

*Annual Report of the Secretary General
on Police-Related Activities
in 2006*



**Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Office of the Secretary General**

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Appendices:

ODIHR Annual Report on Police-Related Activities for 2006
HCNM Annual Report on Police-Related Activities for 2006

1. THE OSCE AND POLICING

1.1. This is the fifth report submitted in accordance with the mandate referred to on the title page. It provides information about police capacity and institution building undertaken by the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) field operations in support of their respective host-State governments. The report also describes activities conducted by the Strategic Police Matters Unit (SPMU) headed by Senior Police Adviser to the OSCE Secretary General. The OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) Annual Report on Police-Related Activities for 2006 and the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM) Annual Report on Police-Related Activities for 2006 are attached to this report as appendices.

1.2. Freedom from fear of crime and of becoming a victim of crime is one of the fundamental human rights, which is safeguarded by the police acting within the framework of a national criminal justice system. Policing is about the protection of life and property, preservation of public order and prevention and detection of crime. However, the police can play its vital role in safeguarding the Rule of Law - which, in its turn, is the only firm foundation for social and economic development, and, ultimately, prosperity of a society - if the police are accountable for their actions, adhere to international recognized standards, and demonstrate respect for human rights, especially those of minorities and vulnerable population groups.

1.3. Taskings on police-related issues are contained in the growing list of Decisions of the Ministerial Council and the Permanent Council as well as OSCE Action Plans.

1.4. The *Charter for European Security* adopted by the Istanbul Summit Meeting (1999) represents the platform for the OSCE involvement in policing. It contains the commitment of the OSCE participating States to enhance the OSCE's role in civilian police-related activities as an integral part of the Organization's efforts in conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation. Such activities may comprise: (1) police monitoring, including to prevent police from discriminating due to religious and ethnic identity; (2) police training, which could, *inter alia*, aim to improve the operational and tactical capabilities of local police services and reform paramilitary forces, provide new and modern policing skills, such as community policing, and anti-drug, anti-corruption and anti-terrorist capacities, create a police service with a multi-ethnic and/or multi-religious composition that can enjoy the confidence of the entire population; and (3) promoting respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms in general.

1.5. The Ninth Ministerial Council in Bucharest (2001) declared the decision of the OSCE to increase and promote co-operation among participating States in countering new security challenges, including by providing advice or arranging for the provision of expert advice on requirements for effective policing (needs assessments) and how to meet them, and encouraging where appropriate the exchange of information among and between participating States regarding lessons learned and best policing practices in countering these new security challenges.

1.6. The *Bucharest Plan of Action for Combating Terrorism (2001)*, adopted on the same occasion as the above *Decision on police-related activities*, recognized the need to assist participating States, on their request, through measures to combat trafficking in human beings, drugs and small arms and light weapons, in accordance with relevant Permanent Council decisions. This assistance could also include provision of advice and assistance on restructuring and/or reconstruction of police services; monitoring and training of existing police services,

including human rights training; and capacity building, including support for integrated or multi-ethnic police services. To this end, the Declaration acknowledged the requirement for reinforcing existing police-related activities in conflict prevention, crisis management and post-conflict rehabilitation.

1.7. In the *Declaration on Trafficking in Human Beings* adopted by the Tenth Ministerial Council of the OSCE (Porto 2002) its members called on participating States to enhance international co-operation in combating criminal acts such as trafficking in drugs and arms, as well as smuggling of migrants. They emphasized the need to include in this co-operation international law enforcement bodies, such as Europol and Interpol, as well as the Southeast European Co-operative Initiative (SECI), with a view to investigating and prosecuting those responsible for trafficking in human beings in accordance with domestic law and, where applicable, international obligations. In this regard, they also asked the Senior Police Adviser to devote increased attention to the fight against trafficking in human beings.

1.8. This tasking was further detailed in the *OSCE Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Human Beings*, which requested the SPMU to further promote the concept of community policing and facilitate the exchange of information between participating States on best practices to be used by relevant investigating units to check the possibly criminal and trafficking-related origin of suspicious assets. The SPMU was also tasked to continue developing training materials for law enforcement on trafficking and sex crimes investigation, identify law enforcement trainers to conduct training, and facilitate the funding of training sessions for law enforcement authorities in OSCE participating States.

1.9. One of the aspects of policing of ethnic minorities was addressed by the *OSCE Action Plan on Improving the Situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area (2003)*. The SPMU was tasked to assist participating States in developing programmes and confidence-building measures — such as community policing — to improve the relations between Roma and Sinti people and the police, particularly at the local level, and to produce a compilation of police “best practices” in the OSCE region with respect to policing and Roma and Sinti communities. Another established task was to assist the participating States in developing codes of conduct to prevent racial profiling and improve interethnic relations.

1.10. *2004 OSCE Action Plan for the Promotion of Gender Equality* adopted by the 12th Ministerial Council of the OSCE (Sofia 2004) urged the participating States, the Secretariat, Institutions and Field Operations to ensure that a gender perspective is integrated into OSCE activities, programmes and projects. The aim shall be to promote the practice of gender equality in the OSCE area, which is essential to comprehensive security. In this context, the SPMU was specifically tasked to enhance its project development to assist participating States in reacting to sexual violence offences and in including such elements as special investigation techniques, and interview skills designated for use with victims of sexual assault including children, and information on referral mechanisms for victim assistance, in the police training curriculum.

1.11. The fight against organized crime came to the forefront of OSCE priorities during 2005 and was recognized in a Decision on *Combating transnational organized crime* adopted by the 13th Ministerial Council of the OSCE (Ljubljana 2005). It tasked the OSCE Secretary General with providing the requesting participating States with support for the mobilization of technical assistance, including the necessary expertise and resources, from relevant competent international organizations for the implementation of the United Nations Convention against

Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols. The Decision also tasked the OSCE Permanent Council to work on designing, with the support of the Secretary General and the relevant OSCE institutions, possible measures and forms of assistance that could be available to requesting participating States with a view to improving and promoting the functioning of criminal justice systems.

1.12. Permanent Council Decision No. 758 *Enhancing International Anti-Drug Co-operation* (2006) tasked the Secretary General and relevant OSCE institutions with providing to participating States, upon their request and in close consultation and co-ordination with the UNODC, assistance/advice on anti-drug issues, *inter alia*, through awareness-raising activities, the organization of regional workshops and facilitation of training.

1.13. The Decision on *Combating Sexual Exploitation of Children* adopted by the 14th Ministerial Council of the OSCE (Brussels 2006) encouraged relevant OSCE executive structures, within their existing mandates, to devote attention to the area of sexual exploitation of children, including links to trafficking in persons, and emphasized the need for them and the participating States to co-operate with other international organizations, NGOs and civil society in combating the sexual exploitation of children.

1.14. The 14th Ministerial Council of the OSCE (Brussels 2006) adopted the follow-up Decision on *Organized crime*, reaffirming the importance that the OSCE was giving to this subject. The Decision's tasking to the OSCE Secretary General and the relevant OSCE executive structures, within their respective mandates, included giving enhanced attention to the key role of criminal justice systems in institution-building and in the promotion of the rule of law, as well as co-operating and co-ordinating more closely in order to take better into account the interaction between the components of those systems. A further major task was to build on and consolidate the existing knowledge and experience on criminal justice and organized crime and to continue co-operating with the UNODC in matters including combating organized crime and illicit drugs.

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2. POLICE-RELATED ACTIVITIES IN FIELD OPERATION AREAS

Note: *The responsibility for implementation of police development projects and programmes rests with Heads of respective field operations in their capacity of Fund Managers, guided by their respective mandates. The staff of the Strategic Police Matters Unit supports them by standing ready to conduct the pre-requisite needs assessment and contributing expertise to project/programme formulation and implementation.*

SOUTH EAST EUROPE

The OSCE Mission to Croatia

2.1. Taking into consideration further improvements in the overall security situation in Croatia and in police performance, during 2006 the Mission retained only one international staff member assisted by three national staff. Three additional national staff members continued to deal with policing matters in the Field Offices in Vukovar, Split and Sisak.

2.2. The Police Affairs Unit focused in 2006 on advising the police authorities at the central level on issues related to reforms undertaken within the Ministry of Interior as well as on lecturing and continued light monitoring of police activities in the field, especially investigations of ethnically motivated incidents.

2.3. The Unit continued to concentrate its limited resources on three strategic areas: (1) Police reform, including development of a modern human resources system in the Ministry of Interior and decentralization of the Ministry of Interior; (2) regional and international police co-operation, including co-ordination of police assistance by chairing the International Donors Group and supporting specific projects and activities aimed at bringing the working methods of the Croatian Police in line with EU best practices; (3) community policing including assistance in the training of Contact Officers, supporting the work of Communal Prevention Councils and community partnerships, and promoting and supporting the reform of the Department of Public Relations of the Ministry of Interior.

2.4. The Mission organized a human resources management workshop in June 2006. Swedish experts shared with senior police officials of the Ministry of Interior and the police commanders their experience regarding police reform. The Mission continued assisting the Contact Officer (community policing) project implementation by providing expert training and advice. All of the foreseen number of Contact Officers (700) have been trained and deployed throughout Croatia. In October 2006, the Mission organized a three-day Contact Officers co-ordinators' workshop to exchange good practices and network.

2.5. The Mission also implemented a community policing project entitled "Police and Citizens" to improve co-operation between police and citizens in the former war-affected areas, principally in Vukovar and Osijek. The project also included activities related to reconciliation and participation of children of different ethnicities. In June and September 2006 the Mission organized two workshops on improving and enhancing co-operation between the police and citizens, emphasizing the importance of Communal Prevention Councils.

2.6. In April 2006 the Mission organized a study visit to the Public Relations Department of the Swedish National Police Board. Among the participants were members of the Department of Public Relations of the Croatian Ministry of Interior.

2.7. The OSCE Mission chaired the International Donors Coordination Group on Police Assistance to Croatia, which comprised representatives of several Embassies, the European Commission Delegation, and the International Organization for Migration and the Croatian Ministry of Interior. The group meets every two months.

2.8. Taking into account the progress shown by the Croatian police in the recent years, the Mission's Police Affairs Unit was closed at the end of 2006. A police advisor remained in the Head of Mission's office for liaison and technical assistance.

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The OSCE Mission in Kosovo

2.9. In 2006, the Department of Police Education and Development (DPED) of the OSCE Mission in Kosovo (OMiK) began the transition to the Department for Security & Public Safety (DSPS), to better reflect the broader context of its programs within justice, safety and security sector development, and officially took the name and status as of the 1 January 2007.

2.10. Security and safety of Kosovo is not solely the responsibility of the Kosovo Police Service (KPS) but include Customs, Corrections and Fire & Rescue. Recognizing the training needs, especially in organizational and managerial skills, within Security and Public Safety institutions have similarities with the KPS, the DSPS created a multi-agency training facility on the site of the Kosovo Police Service School at Vushtrri/Vučitrn. The Kosovo Centre for Public Safety Education and Development (the Centre) is a unique institution within South East Europe and provides a cost effective and sustainable approach to training for Public Safety Agencies within Kosovo. The Centre is funded almost entirely from the Kosovo Consolidated Budget, including its civil servant staff members. Adjunct instructors from the relevant agencies provide instructional support alongside OSCE specialists and capacity builders, the ethos being that "if they work together they should train together". Each of the agencies retain their own Academies (thus identities), while sharing the extensive facilities and training resources created and developed by the OSCE since 1999. DSPS continues to provide Advanced and Specialized, Management and Leadership Development training for KPS and the Security and Safety organizations, monitors basic police & mandated training and mentors the local management of the Centre to ensure sustainability and help consolidate multi-agency training co-operation.

Community Policing

2.11. DSPS Community Policing Programme Community Safety Action Teams (CSAT) including KPS officers, municipality representatives, and community members reflecting the diversity of the society have been created in 16 municipalities throughout Kosovo with the purpose of finding local solutions to local problems. The short-term objective of the programme is to develop new (or strengthen existing) relationships between police, local governance, and community. Expected long-term outcomes of this community interaction are crime reduction and improved community livability and safety resulting from co-operative projects and strategies.

2.12. CSAT members participate in extensive training to include; the philosophy and benefits of community policing, community partnerships, and problem-solving. Evaluation and follow-up will be conducted to assess the impact of the training and to determine the most appropriate support package for the establishment sustainability of a further nine communities which have been identified to date.

Security Awareness

2.13. The foundations for the DSPS Security Awareness Issues Section (SAIS) were laid in the second half of 2006 with a focus to develop awareness of security concepts within Kosovo. This was accomplished by working with the many actors in the security awareness arena – Kosovo Internal Security Sector Review (ISSR) Steering Committee, PISG Office of Public Security, United Nations Development Programme, Democratic Control of Armed Forces are some examples. Linked with the ISSR Media Outreach coordinator and UNDP the SAIS ran media awareness programs, coordinated a program for security analysts and embarked on a program of security awareness training for Community Safety Action Teams, the Police Inspectorate and Local Public Safety Committees.

Police Inspectorate of Kosovo

2.14. The creation of a Police Inspectorate of Kosovo (PIK), agreed between the OSCE, UNMIK and the PISG in September 2005, came into existence in July 2006 with the first day of training by OMiKs DSPS implementation team. It is an independent police oversight mechanism with two primary functions: effectiveness and compliance with the applicable law; and investigation of all allegations of serious misconduct by KPS officers regardless of rank.

2.15. An Executive Agency of the PISG Ministry of Internal Affairs the PIK applies European policing standards in measuring the performance of KPS managers as defined in the European Code of Police Ethics. The DSPS team are responsible for design and implementation of both the institution-building and capacity-building phases, as well as monitoring PIK performance. PIK's independence from the KPS is an essential prerequisite of the aim of maintaining public confidence in the KPS as a professional organization founded on the principles of transparency in operation and accountability to the communities it serves.

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The OSCE Mission to Montenegro

2.16. Following the declaration of independence by Montenegro, a separate OSCE Mission was set up in this country at the request of its government. The Mission supports the declared objective of transforming the Montenegrin Police into a professional, democratic and competent police service, accepted and respected by the society. At the strategic level, the Mission supported the police reform by production and distribution of the report "Police Reform in Montenegro 2001-2005: Assessment and Recommendations".

Organized Crime/Counter-terrorism

2.17. The Mission assisted in the implementation of the Strategy and Action Plan for Fight against Organized Crime and Corruption. It supported professional development and capacity

building of the Criminal Investigation Directorate (CID) by providing an advanced training programme for the members of the Surveillance Unit. The Mission supported the establishment of the National Criminal Intelligence System by conducting training in common standards of criminal intelligence analysis and in the use of specialized analytical software. The Mission coordinated the implementation of an extra-budgetary project for the forensic laboratory financed by Norway and the US, which included the donation by the latter of an automated fingerprint identification system. Four cycles of a training programme in crisis management were organized with the objective to create the Special Negotiation Team within Special Anti-terrorist Unit for incidents involving hostage-taking as well as other situations where human life might be at stake.

Border Policing

2.18. The Mission assisted in the preparation of the Integrated Border Management Strategy and Action Plan. It facilitated co-ordination meetings between national and international counterparts and supported regional co-operation through the establishment of a joint working group with representatives from the Montenegrin and Albanian Border Police Services. The working group was tasked to define the forms of future co-operation for prevention of trans-border criminality.

Community Policing

2.19. The overall goal of the project on improvement of communication between the police and the media is to ensure better reporting of crime and inform the Montenegrin society about security, safety and police-related issues. The seven-month project on “Ethical Performance of the Traffic Police” aims to increase citizens’ awareness about their rights, support traffic safety, reduce corruption in traffic police and contribute to development of public trust in institutions.

2.20. Activities to support community-oriented policing were intensified during 2006 since the authority for coordination of activities in this major area of police reform was transferred to the Mission. A three week training programme in community policing and problem solving was organized for senior police commanders. It consisted of three modules concentrating on such issues as community-oriented policing framework; collaborative partnerships; community problem solving; managing organizational change; strategic planning; communication and image management. For officers from the Patrol Police, the course was reduced to one week. A total of 76 senior commanders and 90 patrol officers have completed the course.

Accountability

2.21. The aim of the Accountability Programme is to assist the Ministry of Internal Affairs of Montenegro in the establishment of internal oversight mechanisms and effective police anti-corruption initiatives, to ensure that their police services are accountable and transparent in all aspects of their profession, and function in line with democratic norms and values.

Police education and development

2.22. The Police Development Course consisted of one week of training for police officers and Border Police officers in such subjects as search of vehicles and persons; drug identification; tactical communications; officer survival; community-oriented policing and problem solving. The Principles of Modern Management Course addressed middle and senior managers focusing on general organizational concepts; human behavior and interaction; managerial functions; police-media relations; community-oriented policing; equal opportunities and discrimination; de-

briefing techniques. A one-week Crime Scene Protection and Patrol Procedures for Patrol and Traffic Police officers consisted of such topics as: initial response; safety procedures; emergency care; methods to secure and control persons at the scene; types of evidence; common errors made by patrol officers; crime scene practical exercise; vehicle identification numbers; traffic accident management and report writing; vehicle stops and searches. Training in VIP protection and escort techniques was conducted for the Motorcycle Unit. Trainer Development and Trainer Evaluation Courses designed to train police educators in modern methods of training delivery were conducted. Two-week training in management of public disorder was delivered to 30 members of the Intervention Unit, who are also responsible for dealing with riots and mass control.

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The OSCE Mission to Serbia

2.23. The Law Enforcement Department (LED) is the Mission's largest department. Headed by a seconded senior police officer from Norway, in 2006 the Department was comprised of 22 international and 15 national staff in the Mission's headquarters in Belgrade, in sections for Strategic Development, Organized Crime and Border Policing, Police Accountability, Community Policing, Police Education and Development, and Programme Support. The Department has the mandate to advise, guide, and monitor the sustainable reform and modernization of Serbia's police service, which is one of the remaining challenges in Serbia's transition towards democracy and integration into European structures. Achievement of a comprehensive police reform - the development of effective law enforcement and democratic policing comparable to that of Serbia's European contemporaries - remains one of the Mission's key objectives.

2.24. In 2006, the Department continued to work in close co-operation with the Serbian Ministry of Interior to assist them in identifying and addressing needs for reform in eight priority areas of co-operation: enhancing police accountability and the strengthening of internal oversight of the police, the fight against organized crime, modernization of border policing, increasing capacity for the investigation of war crimes and in crime scene management/forensics, establishment of community policing, police education and training, and the development of strategic planning within the Ministry of Interior and police service. Collective efforts continued to address the overarching challenges in the reform, namely depoliticization, decentralization, demilitarization, and decriminalization.

2.25. As officially outlined in a Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2004 between the Mission and the Ministry of Interior, the OSCE is designated co-ordinator of international assistance to the police reform process. The Department helped to achieve a measure of co-ordination of technical assistance activities in 2006, by facilitating the exchange of information on international assistance programmes at both operational and higher levels of inter-agency co-operation, in an effort to avoid overlapping and duplication where feasible. Three topic-orientated international co-ordination briefings were hosted jointly with the Ministry of Interior.

2.26. During 2006, the Department's Accountability Programme continued to contribute to the development of a more accountable and transparent police service by providing assistance and advice that aims at strengthening the internal oversight of police work, anti-corruption

mechanisms, and professionalising police conduct. The programme held workshops on anti-corruption mechanisms for operational staff from the Internal Affairs Division that provided a comprehensive overview of anti-corruption mechanisms available to the police and good practices for corruption investigations. A study visit to Belgium was arranged for a delegation from the Internal Affairs Division headed by the Ministry's Inspector General. The objective of the visit was to learn how police oversight, both internal and external, and police accountability are practiced in a West European context.

2.27. Together with the Ministry of Interior's Commission for Monitoring the Implementation of the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture, the Department undertook an assessment of the quality and procedures in police custody facilities in four Police Secretariats in Serbia. The assessment was the first phase in a project to address the issue of the protection of an individual's human rights while in police custody, and to improve accountability within the police service in line with international standards.

2.28. During 2006, the Police Education and Development Unit helped to train 272 national Police Trainers (of which 59 reached the level of Advanced Trainers), and 91 professionals in curriculum development. It further assisted the Ministry of Interior in designing, launching, and evaluating the impact of a police training programme in southern Serbia, and provided support to the transformation of basic police training.

2.29. The Department continued to add value in 2006 to the efforts of the Serbian authorities to more effectively combat organized crime. It conducted activities in support of capacity-building in hostage negotiations, handling of informants, dismantling illicit drug production sites (jointly with Europol), surveillance, and identification of stolen vehicles.

2.30. The Department continued promoting regional co-operation in the fight against organized crime by facilitating contacts of national authorities with the South East European Co-operation Initiative (SECI) Center in Bucharest, Romania, and the UN Mission in Kosovo.

2.31. In 2006, the Department continued providing assistance to Ministry of Interior's War Crimes Investigation Service to increase capacities for war crime investigation and the related witness protection. A study visit to Austria was organized for the Serbian Witness Protection Unit. A regional conference devoted to improving direct co-operation in war crimes investigation and witness protection was organized with participation of police investigators from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Serbia, Montenegro, and the UN Mission to Kosovo, the Czech and Slovak Republics and international experts from the ICTY.

2.32. The Department made efforts to emphasize the regional dimension to war crimes trial proceedings, as part of the 'Palic Process', as regional co-operation is an important condition for the transfer of war crimes cases from international to national jurisdiction. The Department supported the establishment of contacts, which led to the first inter-state joint investigation team (Serbia/Bosnia and Herzegovina), and worked to build links for professional co-operation between police, investigative judges and prosecutors.

2.33. The Department's Organized Crime and Border Policing Unit supported regional co-operation among border police in the region. Training for the Serbian Border Police Service included trainer and curriculum development, identification of stolen vehicles, as well as

specialized training in the use of ‘Docubox’. To support the implementation and co-ordination of assistance to Serbia’s border police, the Department organized co-ordination meetings to promote and facilitate co-ordination and the exchange of information between international organizations active or interested in border police reform

2.34. The Department continued supporting capacity-building of the Serbian Ministry of Interior in forensics and crime scene management. Efforts continued according to the Department’s three main goals in this area, namely (1) the enhancement of forensic laboratory capacity, (2) crime scene investigation capacities and (3) initiating preliminary steps towards introducing a Quality Management System for forensics in Serbia.

2.35. The Department continued assisting the Serbian Ministry of Interior in establishing and developing a community policing approach that would reflect Serbia’s cultural, social and political context. The introduction of community policing remains the most significant method for changing the police culture in Serbia over the long term. The Department continued facilitating a forum for dialogue between community members, thereby enhancing community participation in police decision making, and creating a sense of ownership over the process. In close co-operation with the Ministry of Interior, the Department sought to improve relations between the media and the police through eleven roundtable meetings held throughout the country, which led to agreement on concrete guidelines for improving communication between these two institutions. The Department launched a programme to improve police awareness and ability to address issues specific to minority and other socially vulnerable groups, including attention to police needs for training on investigation of hate crimes. A series of thirteen ‘Policing Diversity’ roundtables marked the completion of the first phase of the Diversity/Minorities Project. The meetings aimed to identify training needs and other requirements to establish effective communication mechanisms between police and minority or marginalized groups in Serbian society.

2.36. The Department helped to flag the priority need for building capacities for strategic planning, policy-making and evaluation of progress in the Serbian Ministry of Interior, as it would influence the development and sustainability of all other areas of police reform.

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The OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission to Skopje

2.37. The Police Development Department (PDD) is a structured unit with four sections: Management, Police Training, Community Development and Education Support. Throughout 2006, the PDD maintained 42 international staff posts located at the Headquarters in Skopje, the Police Academy in Idrizovo, and at the Kumanovo and Tetovo Field Stations.

2.38. With the EU granting the country “candidate status” in December 2005, progressing and completing the police reform became even more relevant for the country’s European aspirations. To that end, at the beginning of 2006, the Government embarked on three major undertakings. The first one was to provide the Ministry of Interior with a new legislative tool allowing for the restructuring of the Police Organization, the definition of roles and responsibilities at local and central level, and for the development of mechanisms and strategies to increase the efficiency of policing. The second was to further the development of a comprehensive, domestic training

strategy in line with the international best practices, to improve the professionalism and skills of the national Police force. The third was to continue improving co-operation between citizens and law enforcement officials, and enhancing citizens' trust in the Police, particularly among minorities, through furthering the implementation of the Community Policing programme launched in 2003.

2.39. In line with the country's reform goals and its Euro-Atlantic commitments, the Department's priorities for the year 2006 were to continue supporting the Ministry of Interior in improving the efficiency and professionalism of the Police Organization, and assisting in the implementation of the Community Policing Programme. In so doing, the Department continued to follow a two-fold strategy focusing on police training and community policing.

Police Training

2.40. A total of 608 police officers were trained in the courses organized or otherwise supported by the Department in 2006. PDD's training strategy focused primarily on delivering specialized training and "training of trainers" courses, aimed at supporting the Ministry of Interior's efforts to increase the professionalism and the efficiency of its staff.

2.41. Middle and First Line Management Training aimed at providing 177 Border Police middle level and first line managers with new approaches, methods, and tools to ensure the development of an effective and efficient human resource capability. Other training included first-aid, languages (English, Greek, Albanian), advanced tactical use of force, officer field training, advanced computer skills, drug identification and interviewing techniques (a multi-year course developed jointly with the American International Criminal Investigative Training Assistance Program - ICITAP), advanced surveillance, witness protection, investigation of money laundering and financing of terrorism, and identification of forged documents. Capacity building training for CAG members was developed and delivered to 333 municipal, police and citizens' representatives with the aim to improve the effectiveness of CAGs and support transition to community-based policing.

2.42. In preparation for the July 2006 Parliamentary Elections, a total of 8,000 officers were trained in police duties and responsibilities during the elections, as foreseen by the new Electoral Code. After completing class-room training, participants were provided with a "pocket guide" focusing on the most important articles of the Electoral Code and the tasks and role of police officers in charge of monitoring and securing polling stations.

Community Policing

2.43. In 2006, the PDD continued to support the implementation of community-based policing, as an approach recognizing that effective policing depends on the assistance and support from the community that is being served.

2.44. The PDD's Community Policing Strategy for 2006 hinged on the following four priorities: (1) to assist the Ministry of Interior in developing, monitoring and evaluating activities and strategies in support to the successful implementation of the country's Community Policing Programme; (2) to consolidate and expand the practice of Citizens Advisory Groups (CAGs) countrywide; (3) to further the Drug Awareness Campaign that was launched in 2005; (4) to support the country efforts aimed at fulfilling its OSCE and national commitments to develop policies and programmes addressing policing in Roma communities.

2.45. A Survey on Community Policing was conducted by the PDD; compared to previous assessments the PDD conducted in 2002 and 2004, the results displayed a growing satisfaction among the population with the work of the police and showed an encouraging improvement of co-operation between the citizens and the police, particularly in the former crisis areas. Throughout the year, the PDD continued to promote the establishment of Citizens Advisory Groups, which the Department first introduced in 2002 as *fora* gathering police, citizens and municipal representatives to discuss community safety-related issues. In 2006, 50 new CAGs were established, thus raising the total number to 121. Throughout 2006, the PDD continued implementing the Awareness Raising Campaign on Drugs that it had launched the previous year, jointly with the Ministry of Interior.

2.46. 2005-2015 was declared the Decade of the Roma/Sinti Population and in light of the OSCE Action Plan on improving the situation of Roma and Sinti within the OSCE Area, in 2006 the Mission targeted extra resources to support the Ministry of Interior in addressing policing in Roma communities. A regional workshop on policing in Roma communities was organized by the PDD in co-operation with the Ministry of Interior and the ODIHR Contact Point for Roma and Sinti Issues (CPRSI).

Project Activities

2.47. Benefiting in 2006 from a core budget of EUR 430,000 and EUR 40,937 of extra-budgetary contributions from the UK and US governments, the Department succeeded to develop and implement 36 projects.

2.48. Whilst a number of them were designed to sustain the delivery of trainings, others consisted of specific activities aimed at supporting the Department's programmatic goals. These included donations of equipment to the Police Academy and the Ministry of Interior, organization of local initiatives, sport and ecological events gathering citizens and police, coloring books for primary children to raise their awareness of citizens' duties and responsibilities within the community.

2.49. Using the extra-budgetary contribution by the UK, the PDD implemented a community safety awareness raising initiative in Chair Municipality, Skopje area, aimed at promoting inter-ethnic relations and enhancing co-operation between police and citizens. The event consisted of a sport tournament and of visits to the local police station for 2,000 elementary school children, during which police officers and municipal representatives handed out to the pupils Junior Citizens Handbooks on safety related issues.

2.50. The project on building road safety with children, funded by the US and implemented jointly with the Ministry of Interior, aimed at raising youngsters' awareness of road safety. In agreement with school authorities, police officers delivered interactive trainings to elementary schoolchildren countrywide, using three mobile trailers and road tracks, which the US Embassy donated, for role-plays exercises.

Co-operation with Other Missions and Partner Organizations

2.51. Throughout the year, PDD maintained regular and ad hoc co-ordination meetings with a number of International Organizations present on the field, such as the EU Institutions, the

UNDP, and NATO, ICITAP, as well as NGOs, academic institutions and Diplomatic Missions, such as the UK, France, Austria, the US, Italy, and Turkey.

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The OSCE Presence in Albania

2.52. The OSCE Presence in Albania (PiA) police-related activities are implemented mainly through its Security Co-operation Department (SCD). At the beginning of 2006, the number of international staff members within the SCD was two; however by May 2006 this number was increased to three with three national staff supporting SCD activities. During 2006 most of the SCD activities were driven by the Albanian Police strategy.

Border and Migration Police and Integrated Border Management (IBM)

2.53. The Presence, in co-operation with other International Organizations, has provided assistance and support to the Albanian Border and Migration Police in formulating and implementing its Integrated Border Management (IBM) strategy and its Action Plan in response to EU recommendations and guidelines. These two important documents were completed in November 2006.

2.54. In the framework of implementing the Albanian IBM strategy the OSCE PiA has concentrated on developing and facilitating international cross-border co-operation between the Albanian Border and Migration Police and their counterparts across the borders.

2.55. The OSCE PiA assists and supports the Albanian Border Police in enhancing cross-border co-operation with UN Mission in Kosovo/KFOR/Kosovo Police Service through the Joint Border Co-operation Meetings (JBCM) process. In co-operation with the OSCE Mission to Montenegro and the OSCE Spillover Monitor Mission in Skopje (former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia), the Presence organized workshops to improve cross-border co-operation aimed at combating organized crime.

Support to the Albanian State Police

2.56. In co-operation with the Albanian State Police and the British Council, 80 border police officers obtained a good working knowledge of basic English, which will assist the border police in meeting their requirements for EU accession and NATO integration.

2.57. The Presence donated radios and repeaters to the Albanian State Police, as well as eight solar power generators (using extra-budgetary funding provided by France and the Czech Republic) and border monitoring equipment; training was also provided.

2.58. The Albanian State Police launched an awareness campaign in-line with their Anti-Drug Strategy to support police efforts to stem the cultivation of marijuana. The Presence lent its support, joining efforts of the Albanian Directorate of Police, representatives of the central and local governments (Prefects), the Chairmen of the Regional Councils, the District Directors of Police and the District Prosecutors. Activities in this area mainly consisted of the preparation and distribution of leaflets, posters, and the production of TV spots and TV roundtable debates.

2.59. As it was seen as a necessity, the Presence initiated the reform of the law on the Albanian State Police. Currently, final amendments are being discussed in the Albanian Parliament and the approval of the new law is pending. The new law is expected to be in line with the applicable EU recommendations. As soon as it will be enacted, several reforms and structural changes will be made in the Albanian State Police.

2.60. The OSCE PiA organized in-service training on Management of Organized Crime and Drugs Investigations. 23 participants (middle rank police officers) from all over the country attended. The training was delivered by three Turkish police officers from the Turkish International Academy against Organized Crime and Drugs.

2.61. As a result of the success of 2005 Police Election Training, the OSCE PiA in conjunction with the PAMECA Police Mission and high-level members of the Albanian State Police and members of the Central Election Committee continued to support the Police Election Training for the local government elections of 2007.

Traffic Police

2.62. An assessment of Traffic Police capacity and efficiency in the Shkoder region was conducted by two former Traffic Police officers from Germany acting on behalf of the Presence. This assessment will be used to identify areas where the Presence could assist in order to improve the traffic safety in Shkodra. In addition, 300 Traffic Police officers received training in first-aid provided by the Albanian Red Cross and the German NGO “Malteser”.

2.63. In August 2006, the Presence, in conjunction with the OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit, conducted a two-week training programme in the framework of the OSCE Action Plan for Combating Trafficking in Human Beings. This was a multi-agency training programme, the beneficiaries of which included law enforcement agencies, Ministry of Interior, Police Academy, the Prosecution Service, and anti-trafficking NGOs. The focus of the training was to learn how to obtain information, in a multi-agency approach, to achieve prosecution without relying on the victim’s testimony. Over 20 people received training by the experts provided by the SPMU.

2.64. The Presence took into account the revision of the Police Academy curriculum to bring it in line with European standards. This objective required developing a new curriculum for training in investigation, interview and interrogation techniques. This activity started at the end of 2006 and will be completed by mid 2007.

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EASTERN EUROPE

The OSCE Office in Minsk

2.65. In 2006, within the framework of its mandate (institution building and rule of law) the OSCE Office in Minsk (OOM) initiated a programme aimed at raising Belarusian police awareness on behavioral skills, involving the Ministry of Interior and its Police Academy. Discussions touched upon the possible interest of the Belarusian authorities in conducting training of trainers as well as special course for students on behavioral skills. It turned out that

this subject had been included in the Academy's curriculum and foreign teaching experience was very welcome. An agreement was reached that the training of trainers will be organized not only for the Police Academy, but also for the Police Training Centre in Minsk and the Police College in Moguilev.

It is foreseen that the first in a series of such events, a Special Course on police behavioural skills, will be conducted for the students of the Police College in Mogilev in September 2007

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SOUTHERN CAUCASUS

The OSCE Office in Yerevan

2.66. Renovation of the Center for Induction Training aimed at providing the Armenian Police with modern facilities that are conducive to teaching democratic policing standards to non-commissioned officers was completed at the end of 2006. Subsequently, the Office started a follow-up project to fully equip the Centre and bring its curriculum fully in line with international standards. The first stage of the project was finished at the end of 2006 and included the provision of furniture and kitchen equipment, internal communication and alarm system as well as teaching equipment and a library.

2.67. The opening seminar on introduction of community policing was held in October 2006. The pilot project aims at establishing partnership between the population and the Police in one of the districts of the capital Yerevan. Two international experts conduct regular meetings and seminars with the leadership and personnel of all departments of the Arabkir Police District. As a result, a pilot community policing unit is being set up. After initial meetings and seminars to raise awareness among the Police and the population on the new concept, a training of trainers was held in December 2006. The training targeted police officers, possible future trainers on community policing from various units of Arabkir district, Yerevan Police Department, Centre for Induction Training and Police Academy.

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The OSCE Office in Baku

Police Training

2.68. Structural refurbishment of the Police School was completed early in 2006. During the year further improvements were made to the building by the inclusion of a functioning library with textbooks and furnishings (desks, lecture hall seating, basic teaching aids, etc). By year end, the site had also received new tarmac for the parade area and a refurbished guard post. The work was made possible through the unified budget of the OSCE Office, an equivalent involvement by the Ministry of Internal Affairs and through the financial support from participating States.

2.69. Parallel to the development of a functional school, the OSCE Office has facilitated the development of a twinning relationship with a participating State (Czech Republic) in order to develop a modern induction training course, commensurate with the needs of Azerbaijan's police as they move toward creating a police service. Now in the second year of the process, the first

“bespoke” induction course for new police officers has been developed. It will last six months and will be linked to a further six months of on-the-job training in suitable police stations.

2.70. A series of seminars on observance of freedom of assembly have been conducted with the support from the German Police. The seminars, ranging from one to two weeks in duration, were primarily intended for the benefit of Internal Troops of the Ministry of Interior. Nevertheless, one seminar was held for Baku City Police.

Community Policing

2.71. A community policing programme was launched in summer 2006. Two experts in community policing have been working in a rural municipality to develop a new method of relating to the public and of addressing both crime and human relations. The municipality chosen was Mengichevir – because of its location, size, industry and demography well suited to the purpose. The training team has established an office within the compound of the main police station in the city and has been carrying out training courses for both police and the community at large (executive authority, elected municipal leaders, civil society, community leaders and the public). There have been police open days, regular police question-time on radio and television (where the chief of police answers the public's questions) and some other activities. As a direct result of the work undertaken, recorded crime rates have fallen and opinion polls have showed that the public's opinion of and trust in their police has increased very significantly. In providing the police themselves with the self-respect borne of competency, they are better able to serve the community and, in turn, the community becomes a part of the law enforcement process. The objective is for this phase of the programme to continue until end 2007 when it will be transferred, using the expertise in Mengichevir, to neighboring municipalities and thence, eventually, throughout the country.

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The OSCE Mission to Georgia

Police Reform

2.72. The Mission helped the Ministry of Interior of Georgia with the formulation and implementation of the police reform programme. An in-depth critical needs assessment was implemented during February-March 2005 with participation of police experts from Bulgaria, Canada, Estonia, France, Germany, the Netherlands and Sweden. Based on the experts' findings and recommendations, a Short-term Police Assistance Project for Georgian Police was developed and implemented from September 2005 to March 2006, funded by extra-budgetary contributions from Belgium and Norway.

2.73. In the field of Human Resources Management, new personnel regulations and structure were proposed to Georgian police authorities for consideration and possible pilot implementation. In the field of community policing, a Working Group was formed to work on the national community policing concept and implementation of various activities, which included study tours, public opinion polls and several training seminars and round-table discussions. Duties and responsibilities of the neighborhood officers in Didube-Chugureti and Vake-Saburtalo districts of the capital Tbilisi have been revised and changed. Additionally, the region of Samtskhe-Javakheti serves as a pilot for elaboration of a Georgian model of

community based policing. In the field of police training, instructors at the Georgian Police Academy were trained to deliver the new “Field Training” and “Criminal Police Basic Training” courses.

2.74. In continuation of the Short-term Police Assistance Project, the Mission developed three projects included into the Police Assistance Program, addressing the same three areas of policing. Partial implementation started in the end of 2006.

Project activities

2.75. The Mission worked with a number of government departments to help them become more effective in the struggle against terrorism and organized crime. In particular, the Mission implemented the project “Strengthening Co operation between Georgian Structures Fighting Terrorism and Organized Crime and Similar European Agencies”. This project established channels of communication between the Ministry of Interior and its counterparts in France, Spain, Austria, Romania and the UK.

2.76. The Mission facilitated in 2006 the participation of a Georgian official in the training organized by the Strategic Police Matters Unit in Vienna on the implementation of the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocols. Later the Mission assisted the relevant Georgian agencies to fill in the questionnaire and to submit it to UNODC.

2.77. The project “Transformation of Georgian Law Enforcement Legislation to European Standards” significantly contributed to the adoption in June 2006 of 12 Universal Conventions and Protocols on Anti-terrorism. In December 2006 the Mission supported the establishment of a Bomb Data Centre at the Georgian Ministry of Interior, based on the London Metropolitan Police Bomb Data Centre. Support involved expert advice, training of Ministry of Interior staff and procurement of computer equipment.

2.78. Throughout 2006, the Mission continued its efforts aimed at improving Georgian law enforcement legislation. In September 2006, the Mission together with the French Police trained Ministry of Interior staff to develop a response to cyber crime.

2.79. In the region of Ajara, the Mission financed a project to identify and assist victims of trafficking returning to Georgia from Turkey and beyond. The Mission intends to continue to support victims assistance activities, based upon co-operation between law enforcement agencies and non-governmental organizations in Ajara as well as in Tbilisi.

2.80. The Mission has sponsored a number of conferences and workshops on the subject of money laundering and anti-corruption measures. The Mission is working with several NGOs to follow the international commitments of Georgia made to implement the OECD recommendations against corruption and within this framework has financed the alternative report drafted by Transparency International. The Mission is working with the State Minister of Reform to approach the issue of financial disclosure for public servants.

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CENTRAL ASIA

The OSCE Centre in Astana

2.81. In 2006, the Centre continued to work on the implementation of the Police Development Co-operation Activities Project. In July, in close co-operation with the OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit and the Permanent Mission of Spain to OSCE, the Centre organized a study tour to Spain on community policing for representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The main purpose of the trip was to study practical community policing activities in Spain. The participants met with their Spanish counterparts, and acquainted themselves with the system of close co-operation between the police and public in ensuring the public safety.

2.82. In October, the Centre organized a study tour for representatives of the Ministry of Internal Affairs and relevant non-governmental organizations to the United Kingdom on public oversight of the police and the use of video surveillance. The participants acquainted themselves with models for improving public trust in the police and best practices for possible application in Kazakhstan. A component of the study tour was devoted to the use of television surveillance of public places, with special attention to the respect for democratic values and human rights. The event was organized in co-operation with the OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit and the United Kingdom Delegation to the OSCE.

2.83. The Centre also organized a two-day international conference on “Theoretical and practical aspects in crime prevention activity of law enforcement bodies and civil society institutes: international experience and national practice of Kazakhstan”. Participants at the event, which included high-ranking officials of the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Office of the Prosecutor-General, Constitutional Council and representatives of non-governmental organizations, discussed ways of enhancing co-operation between the law enforcement bodies and civil society in the field of crime prevention. The conference developed a set of recommendations to be forwarded to relevant state institutions, such as modernization of the crime reporting system to make it more transparent and reliable, as well as strengthening the human rights component in police activities.

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The OSCE Centre in Bishkek

2.84. The implementation of the Police Assistance Programme launched in 2003 and the Interim Police Assistance Programme established in 2005 have contributed to improvements in a number of vital policing areas and facilitated preparation of a deep structural police reform in Kyrgyzstan. In 2006, the Police Assistance Programme aimed at (1) improving the operational efficiency of the Police by continued provision of advisory support and technical assistance in the areas of criminal investigation, analysis-based policing, public order management, police emergency response in Osh and fighting against organized crime; (2) preparing the ground for

police reform through continuing and consolidating Community Policing project in Bishkek and the regions; (3) professional development of the Centre for Police Reform at the Ministry of Interior.

Police Capacity Building

2.85. After the creation of a specialized Public Order Management Unit in the south of Kyrgyzstan (Osh city) comprising 105 officers and equipping them with transport, communications and computers, international experts provided follow-up training for Unit staff. The Centre for Public Disorder Prevention and Conflict Resolution organized the regular continued training for officers of the specialized and non-specialized units in Bishkek. The legislation on the rights and obligations of civilians and the police and the rules regulating the use of force by the police in situations of public disorder has been prepared. Based on these documents, the Centre for Police Reform of the Ministry of Interior developed the instructions on organizing the work of the police involved in prevention of public disorder. Furthermore, advanced training for police officers based on international human rights and policing standards has been introduced at the Police Training and Resource Centre.

2.86. International experts from the UK, Russia, Estonia, and Bulgaria have conducted training for local investigators and operational officers throughout Kyrgyzstan on such topics as crime scene protection and management, criminal investigation methods, interrogation, interview techniques, forensic expertise; equipment has been provided as well. Regional Centre for Criminal Investigations has been set up in Osh city to provide police in southern Kyrgyzstan with facilities to conduct sixteen types of criminal examinations and to improve their professional skills.

2.87. The exchange of operational information between two emergency response centers (in Osh and Bishkek) enables timely analysis of the crime situation in the cities, effective use of incoming information and efficient support to crime investigation and detection. The centre in Osh has been provided with new communication means and equipment to achieve even better effectiveness.

2.88. Introduction of community policing began in another district of Bishkek and in some regions of Kyrgyzstan beyond the capital. Objectives set for 2006 included increasing the capacity of the local police services in the areas of training, information technology and communication with the media as well as building police-citizens partnerships. Sustainability of the community policing project is expected to be achieved by the creation of a Community Policing Unit in the Ministry of Interior. A series of workshops and meetings were organized by the Unit in Bishkek, Osh and Karakol with support from the OSCE Centre.

2.89. The Operational Information Analysis Centre at the Ministry of Interior started its work in 2006. Swedish experts held an additional training course for the officers of the Department of Operational Information Analysis, studied first analytical reports and checked the extent to which earlier expert recommendations had been implemented.

2.90. The first phase of the project on fighting organized crime was launched in 2006. Its overall goal is to build the legal, organizational and technical capacity for countering organized crime in the Kyrgyz Republic. Already achieved outputs include the setting up of the Main Directorate for

the Fight against Organized Crime in the Ministry of Interior as well as a Directorate's field office in Osh; provision of equipment and training; provision of expert advice.

Police Reform

2.91. In order to support dynamism and sustainability of the reform process, the Centre for Police Reform at the Ministry of Interior was established on the basis of the previously existing Scientific Research Centre. With OSCE assistance, the Centre has formulated the Programme of the Police Reform; work has subsequently been focused on necessary changes in legislation and police instructions. The Centre's staff has been conducting field seminars aimed at raising the awareness of police officers in the regions about the upcoming reform.

2.92. In 2006, several surveys were conducted on various fields of ongoing operational activity of the Kyrgyz police. A system for management of the police reform and creating a cadre of specialists to implement it is being put into place. A briefing on this subject was offered to the President, the Prime Minister and Minister of Interior of the Kyrgyz Republic.

2.93. Broad co-operation on police reform issues could be established with the Ministry of Interior of Lithuania. In April 2006, a Kyrgyz delegation headed by the Minister of Interior visited Lithuania. The Lithuanian police have sent experts to advise the Kyrgyz police on the fight against organized crime and planning and implementation of the police reform. A study tour of Kyrgyz police officers to Lithuania involving a two-week training course at the Lithuanian Institute of Public Administration has been organized. The training programme comprised 80 hours of academic instruction and covered such topics as management analysis, forecasting and modeling in the public sector, strategic and tactical planning, programme development and implementation, and organizational and procedural tools for legal regulation during the process of change.

2.94. Continuing assistance from the OSCE is one of critical factors for the implementation of the police reform. An increase in the financial resources allocated to the Police Reform Programme is required to permit expansion of various projects to a nation-wide level in such areas as setting up and supporting national police reform co-ordination body, progressive involvement of the civil society in the strengthening of public security through community-based policing, countering the threat of organized crime and others.

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3. THE STRATEGIC POLICE MATTERS UNIT

3.1. The primary role of the Senior Police Adviser (SPA) to the OSCE Secretary General and the Strategic Police Matters Unit (SPMU) led by him is to provide policing-related support to the OSCE Secretary General and Chairman-in-Office and through the Organization's Field Operations respond to requests from host countries. The SPMU's mission is to support policing in all OSCE participating States as part of the rule of law and fundamental democratic principles, and, through assessment and expert advice to contribute to the development of accountable police services that protect and aid their citizens. The SPMU's long-term goals aim to provide a democratic vision of policing for the whole OSCE region and put that vision to work by assisting OSCE participating States in police capacity- and institution-building and improving police co-operation within the broader objective of strengthening national criminal justice systems. The vision will thus guide capacity-building aimed at creating competence to tackle new threats to security, including organized crime and terrorism.

3.2. For the SPMU, 2006 was a year of transition. During the previous years, over 20 police assistance projects were formulated by the SPMU at the request of the OSCE participating States and in consultation with field operations. It became clear, however, that extra-budgetary funding could not provide an adequate basis for their implementation. A process of conversion to the funding from unified budget was initiated, one of the consequences being transfer of responsibility for programme development to Heads of Field Operations. Under the guidance of the SPA, the SPMU aligned their activities more closely with the specific tasking contained in the Ministerial Declarations and the various OSCE Action Plans, as described in Section 1 of the present report. The SPMU has thus flexibly responded to the demand for change.

3.3. At the same time, the SPMU continued providing policy advice and support to field operations by regular senior level meetings and visit, screening police assistance projects, designing terms of reference for policing experts, screening applications for vacancies and helping the search of police experts through POLIS. Co-operation and co-ordination was further improved by designating Police Affairs Officers as Regional Liaison Officers for South East Europe, Eastern Europe, Southern Caucasus and Central Asia, who undertake periodic analysis of policing developments in their regions of responsibility and enhance SPMU's awareness about police related activities of international partners in the field.

3.4. The SPA conducted high-level advocacy with the participating States and International Organizations and provided policy support to Heads of the OSCE Field Operations. Within the UN-system, he participated in consultations at the Director's level in the Department of Peace-keeping Operations at the UN Secretariat and the UN Office on Drugs and Crime. His other interlocutors included the Head of the European Union Police Unit, and senior administrators in the Stability Pact, European Police College (CEPOL), Europol, ICPO-Interpol, South East European Co-operation Initiative (SECI), South East European Police Chiefs Association (SEPCA), and the International Police Advisory Council (IPAC). The SPA established high-level contacts with the relevant government departments of potential donor participating States. In November 2006, he delivered a keynote speech at the conference on "Tackling Organized Crime in the Aegean and the Western Balkans", which was organized in London by the Centre for European Reform in association with the Finnish Foreign Ministry and the UK Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

3.5. In his interventions, the SPA laid down the basis for the SPMU strategy that was to focus, among other objectives, on provision of policy advice and support to the OSCE Field Operations, compilation and dissemination of lessons learned from OSCE policing activities, and facilitating of dialogue, sharing of good practices and information among participating States, including through the SPMU Policing OnLine Information System. The SPA's work contributed to increased understanding by the international community of the OSCE policing-related strategies and better co-ordination between the SPMU and bilateral police assistance activities conducted by the OSCE participating States.

Development of Baseline Police Capacities

3.6. Throughout 2006, the SPA led SPMU staff in articulating to the police authorities in the participating States the objectives of democratic police services and forces; the importance of their commitment to the rule of law, policing ethics, and human rights standards; the essential nature of police accountability to the law and to the society they serve; as well as the need for their co-operation with the communities, recognizing that effective policing requires partnership with the communities being served. The above support to policy development was underpinned by the compilation and publication of the *Guidebook on Democratic Policing by the Senior Police Adviser to the OSCE Secretary General*. It permitted to operationalize pre-existing norms, standards, good principles and lessons learned and to make these norms and standards accessible for practitioners concerned with policing and administration of justice.

3.7. Police training, and in particular basic police training, represent a key tool for the development of baseline police capacities. While the training itself is mostly conducted in the framework of police assistance projects and thus falls under the responsibility of Field Operations, the SPMU has played a significant role in the development of twinning partnerships for the purpose of new curriculum development as well as in the setting up of frameworks for regional and cross-regional contacts among police training institutions. In August 2006 a two-day meeting was hosted by the SPMU in Vienna to reach an agreement with the police training centre of the Czech Republic on the structure and content of the new basic police training programme for Azerbaijani police and on the strategy for its introduction. The SPMU also assisted in the organization of the first regional workshop of Police Academies in Central Asia, which took place in Kyrgyzstan in November 2006.

3.8. The SPMU has begun preparatory work for conducting a survey on the existing methods and approaches used in the OSCE participating States for the development of curricula for basic police training. The purpose of this exercise is to capture good practices in this field and make them available to police training institutions throughout the OSCE region.

3.9. Freedom from fear of crime and becoming a crime victim is a fundamental human right. Uniformed police plays a key role in the prevention and detection of crime since the first contact with the citizen and with a specific incident is mainly made by uniformed police officers. The police need to carefully plan its crime prevention strategies in order to provide the population with adequate protection. In this context, special attention is being given to the introduction and promotion of community policing, since it is directly linked to the reform of police forces and provides tools that can help communication and co-operation between the police and the public. This objective becomes of paramount importance for the policing of minorities.

3.10. In response to the tasking contained in the *Charter for European Security* adopted by the Istanbul Summit Meeting (1999), which *inter alia* calls for provision of training in new and

modern policing skills, such as community policing, in October 2006 the SPMU in co-operation with the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM) and the OSCE Centre in Bishkek conducted in Kyrgyzstan a regional police experts' symposium on community policing. It served as a platform for participants from Central Asia and Mongolia to exchange their experiences, ideas, good practices, problems and lessons learned which could assist in further development of models of community policing in their respective countries.

Fight against Crime

3.11. Organized crime has become a global problem that affects all of the OSCE participating States. The threat of such offenses such as trafficking in human beings, sexual exploitation of children, drug trafficking that are tremendously damaging to societies and economies have been prominently recognized by the OSCE. The SPMU activities in support of the fight against organized crime proceed from the recognition of the fact that efficient and effective criminal justice systems based on the rule of law form a prerequisite for combating organized crime, and specialist responses to connected security challenges must take place within the overall framework of a criminal justice system. Efficient and effective criminal justice systems could only be developed on the basis of the rule of law and on the protection of human rights.

3.12. In response to the Decision on *Combating transnational organized crime* (Ljubljana 2005), the SPMU organized in March 2006 a joint workshop with the UNODC, which helped several OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation successfully meet the deadline for completing a series of self assessment legal questionnaires on the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC). Since then, seven additional OSCE participating States have ratified the UNTOC.

3.13. The above mentioned Decision also contained tasking with a view to improving and promoting the functioning of criminal justice systems. The SPMU responded by joining efforts with the UNODC in developing the UNODC - OSCE Criminal Justice Assessment Toolkit. SPMU's depth of experience in conducting police assessments proved to be a useful resource.

3.14. The 2006 Belgian OSCE Chairmanship identified fight against organized crime, which represents a major non-military threat to security, as one of the Organization's top priorities for 2006. In April, the SPMU assisted in the organization of the Chairmanship-led workshop on tools for assessing the threat of organized crime. Assessment or measurement of threat from organized crime permits to inform and guide police commanders in the setting of priorities for organized crime investigations, and thus maximize cost-efficiency of police investigations by focusing on targets, the elimination of which can produce the greatest disruptive effect.

3.15. In November 2006, the Belgian OSCE Chairmanship, with the support of the SPMU, hosted the first OSCE Chiefs of Police meeting, which took place in Brussels. The meeting aimed to identify problems in police co-operation and propose solutions; enhance awareness of these issues at the political level; increase operational co-operation among police services, and increase the protection of citizens' rights and freedom in the conditions of growing international police co-operation.

3.16. To respond to some participating States requests, the SPMU participated in several events connected with the UNODC-led Paris Pact Initiative, which aims to address issues linked to the trafficking of opiates from Afghanistan. In addition, in September 2006, a training workshop organized jointly by the SPMU and UNODC brought together national/organization/agency focal

points for the UNODC Automated Donor Assistance Mechanism from OSCE participating States and Partners for Co-operation. In October, the SPMU was involved in the organization of a workshop on “Combating the Threat of Illicit Drugs in the OSCE Area”. Participants emphasized the need for better regional information collection and sharing and for development of risk profiling and analysis capacities, as well as for conducting awareness-raising activities. This was validated in the PC Decision 758 on *Enhancing International Anti Drug Co-operation*.

3.17. In 2006, the SPMU continued working together with ICPO-Interpol on prevention of human trafficking and conducted joint activities with the International Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (ICMEC). SPMU staff participated in three Focus Point Meetings in Lithuania, Slovenia and Austria, in co-operation with the ICMEC to identify gaps in legislation and police capacity to fight the distribution of child pornography over the internet. The SPMU also started the implementation of training projects on “Investigation of trafficking in human beings without relying on victim testimony”. During 2006 training was conducted in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Moldova, Albania and Georgia.

Policing OnLine Information System

3.18. The SPMU continued serving as a main collection point and central repository for OSCE policing-related institutional knowledge, providing the platform for sharing information resulting from OSCE activities, from local initiatives and from development work of other international organizations and agencies. The growing information environment in the OSCE requires proactive policies in regards to collection and dissemination of information, with particular emphasis on the needs of thematic units, both, in the field operations and institutions. In response to these requirements, the SPMU Policing OnLine Information System (POLIS) was launched in November 2006 on the occasion of the OSCE Chiefs of Police Meeting in Brussels, held under the auspices of the Belgian OSCE Chairmanship.

3.19. It is an online, comprehensive, multi-lingual system that consolidates all aspects of law enforcement activities within the OSCE area, offering access to information on police assistance, training techniques and funding opportunities. POLIS features a digital library with training materials and curricula, lessons learned, and reports on trainings, projects, workshops, and conferences; a policing experts database, the policing profiles of OSCE participating and partner States and a donors assistance mechanism.

The Way Forward

3.20. SPMU vision for police in OSCE participating States is one of agencies serving their citizens with full accountability to the rule of law, transparency in the conduct of their activities, fidelity to the principles of equality, commitment to the value of human life and dignity, and recognition that effective policing requires close partnerships with the communities being served. The SPMU will maintain its emphasis on the need for continuous and close co-operation and co-ordination, both OSCE-internal and external, which is regarded as the principal tool for realizing its vision. In the OSCE Secretariat, the SPMU will aim to avoid duplication and save resources by closely liaising with lead units for combating trafficking in human beings, gender issues, terrorism; particular attention will be paid to co-ordination on the borders issues, since many of the SPMU’s own areas of concentration involve a cross-border dimension.

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ODIHR Annual Report on Police-Related Activities for 2006

(Submitted as appendix to the SG Annual Report on Police-Related Activities, in accordance with Decision 9, paragraph 6, of the Bucharest Ministerial Council Meeting, 4 December 2001)

In 2006, the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) continued providing police-related assistance to governments and civil society of participating States, cooperating closely with other OSCE structures and International Organizations. The ODIHR continued its co-operation with the OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit (SPMU), with coordination meetings on the two web-databases (POLIS and TANDIS), and its broader police-related activities in a number of thematic areas.

Human Rights and Anti-Terrorism

As part of the ODIHR's mandate to provide technical assistance and support to participating States in the development and implementation of effective counter-terrorism strategies while respecting key human rights, the ODIHR delivered training courses for senior public officials and counter-terrorism practitioners in Serbia, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan and the United Kingdom. In parallel, the ODIHR is preparing a manual on the protection of Human Rights in fighting terrorism. The manual, to be published in 2007 in English and Russian, will supplement the training modules, but can also be used as a stand-alone reference.

In partnership with the UN OHCHR and supported by the Government of Liechtenstein, the ODIHR organized a "*Technical Workshop on Human Rights and International Co-operation in Counter-Terrorism*" held in Liechtenstein in November 2006. The workshop focused on the principle of *non-refoulement*, procedural requirements for the transfer of persons as well as the exchange of evidence and intelligence between States and the difficulties involved in the listing of terrorist groups and individuals at national and international level. In addition, the ODIHR gave a presentation at the "*Second Sub-Regional Workshop on International Co-operation on* November in Bucharest.

Legislative Support

The ODIHR has further developed its capacity and expertise to provide assistance on the development of legislation on police matters. It provides comments, opinions and recommendations governing this field, to the authorities of participating States of the OSCE, at their request and often in co-operation with OSCE Field Operations. The reviews have a two-fold objective. First, they are intended to assist OSCE participating States in legislative reform efforts in this realm, by ensuring compliance of (draft) legislation with international standards and OSCE commitments. Second, reviews aim at sharing good practices and legislative solutions of other States.

In line with the methodology of *Legislationline*, the ODIHR collects international standards as well as domestic legislation regulating the activities, competencies and powers of the police in the 56 OSCE participating States. Particular attention is afforded to the development of the Russian version of the website.

Monitoring of places of detention

The ODIHR provided assistance and advice to the creation of the Public Monitoring Board for police detention places in Armenia. In co-operation with the Police Authority of Armenia, the ODIHR lead and coordinated a group of interested donor organizations to assist and advise the relevant State structures and NGOs during the process of establishing of the board, including in the areas of legislative drafting and capacity building in the form of practical trainings. As part of its practical training programme, the ODIHR organized visits to places of detention in April and August 2006 during which the future monitors were coached on-the-job on substance and

methodology by international experts. The Police Monitoring Board was formally established in April 2006 by a decree of the Armenian Police.

Reform of the population registration systems

The population registration system “*propiska*”, originally developed in the Soviet Union and intended to track the whereabouts of residents continues to exist with few or no changes in many countries of the region. To this day, the issuance of passports and the *propiska* stamps, granting citizens specific state services and social benefits such as access to work, education, medical care, etc, remains a responsibility of uniformed Ministry of Interior officers. During 2006, the ODIHR has assisted a number of countries of East and South-East Europe and Central Asia in developing a conceptual and legal basis for the reform of population registration systems in order to reduce the role of the state authorities from issuing permits for citizens to change their place of residence, to one that simply records such changes of residence, and to establish or improve accuracy and efficiency of national population registers. This has been designed to ensure compliance with OSCE commitments on the right to freedom of movement and free choice of a place of residence, while attempting to reduce the potential for abuse and corruption by law enforcement bodies.

Police and Roma

A Memorandum of Co-operation on “*Strategic Initiative on Roma and Police*” was signed by the ODIHR with the Romanian Ministry of Administration and the Interior, and a Bucharest-based Roma NGO, for the period June 2005 – December 2006, with tangible results seen in a self-assessment exercise by the Romanian Police called “*Review of Police Policies and Practices towards Roma*”. A draft version of the report was presented and debated during the *Bucharest International Conference on the Implementation and Harmonization of National Policies on Roma, Sinti and Travellers: Guidelines for a Common Vision*, held in May 2006. Moreover, a regional workshop on “*Policing in Relation to Roma, Gypsy and Traveller Communities*” was organized in November 2006 in Derbyshire, UK. It contributed to raising awareness among the participants, in sharing experiences of various initiatives and key actors on issues relating to policing and Gypsy and Traveller communities.

Law Enforcement Officer Programme on Combating Hate Crime (LEOP)

The ODIHR has developed the LEOP to increase the capacity of law enforcement officials to identify and effectively respond to hate-motivated crimes, provide proper assistance to victims and engage with affected communities. The LEOP is based on police-to-police approach, best practice multiplier effect, information/intelligence sharing, and co-operation with civil society organizations and community-based resources. Following the successful pilot testing of the programme in Spain and Hungary in the previous year, the LEOP was fully implemented for the first time in Croatia in June 2006. After the needs assessment visit and follow-up training of the Croatian police experts, the Ministry of Interior of Croatia introduced the training on combating hate crime into its regular police training curricula. Also, in November 2006 the LEOP international team of experts conducted needs assessment visit to Poland, where in the course of three days the programme was presented to the officials and experts from the relevant ministries and institutions, police trainers and front-line officers, as well as to civil society organizations.

In December 2006, the ODIHR organized an international training-of-trainers seminar in Paris. The seminar provided an overview of the LEOP programme for police officers and prosecutors. It consisted of 18 learning units and presentations covering causes and manifestations of hate,

police investigation of hate-motivated crimes, interaction between police and the media, co-operation between police, victims and affected communities in dealing with hate incidents, as well as other relevant aspects pertaining to hate-motivated crimes and incidents. The ODIHR's LEOP experts have also contributed to discussions and recommendations of the OSCE Tolerance Implementation Meeting "*Addressing Hate Crime Data Deficit*" which took place in Vienna in November 2006.

Domestic violence

The on-going programme "*Increased Participation of Women in Democratic Processes*" includes a focus on raising awareness of law-enforcement agencies on violence against women, and assisting in strengthening their capacity to combat domestic violence. In Georgia, following the initial large-scale training of heads of city and regional police districts conducted in 2005, the ODIHR continues to advise the Anti-Violence Network on how to raise awareness on domestic violence among police officers. In 2006, some 150 police officers took part in roundtable discussions and training workshops conducted by the Network's trainers with the support of the ODIHR. The workshops discussed the implementation of the law on Protection of Victims of Domestic Violence, adopted by the Parliament in May 2006.

In Azerbaijan and Georgia, the ODIHR worked closely with police authorities and women's NGOs to assist them in building a sound legal framework and necessary law-enforcement capacity to prevent and combat domestic violence. In Azerbaijan, with ODIHR's expertise and financial assistance, the local NGO "*Symmetria*" and a team of Austrian police experts have trained over 200 police officers from all regions of the country on the police role and methods for preventing and prosecuting cases of domestic violence. In addition, the ODIHR organized series of workshops with participation of the Austrian experts to assist in developing a curriculum on combating domestic violence for the Police Academy in Baku.



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe

High Commissioner on National Minorities

ANNUAL REPORT ON POLICE-RELATED ACTIVITIES FOR 2006

(Submitted as appendix to the OSCE Secretary General Annual Report on Police-Related Activities, in accordance with Decision 9, paragraph 6, of the Bucharest Ministerial Council Meeting, 4 December 2001)

In 2006, the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities (HCNM) continued paying close attention to the subject of policing in multi-ethnic societies. This interest is based on the belief that policing is an essential support for maintaining a free, democratic and open society that is at peace with itself.

The key tool of the High Commissioner's engagement in the area of policing is the *Recommendations on Policing in Multi-Ethnic Societies*. They are available from the Office of the High Commissioner in The Hague and at the OSCE/HCNM website in a variety of languages (www.osce.org/hcnm). The HCNM urged the participating States to draw upon the Recommendations with a view to building a successful multi-ethnic police service that enjoys trust and confidence of persons belonging to national minorities.

Co-Operation with the OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit

The OSCE Strategic Police Matters Unit (SPMU) and the HCNM maintained the tradition of close and regular contact and co-ordination on a variety of issues, including the development and delivery of police assistance programmes in the OSCE region.

The SPMU and the HCNM jointly organized a meeting of experts from Central Asia in October 2006 on the subject of "Community Policing Based on Democratic Principles". The workshop aimed at getting the feedback from the practitioners on their practice of interaction with the general public, including persons belonging to national minorities. At a separate session police officials from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan shared their experience of interaction and co-operation with persons belonging to national minorities as well as such issues as recruitment, retention and in-service training of the police in multi-ethnic settings.

Police Related Assistance Projects and Activities

In 2006, the Ministry of Interior of Kyrgyzstan and the HCNM built on the achievements of the past years and significantly expanded their co-operation aimed at making the Kyrgyz police multi-ethnic in its composition and mode of operation in the country.

In July 2006, the Ministry of Interior of Kyrgyzstan and the HCNM signed a memorandum of understanding for the implementation of the pilot project "Strengthening the co-operation between the police and national minorities, and their representation in the police, 2006-2007." Within the framework of the pilot project, the Kyrgyz Ministry of Interior assigned the function of minority focal points to the regional human resources departments in the pilot regions of Osh, Jalal-Abad and Chui and tasked them with the liaison with various ethnic communities. The focal points organized regular meetings with national minority leaders in order to get their feedback on the quality of the police services delivery as well as to seek the co-operation of minority NGOs with the police. Visits to minority-language schools were also an element of the outreach effort. As a part of the project, detailed analysis of the police service's ethnic composition was carried out and measures taken in order to attract national minority applicants to the police jobs. In particular, posters and leaflets were produced in Kyrgyz, Russian and Uzbek to improve the public image of police. The afore-mentioned activities were implemented in collaboration with NGOs and the Assembly of the People of Kyrgyzstan.

The HCNM provided training, advice and equipment to the minority focal points and closely co-operated with the OSCE Police Assistance Programme in these efforts.

The Ministry of Interior and the HCNM continued to offer police training and in-service training through the Osh-based "Training Centre in Management of Inter-ethnic Relations for Police Officers and Cadets". The Centre based at the premises of the Osh Secondary Specialised Police School ran courses for operational police officers and police cadets with a view to equipping them with the skills necessary for the operation in multi-ethnic Kyrgyzstan. The training was delivered by joint teams of trainings from NGO Social Technologies Agency and the Interior Ministry and included the participation of persons belonging to national minorities. It is planned that the police will take over the training after the initial stage of the project; thereby achieve greater sustainability of the project.

The HCNM, within the framework of the HCNM's training in management of inter-ethnic relations in Georgia, conducted more training for a group of policemen from the region of Samtskhe-Javakheti. The project output was the police officers' improved job performance as a result of the consistent application of skills and new expertise acquired through training. Feedback from training graduates indicated that they found the new skills and expertise acquired through the training sessions highly relevant to their work and day-to-day interaction with various ethnic communities in Samtskhe-Javakheti region.

Within the framework of the HCNM's project in the region of Samtskhe-Javakheti, free-of-charge courses of Georgian language are offered to civil servants of Armenian origin in an effort to help them keep their positions and ensure the multi-ethnic character of the country's civil service. As a part of this project, a group of policemen benefited from the course and enhanced their knowledge of Georgian language. Greater proficiency in the state language is expected to assist their retention and promotion with Georgia's police service.