members of the network of national co-ordinators (hereinafter referred to as "the network") and the participants to the first seminar of the 10th academic year of the UniDem Campus Trieste Programme. He underlined the importance that the Region attaches to the running of the Programme of legal training of civil servants, and its cooperation with the Venice Commission. He also outlined the main features of the programmes of co-operation run by the Region FVG with selected regions from various countries participating in the Campus (notably, Croatia, Montenegro, the Russian Federation and Slovenia) as well as from other non-European countries such as Latin America and Australia. In this context, he stressed the potential for synergies between the said programmes and the UniDem Campus Seminars.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

The agenda was adopted as set out in document CDL-UDT(2011)002prog.

3. Opening of the meeting by the Secretariat and Prof. Sergio Bartole

Dubravka Bojic, representative of the Venice Commission Secretariat reminded the network that the Programme UniDem Campus Seminars was in its tenth year of existence and that it had made it possible to provide legal training to a significant number of high ranking civil servants from 16 countries, who in turn had passed their knowledge onto numerous colleagues.

Prof. Bartole joined the meeting after his introductory lecture. He emphasised the role and the generous financial support from the Region FVG, and thanked the national co-ordinators, the members of the Secretariat and Mrs Gregoric for their contribution to the smooth functioning of the Campus.

4. Proposals for seminars to be held in 2011 and 2012

a) Topics

Several national co-ordinators sent their proposals for topics for seminars to be held in 2011 and 2012. Following an in-depth exchange of views on the proposed topics, the network agreed on those set out in appendix to this report.

As concerns the structure of the seminars, there was a general call for more flexibility in that lectures should not systematically have the same duration as corresponding workshops: certain topics may require more group work and reduced theoretical lectures.

b) Dates

The network agreed on the dates set out in appendix to this report.

5. Organisational aspects

a) Procedure of nomination of participants and other procedural aspects
The Secretariat recalled the importance of respecting the agreed procedural aspects linked
to the organisation of each seminar in order to ensure the success of the activity. In
particular, the candidates for the UniDem Campus are to be selected on the basis of the direct
link between their current functions and the content of the relevant seminar. The participants in
the seminars are generally high level civil servants that could take an active part in the

discussions during the seminar as well as share their knowledge and experience on the subject.

The following was agreed:

- call for nominations should be sent at least four weeks before the seminar;
- nominations are to be accompanied by the CV of each candidate and
- candidates should be fluent in English.

b) Travel arrangements

With a view of ensuring the best possible travel arrangements for participants, it was agreed that the nominations would be sent as soon as possible. In addition, the national coordinators were invited to inform the candidates that it is not possible to modify the ticket or to obtain the reimbursment once the ticket was issued.

6. Follow-up to seminars

The Secretariat stressed the great importance of the follow-up to each UniDem Campus Seminar. Since no more than approximately 70 civil servants can be directly trained each year the "training of trainers" is an important component of this programme: during the seminar, the participants are expected to take an active part in the discussions, and exchange experience on the specific situation in their countries related to the topic of the seminar. Upon their return, they are requested to pass on the insights gained through the lectures and workshops to their colleagues by organising a follow-up initiative (in the form of a seminar, conference, round table or similar) in their respective countries. This is the only way to maximise the impact of the UniDem Campus Seminars.

It was agreed that national co-ordinators would be more actively involved in the organisation of the follow-up initiatives. The participants to each seminars will also be required to send information about the follow-up initiative to their respective national coordinators.

In order to make access to written material easier, the Secretariat will ensure that the reports and documents relating to the seminars are consistently put on the Venice Commission website (http://www.venice.coe.int/site/main/Campus Unidem e.asp) as early as possible.

7. Other business and closing

Mr Jgenti, the national co-ordinator from Georgia suggested that a more detailed synopsis of the seminars be prepared, and considered that the visibility of the UniDem Campus Programme and notably, the follow-up activities by the participants could be raised, including within the Council of Europe itself.

APPENDIX

List of topics and dates approved in The 7th meeting of the National Coordinators, Trieste, 28 February 2011

TOPICS	DATES
Information, (social) media and the civil service	2-5 May 2011
The impact of membership in the Council of Europe on accession to / development of relations with the EU: common values and standards (provisional title)	20-23 June 2011
The effectiveness of public administration and its "Europeanisation": challenges and perspectives	2012
Freedom of association and assembly: European standards and case- law (including a sub-theme on freedom of thought, conscience and religion)	2012
Respecting human rights in the fight against organised crime, or a topic on elections	2012