



TERMS OF REFERENCE

MISSION STATEMENT

The Regional Anti-corruption Initiative gives impetus to the fight against corruption in South East Europe by building on existing actions, through better coordination of all efforts, and by relying on high level political commitment provided by the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) and South East European Cooperation Process (SEEC). Its objective is to assist and support the countries of the region to adopt efficient legislation, to establish effective institutions and to develop best practices in civil society for a joint sustained fight against corruption.

Mission and goal description:

The **Chairman** plays a pivotal role within the Initiative's framework by ensuring the permanent coordination of the activities undertaken by the member countries in implementing the commitments endorsed within the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Strategic documents. In this regard he/she convenes and chairs the Steering Group meetings.

The Chairman oversees the enforcement of the decisions taken by the Steering Group of the Initiative.

Role and responsibilities

The Chairman shall **represent** the Initiative and its Steering Group members in relation with all international partners and **promote** the implementation of the Initiative's strategic objectives.

He/she will:

- **Convene** once per year (or whenever necessary) the Steering Group Meetings and **chair** them;
- **Foster** the dialogue with the donor countries and international partners within bilateral discussions and whenever necessary through the Friends of the Chair meetings;
- **Strengthen** the communication with the high level governmental officials from the member countries throughout official visits whenever necessary;
- **Chair** national and regional events related to the fight against corruption hosted by the member countries upon request;
- **Give strategic guidance** to the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Secretariat in order to ensure the achievement of the work plan's objectives, as set and approved by the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Steering Group;



- **Report to the RCC** within its annual meetings and whenever necessary within the **SEECF Justice and Home Affairs (JHA) Ministerial meetings**;
- **Inform and consult** RCC Secretary General in relation with the anti-corruption issues concerning the region.

Qualifications required:

The Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Chairman should be a prominent figure well known and accepted within the South East Europe and able to interact with the anti-corruption related international partners.

The Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Chairman should possess qualified professional skills along with personal international and regional anti-corruption-related connections, as well as long-standing experience in the field.

The Chairman should also:

- Have the citizenship of a Regional Anti-corruption Initiative member country.
- Have university degree in Law, Criminal Justice, Political Science or related fields.
- Have excellent communication and writing skills in English.

Good knowledge of political, social, economic and security landscape in South East Europe would be an advantage.

Mandate and selection procedure:

According to the Memorandum of Understanding concerning cooperation in fighting Corruption through South Eastern European Anti-corruption Initiative every year the Chair-in-office should be appointed from the countries of the region and elected by the Steering Group. However, if there are no specific objections related to the activity of the current chairman the mandate shall be prolonged automatically for another year, but not more than once.

Election procedures start by e-mail consultations between Steering Group Senior Representatives through the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Secretariat and shall be followed by decision of the Steering Group in its upcoming meeting. Election procedures start no later than 60 days before the ending of existent chairman mandate and no later than 15 days after notification of an eventual vacancy.

The period agreed for submission of applications, addressed to the Chairman through the Regional Anti-corruption Initiative Secretariat, is 30 days from the announcement day.

If unexpected circumstances occur or the Chairman is not able to continue his/her functions during more than 5 months before the ending of the mandate than he/she should inform the member states in written through the Secretariat and the member states will start the procedure to select a new chairman by e-mail consultations.