



# **REPORT ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE REGIONAL COOPERATION COUNCIL SECRETARIAT**

**For the period 24 April – 20 September 2013**

**BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE  
REGIONAL COOPERATION COUNCIL**

**SUBMITTED TO THE BOARD OF THE REGIONAL COOPERATION COUNCIL IN  
LINE WITH ARTICLE 15 OF THE STATUTE OF THE REGIONAL  
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This report on the activities of the Regional Cooperation Council (RCC) Secretariat is submitted by the Secretary General of the RCC to the RCC Board in line with Article 15 of the Statute of the RCC. It covers the period 24 April – 20 September 2013.

## **I. Executive Summary**

The reporting period was characterized by a continuation of the process of undertaking concrete steps in the implementation of the RCC Strategy and Work Programme (SWP) 2011-2013, particularly aimed at an efficient and target-oriented, regionally owned and all-inclusive regional cooperation, by the adoption of RCC's new SWP for the period 2014-2016 and preparations of the South East Europe 2020 Strategy (SEE 2020), as well as by intensive consultations of the RCC Secretary General (SG) with a number of RCC participants.

The RCC Secretariat continued to monitor closely the overall developments in the region, in particular those related to regional cooperation activities in general as well as those within the European Union (EU) enlargement process. There have been many developments in the region proving positive effects of nurturing reconciliation and tolerance, moving forward to solving some of the open and protracted issues and assuming a greater responsibility within the process of European and Euro-Atlantic integration.

Croatia became the 28<sup>th</sup> member state of the EU that deserves wholehearted congratulations. It is the first country from the region to join the EU following the establishment of the RCC, a major success story of the region. This should be a strong impetus for the other enlargement countries to step up their reforms.

The EU Council conclusions on Serbia and Kosovo\* have confirmed the credibility of the EU enlargement policy and that the efforts to solve constructively issues in the end are rewarded. They come following the historic agreement reached between Belgrade and Prishtina, in the context of the dialogue facilitated by the EU, which constitutes a break-through. It should serve as an example and impulse for the entire region, but also an inspiration about how to be resourceful and measured in finding mutually beneficial solutions to open issues. The other enlargement countries are advancing in accordance with their individual merits. Unfortunately, several are lagging behind or are in a stalemate.

These examples show that the EU enlargement policy and regional cooperation are highly complementary. While the former is the strongest anchor of stabilization and reforms, the latter has a key role in ensuring that governments are committed to implementing what has been agreed at the regional level.

Overall, this positive momentum reminds us about the shared purpose agreed 10 years ago, in 2003, at the Thessaloniki Summit. It should also focus our attention to the present duality in the region, whereby the struggle between going forward and lagging behind, absorbs the potential needed to ensure durable results in many vital sectors. The situation is exacerbated by different perceptions about what constitutes real and immediate problems.

The awareness in the region is growing about the need to stimulate economic growth and social stability, upgrade the infrastructure, strengthen the rule of law and further align judicial systems and law enforcement mechanisms to EU and international standards, ensure security and promote freedom of expression.

\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

In other words, durable reforms and policies at the national level should reinforce the role of the EU enlargement policy.

Based on the achievements attained, an in-depth knowledge of the region and its needs, as well as the EU accession requirements, the RCC developed its second SWP for the period 2014-2016. The central pillar of the document or, in more precise terms, of RCC's future work is the SEE 2020. It is a direct response of the region to counter the impact of the economic crisis and is fully in line with the Council conclusions of December 2012 on enlargement and SAP which explicitly tasked RCC to focus on it.

The first draft of the SEE 2020, which resulted from a comprehensive consultative process with the relevant government ministries in SEE was finalized and made available to the public on 30 August 2013. During this process RCC has closely cooperated with regional initiatives in most of the SEE 2020 dimensions, whose contribution has been crucial in the preparation of the SEE 2020. During September 2013, RCC organized in six Western Balkan capitals a series of consultative workshops on the draft SEE 2020 with the intention of engaging comments and discussions from governments, civil society, private sector, donors and other interested parties. These workshops presented the strategy and collected feedback from a wide group of stakeholders. The region is encouraged to make the best use of the SEE 2020 and its Action plan in order to address the economic development priorities and make it more competitive, thereby bringing it closer to the EU. It is expected that the SEEIC meeting (26 September 2013, Sarajevo) will adopt the first draft of the SEE 2020 Strategy and review the draft of the Ministerial Declaration for its adoption by the SEE 2020 ministers of economy on 21 November 2013 in Sarajevo. In this context, the RCC with its recognized role in monitoring and guiding the regional cooperation process takes carefully into account regional interests and feeds policy implementation within its participants from the region.

The RCC benefited enormously from the strategic synergy with the South East Europe Cooperation Process (SEECF) Chairmanship-in-Office (C-i-O) held by The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in 2012-2013. Its leadership in strengthening regional cooperation and progress in SEE augmented RCC's capacities to pursue its mission in the best interest of the SEE participants. The RCC is looking forward to further enhance the coordination and cooperation with the Romanian SEECF C-i-O for 2013-2014 which has been confirmed on the occasion of the recent consultations between the RCC SG and Romanian MFA.

The meetings of the SEECF Speakers of Parliaments, Political Directors and MFAs held at the end of May 2013 in Ohrid resulted with several very important outcomes: the Speakers of Parliaments of the SEECF Participating States decided to establish a SEECF Parliamentary Assembly and recommended its inauguration during the Romanian SEECF C-i-O for 2013–2014; the SEECF MFAs approved the SEECF Ohrid Declaration and the Joint Statement “Solidarity in Action” – devoted to disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation. The Summit of the SEECF Heads of State/Government, due to the different positions of certain SEECF Participating States regarding the intention of the SEECF C-i-O to invite the President of Kosovo\* to attend the event as a special guest of the C-i-O and the last minute decision of several Heads of State not to participate at the event, has been cancelled by the SEECF C-i-O.

\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the RCC endorsed the RCC SWP 2014-2016 focused on SEE 2020, and the Annual report on its activities over the past 12 months, which was also approved by the SEECP MFAs. This represents a clear political commitment to improve the socio-economic conditions in SEE.

The participants of the SEECP high-level events and the RCC Annual meeting praised the all-inclusive framework ensured within the RCC as well as reaffirmed their full support to RCC's role for guiding and monitoring regional cooperation.

As a practical follow-up of the meeting, organized by the RCC in Strasbourg in April 2013, between the MFAs of the W. Balkans and with the participation of European Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood policy, Montenegro launched the W. Balkans 6 Initiative aimed at intensifying the EU integration process of the W. Balkans. At the consultative meeting of the Political Directors from the MFAs of the WB 6 + 1 (including Croatia) held on 16 July 2013 in Budva, the RCC SG recalled the role of RCC as all-inclusive and regionally owned framework for coordinating regional cooperation in SEE and proposed participation of Croatia in the initiative, the possibility of introducing regular meetings at the level of Prime Minister/Deputy Prime Ministers responsible for EU integration in order to hone the decision making process within the Western Balkans Investment Framework, as well as expressed readiness of the RCC to become the executive arm of the Initiative, while continuing to be the operational arm of the SEECP. The next meeting of the initiative at the level of MFAs in the 6+2 format with participation of Croatia, Slovenia, and the European Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood policy EC and RCC SG will take place on 26 September 2013 in New York.

RCC's continuing involvement in the current and incoming multi-beneficiary IPA frameworks will shape its capacity to use a strategy-based approach and deliver pertinent results in the region. In this context, the RCC Secretariat presented comments (upon invitation of EC) to the draft Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance Multi-country Strategy Paper 2014–2020 and expressed appreciation for the prominent role given to the RCC in the document and the indication of EU support to the operational budget of the RCC needed for the implementation of its SWP 2014-2016.

In the framework of the implementation of the SWP 2011-2013 further concrete results have been achieved.

A SEEIC Working Group on Competitiveness has been established and the Women Entrepreneurship – A Job Creation engine in SEE made significant progress in the development of the comprehensive regional database of women entrepreneurship.

The 8<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee of the Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF) approved 15 projects in the amount of € 15 million of grants for key infrastructures in the areas of energy, transport, health, education and judicial facilities.

A Letter of Intent on Joint Service Provision Area initiative has been signed, thus confirming the willingness of the national authorities to engage their full capacities towards strengthening regional cooperation in air traffic in SEE.

The preparation started for a Regional Strategy in the field of Justice and Home Affairs for 2014–2020 and to that end consultations were held with relevant representatives of the EU institutions and several countries of the region.

The regional conference of the Ministers of Interior and Ministers of Justice agreed on the necessity to work on intensifying the activities of the regional expert teams monitoring regional co-operation in criminal matters. The Regional conference of the Brdo Process established an informal high-level expert platform consisting of heads of services for EU integration in the field of home affairs.

The implementation of the SEEMIC Project continued by organising and executing planned activities related to the training and installing the PGP software in 9 out of 15 SEEMIC members.

The Western Balkans Platform on Education and Training (WB PET) Ministerial Meeting adopted a Roadmap of its future activities at national and regional level.

The work on the Regional Research and Development Strategy for Innovation for the Western Balkans has been completed and its adoption is expected at the Ministerial Conference scheduled for 24-25 October 2013 in Zagreb.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the TFCS noted the progress in the implementation of the activities related to the EU €0.5 mill Grant for Sustaining the Rehabilitation of Cultural Heritage and the EU €2.8 mill Grant for Preserving and Restoring Cultural Heritage in the Western Balkans.

In order to seize the positive momentum and turn the tides against the current multifaceted consequences of the economic crisis in SEE, the RCC focused on prioritizing its areas of work, displaying flexibility in its approach, increasing visibility for the general public and exhibiting a constant vision of the ultimate goal.

The second edition of the Academy on Media Law in SEE focused on issues of media pluralism, public service broadcasting and the freedom of the media on the Internet. The Academy seeks to enhance cooperation in the development and implementation of progressive media legislation in SEE in line with international and European media standards.

## **II. General and institutional aspects of the RCC Secretariat's activities**

### ***RCC Board Meeting***

The 20<sup>th</sup> meeting of the RCC Board, held on 25 April 2013 in Sarajevo, was attended by the representatives of all Board participants, with the exception of Ireland, Latvia, Moldova and Norway.

The RCC Board meeting adopted the following decisions: 1) On the approval of the Financial Report of the RCC Secretary General for the year 2012 and 2) On the amendment to the Budget of the RCC Secretariat for the year 2013.

The RCC Board also: 1) accepted the Annual Report of the Secretary General on regional cooperation in SEE for 2012 – 2013; 2) approved the Report of the RCC Secretary General on the activities of the RCC Secretariat and on the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013 for the period 16 February – 10 April 2013; 3) adopted the RCC Strategy and Work Programme for the period 2014 – 2016; 4) adopted the Statute of the RCC (Annex II) of the Joint Declaration on the Establishment of the RCC, with the proposed suggestions and 5) gave its consent for signing the Memorandum of Understanding between the RCC and the ASEAN Foundation.

Following the position expressed by the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on the Conclusions of the Ad-hoc Working Group of the RCC Board participants from SEE, held in Sarajevo on 20–21 March 2013, consensus has been reached among participants from SEE establishing the level and the distribution of the contributions to the budget of the RCC Secretariat for 2014 – 2016.

### ***Coordination between the SEECP and the RCC***

The 12<sup>th</sup> Coordination meeting, held on 24 April 2013 in Sarajevo, gathered representatives of the SEECP Troika – the SEECP Chairmanship-in-Office (C-i-O) for the period 2012-2013, the incoming SEECP C-i-O Romania and the previous SEECP C-i-O Republic of Serbia, the RCC Secretariat and the EU institutions.

The Agenda of the meeting included: 1) Information on the most important activities related to the priorities of the SEECP C-i-O for the period 2012-2013 and of the RCC Secretariat, in particular those pertaining to the implementation of its SWP 2011-2013; 2) Exchange of views regarding the draft RCC SWP 2014 - 2016 and 3) Further steps in the process of streamlining of regional taskforces and initiatives in SEE.

The Coordination meeting in its conclusions supported the draft RCC SWP 2014-2016 and agreed that the item agenda of the meeting referring to the further steps in the process of streamlining of the regional taskforces and initiatives in SEE shall no longer be needed as this issue has been appropriately addressed in the SWP 2014-2016.

On the occasion of their meeting in Bucharest, the RCC SG and the MFA of the Romanian SEECP C-i-O exchanged views on the most important developments in the region and its European perspectives and the role of regional cooperation in this sense. Forthcoming activities related to the SEECP C-i-O were also discussed, in particular the informal meeting of the SEECP MFAs scheduled for 27 September 2013 in New York, at which the RCC SG has been invited to participate.



### ***RCC Annual Meeting***

The 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of RCC took place on 30 May 2013 in Ohrid, back to back with the high level meetings of the SEECP. The meeting was co-chaired, on behalf of the SEECP C-i-O for 2012-2013, by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and, on behalf of the RCC, by the RCC SG. The meeting was attended by the RCC participants and, for the first time, upon the invitation of the RCC SG and in coordination with the SEECP C-i-O, representatives of the regional organizations and initiatives.

The Agenda of the meeting included introductory remarks by the MFA of the SEECP C-i-O for 2012-2013 and by the RCC SG; exchange of views on the developments in regional cooperation in SEE; RCC SWP 2014-2016 – presentation and endorsement; the Annual Report of the Secretary General of the RCC on regional cooperation in SEE for the period 15 May 2012–25 April 2013 – presentation and endorsement.

The RCC's participants that took part in the discussion recurrently emphasized their commitments to regional cooperation and good-neighbourly relations in SEE as essential requirements for the region's European and Euro-Atlantic integration. They highlighted the all-inclusive framework ensured within the RCC, assessing the decision of the RCC Board on the effective participation of Kosovo\* in RCC as a great success and a milestone in the regional cooperation in SEE and expressed hope that this example would be followed by other regional cooperation formats, including the SEECP. The RCC's participants appreciated the work of the RCC, the results achieved in each priority area of cooperation and in the context of successful implementation of SWP 2011-2013. They welcomed the RCC SWP 2014 – 2016 and RCC's efforts in developing the SEE 2020. They welcomed the increased focus on the SEE 2020, as a key priority for RCC in the coming years and called upon all the governments to make necessary steps to ensure that the national headline targets of the SEE 2020 will be met. The RCC's participants gave full support to the RCC SG and the RCC Secretariat team for their work and genuine efforts to strengthen the regional cooperation through the ambitious new SWP and welcomed the initiative of the RCC SG to invite the heads of the regional organizations and initiatives to the RCC Annual Meeting.

The incoming SEECP C-i-O announced that it will focus its activities on those areas where tangible progress is achievable, especially in view of strengthening the SEECP and make it more efficient and focused-oriented.

The meeting endorsed the RCC SWP for the period 2014-2016 and the Annual Report of the Secretary General of the Regional Cooperation Council on regional cooperation in SEE for the period 15 May 2012 – 25 April 2013.

### ***Participation of the RCC Secretariat delegation at the high-level meetings of the SEECP C-i-O for 2012-2013, held in the period 29 – 31 May 2013 in Ohrid***

The SEECP high-level events, marking the end of the SEECP C-i-O for the period 2012 - 2013, consisted of the fifth meeting of the SEECP Political Directors (PDs), tenth Conference of the SEECP Speakers of Parliaments and the Formal meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs (MFAs).

\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

The Summit of the SEECP Heads of State/Government, due to the different positions of certain SEECP Participating States regarding the intention of the SEECP C-i-O to invite the President of Kosovo\* to attend the event as a special guest of the C-i-O and the last minute decision of several Heads of State not to participate at the event, has been cancelled by the SEECP C-i-O.

The delegations of the SEECP Participating States emphasized the need for a deeper regional cooperation within SEECP and RCC as a response to the adverse impact of the economic crisis in the countries of the region. They appreciated the results achieved by the RCC in the implementation of its SWP 2011-2013, the work done in developing the RCC SWP 2014 – 2016 and the SEE 2020. They also praised the all-inclusive framework ensured within the RCC, with several delegations expressing support for the inclusion of Kosovo\* in SEECP. The incoming SEECP C-i-O pointed out, inter alia, that during its C-i-O the main focus will be on retaining the relevance of SEECP as the main political forum for regional dialogue, on promoting key areas of cooperation in SEE and on enhancing cooperation with RCC.

The SEECP MFAs approved the SEECP Ohrid Declaration and “Solidarity in Action” Joint Statement, the Annual Report of the RCC Secretary General on regional cooperation in South East Europe 2012-2013, the RCC SWP for the period 2014-2016 and Romania’s Chairmanship-in-Office of the SEECP for the term 2013-2014.

#### ***Consultations of the RCC Secretary General with RCC participants***

The RCC SG, within the permanent dialogue with the RCC participants, held meetings and consultations with high-level officials of Montenegro, Croatia, Austria, Ireland, Bulgaria, The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, EU institutions such as the EC and EP, OSCE, UNDP and CoE.

The RCC SG in the discussions placed an overt emphasis on the SEE 2020 and the need of an appropriate political support by the governments of the W. Balkans in the process of its adoption and implementation. The success of the SEE 2020 will require a broad political engagement of the national governments and therefore it will be necessary to raise the political importance of SEE 2020 and that the Prime-Ministers are fully informed and committed to work in this direction.

As a practical follow-up of the meeting, organized by the RCC in Strasbourg in April 2013, between the MFAs of the W. Balkans and with the participation of European Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood policy, Montenegro launched the W. Balkans 6 Initiative aimed at intensifying the EU integration process of the W. Balkans. At the consultative meeting of the Political Directors from the MFAs of the WB 6 + 1 (including Croatia) held on 16 July 2013 in Budva, the RCC SG recalled the role of RCC as all-inclusive and regionally owned framework for coordinating regional cooperation in SEE and proposed participation of Croatia in the initiative, the possibility of introducing regular meetings at the level of Prime Minister/Deputy Prime Ministers responsible for EU integration in order to hone the decision making process within the Western Balkans Investment Framework, as well as expressed readiness of the RCC to become the executive arm of the Initiative, while continuing to be the operational arm of the SEECP. The MFA’s representatives generally welcomed the idea of

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cooperating in this format, appreciated Croatia's participation and readiness to share its experience acquired in the course of the accession process to the EU, commended the idea for the RCC to become the executive arm of the initiative while continuing to be the operational arm of the SEECP and referred to SEE 2020 as a possible backbone of cooperation within the W. Balkans 6 +1.

The next meeting of the initiative at the level of MFAs in the 6+2 format with participation of Croatia, Slovenia, and the European Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood policy EC and RCC SG will take place on 26 September 2013 in New York.

### ***Cooperation with the EU and other Brussels-based institutions***

The RCC Liaison Office (LO) in Brussels continued with its contribution to the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013, the preparation of the RCC SWP 2014-2016 and the SEE 2020, as well as to monitor closely the developments of the EU Enlargement process.

The RCC LO had a number of meetings with different representatives of the EU institutions and bodies, ambassadors and diplomats of the missions of the countries of SEE accredited to the EU and organized a number of meetings for the RCC SG with high-level officials of the EU and other Brussels-based institutions, including the Commissioner for Enlargement, the Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response, the Director General for Enlargement and the Deputy Director General for Enlargement in the EC, as well as the Directors General of the enlargement countries responsible for civil protection.

At the meeting with the Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response the cooperation between the RCC and the EC in the area of disaster prevention, preparedness and response in SEE, in light of the preparations of the summit of the SEECP in Ohrid and in particular the draft Joint Statement "Solidarity in Action" devoted to disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation, was discussed.

At the meetings with the Director General and Deputy Director for Enlargement the ongoing work on the SEE 2020 Strategy, the EU Enlargement dynamics and the utility of further aligning RCC's role with the EU enlargement agenda, the future financing of the RCC Secretariat, the draft Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance Multi-country Strategy Paper 2014 – 2020 and RCC's proposals in that respect were discussed. The RCC SG proposed to include a reference to the SEE 2020 in the upcoming EC Enlargement Strategy Paper and country progress reports and in IPA Country Strategy Papers, as well as noted his intentions to facilitate the economic governance process in the W. Balkans possibly in the framework of W. Balkans 6+1 format.

At the briefings held separately for the Working Group on the W. Balkans of the Foreign Policy Committee of the EP and for the SEE Ambassadors to the EU, the RCC SG referred to the developments in the region and the progresses made within the European agendas, while underlining the significance of the EU Council conclusions and the decisions of the European Council on Serbia and Kosovo\*. The representatives were also informed about the results of

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the SEECP high-level meetings in Ohrid, the new RCC SWP 2014-2016 and the preparations of the SEE 2020, as well as on the Montenegrin initiative W. Balkans 6+1.

At the IPA Multi-Beneficiary Coordination Meeting, the status of the preparations for the IPA II programming as well as the multi-beneficiary (MB) project implementation and evaluation of variety of MB IPA I activities were discussed. In this context, the RCC Secretariat presented comments (upon invitation of EC) to the draft Instrument for Pre-Accession Assistance Multi-country Strategy Paper 2014–2020 and expressed appreciation for the prominent role given to the RCC in the document and the indication of EU support to the operational budget of the RCC needed for the implementation of its SWP 2014-2016.

The EU Council conclusions on Serbia and Kosovo\* have confirmed the credibility of the EU enlargement policy and that the efforts to solve constructively issues in the end are rewarded. They come following the historic agreement reached between Belgrade and Prishtina, in the context of the dialogue facilitated by the EU, which constitutes a break-through. It should serve as an example and impulse for the entire region, but also an inspiration about how to be resourceful and measured in finding mutually beneficial solutions to open issues. The other enlargement countries are advancing in accordance with their individual merits. Unfortunately, several are lagging behind or are in a stalemate.

### ***Regional cooperation in the field of media***

The second Academy on Media Law in SEE was organized under the auspices of the RCC and in cooperation with the Friedrich Ebert Foundation, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media, OSCE field operations in SEE[1], the European Broadcasting Union, the European Association of Public Service Media in SEE and ARTICLE 19: Global Campaign for Free Expression. The participants proposed ways to increase the pluralism of content and views in the region and the independence and accountability of public service media. They also emphasised that a high number of media outlets in the region does not equal the plurality of views, content and sources. Although viewers can choose between plenty of channels, political and economic interests prevent pluralism of views. Therefore, the Academy recommended that the public service media reach out to stakeholders, including parliamentarians, media councils and civil society, in order to better promote the role of public service broadcasters and the public service remit.

Agreeing on the lack of qualitative data on media pluralism, the participants suggested surveys to evaluate both internal pluralism, with public service broadcasters to assess pluralism of content within public media, and external pluralism, to assess pluralism of views in a particular country. Furthermore, the Academy discussed the ownership structure of the media, state advertising, new, online media, its contents, legal framework and responsibilities, credibility, violations, etc.

The SEE documentary “How do I see my neighbour”, supported by the EC, CEI and RCC was completed and aired on public service broadcasters in SEE in April/May. A conference on strategic communication between security institutions and media in SEE was co-organized by the RCC Secretariat in Skopje, together with RACVIAC, Ministry of Defence, NATO and Croatian Radio-Television.

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### ***Communication activities***

The RCC Secretariat continued to advance the organization's mission, focusing on communication aspects of the SEE 2020, such as press coverage of the SEE 2020 outreach, RCC's 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, briefing of the diplomatic community in Sarajevo etc. In total, the RCC Secretariat organized press coverage of 19 different events.

In the reporting period, to the knowledge of/available to the RCC Secretariat, 597 articles, interviews and statements on the RCC were published in SEE and international media, bringing the total to 5,488 available articles published since the beginning of operations of the RCC Secretariat. The same period witnessed 1,571,542 hits, 439,433 page views and 48,124 visits of the website, bringing the total to some 16,412,610 hits, 5,308,443 page views and 517,689 visits over the past five years since the website statistics has been gathered. The RCC currently also has 484 tweets and 459 followers at its Twitter account. Three issues of the RCC newsletter were published, devoted to: the inclusive growth pillar of SEE 2020, Regional Cooperation Council's Annual Meeting 2013, and justice, home affairs and security cooperation in SEE, featuring 33 prominent contributors. It was circulated to an audience of almost 3,000 subscribers.

### ***Evaluation of general and institutional aspects***

The reporting period was characterized by a continuation of the process of undertaking concrete steps in the context of the implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-2013, particularly aimed at the efficient and target-oriented, regionally owned and all-inclusive regional cooperation. In parallel, the RCC Secretariat was fully engaged with preparatory activities for the RCC SWP 2014-2016 and for the SEE 2020. In order to maintain the momentum of the development of regional cooperation and continue with the affirmation of the principle of regional ownership as well as highlighting the importance of moving towards regional responsibility, the strategic character of relations between the SEECP and the RCC remains pivotal.

Drawing on the successful cooperation with the previous as well as incumbent SEECP C-i-O, the regular Coordination meetings of the SEECP Troika and the RCC Secretariat with the participation of the EU representatives proved to be a very useful tool in providing guidance and enhancing overall coordination.

In light of the new tasks ahead of the RCC Secretariat, in particular related to the implementation of the SEE 2020 Strategy and RCC SWP 2014–2016, the company Moore Stephens LLP contracted by the EC carried out in July 2013 a compliance assessment of the RCC Secretariat to determine whether it fulfils the criteria established for the implementation of tasks in joint management mode. The assessment involved performing a compliance analysis of RCC to assess whether its rules and procedures apply standards which offer guarantees equivalent to internationally accepted practice. The RCC Secretariat is expecting the report to be released by the aforementioned company upon its completion.

### **III. Priority areas of the RCC activities**

#### **1. Economic and Social Development**

##### ***Investment and Business Enabling Environment***

The RCC/SEEIC team held a series of consultative meetings during May and June 2013 with Country Economic Teams (on a deputy/assistant minister level and with a number of line ministries involved in the development of the SEE 2020 pillars, as well as National IPA Coordinator representatives of the W. Balkans) aimed at strengthening intra-governmental coordination on the development and implementation of the SEE 2020. The meetings discussed the activities related to the SEE 2020 development, its future implementation and monitoring, as well as the links with the national reform agenda and the IPA II Strategic Framework.

The first meeting of the SEE 2020 Coordination Board, composed of representatives of the RCC Secretariat and the Dimension coordinators (Vienna on 23 May 2013), exchanged information between the RCC Secretariat and the Dimension coordinators on the current state of play and the level of progress achieved in the development of the SEE 2020 and individual inputs per each dimension.

The 13<sup>th</sup> SEEIC Meeting (Sarajevo, 19 June 2013), reviewed the outline and development process of the SEE 2020, based on the inputs contributed thus far to each pillar and discussed the future governance and monitoring mechanisms of the Strategy. A SEEIC Working Group on Competitiveness has been established, with a goal to support the development of the Competitiveness Dimension of the Sustainable Growth Pillar of the SEE 2020, as well as to take part in future implementation of the New Generation Competitiveness Initiative project.

The first draft of the SEE 2020, which resulted from a comprehensive consultative process with the relevant government ministries in seven countries in SEE was finalized and made available to the public on 30 August 2013. During this process, the RCC Secretariat has closely cooperated with regional initiatives in most of the SEE2020 dimensions, whose contribution has been crucial in the preparation of the SEE2020 strategy.

During September 2013, the RCC Secretariat organized in six W. Balkan capitals a series of consultative workshops on the draft SEE 2020 with the intention of engaging comments and discussions from governments, civil society, private sector, donors and other interested parties. These workshops presented the strategy and collected feedback from a wide group of stakeholders.

Women Entrepreneurship – A Job Creation engine in SEE (financed by the Kingdom of Sweden, coordinated by the RCC and executed by SEECCEL and GTF) made a significant progress in the development of the comprehensive regional database of women entrepreneurship. In the area of policy making, piloting of the second generation indicators for the women entrepreneurship is in the final stage, with expected national dissemination of results in the autumn 2013.

##### ***Access to Finance***

The 8<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee of the Western Balkans Investment Framework (WBIF), amongst the investment projects and sectoral studies submitted for approval under the WBIF round

nine, approved 15 projects in the amount of € 15 million of grants for key infrastructures in the areas of energy, transport, health, education and judicial facilities.

The 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Platform Advisory Group (PAG) of the Western Balkan Enterprise Development and Innovation Facility (EDIF), held back to back with the WBIF Steering Committee meeting, updated PAG members on the status of various segments of EDIF<sup>1</sup> and outlined next steps for its stakeholders. It was noted that at least two funds of the EDIF – the Enterprise Expansion Fund (ENEF) and the Guarantee facility should become operational by the end of 2013.

### ***Mainstreaming employment and social agenda into economic reform deliberations***

Efforts have focused on preparing the first draft of the employment dimension of the SEE 2020, based on the outcomes of the meetings of the inclusive growth working group that the RCC Secretariat organized in the course of 2013. Increased labour mobility, better labour market governance and the promotion of social economy initiatives are the three main areas, in which regional cooperation will focus to foster employment creation in the context of SEE 2020.

Labour mobility is an important tool for strengthening cooperation and integration among countries, while promoting employment and the best use of cross-country labour resources. Flexicurity, labour administration capacities, reliable data, matching skills and jobs, as well as promoting the employment of disadvantaged groups are all in the focus of regional cooperation on employment.

The development of social economy is seen as an important avenue for promoting employment in SEE through setting up of enabling legal frameworks, policies, strategies and actions, focusing especially on incentives that would give social economy initiatives a greater chance of succeeding. Having identified Cooperatives Europe as an important and interested partner in this respect, the RCC Secretariat participated at their workshop on cooperative enterprises in SEE, with a special emphasis on regional cooperation that can stimulate communication, best practice exchange on enabling legal frameworks, policies, strategies and actions on social economy development.

The RCC Secretariat participated at a meeting, organized by Industry All Europe and Friedrich Ebert Foundation, on industrial policy in SEE, aimed at improving the industrial trade union's knowledge and competences on industrial policy in order to sharpen their arguments and policy proposals vis-à-vis the revitalization of the industry in SEE as a crucial factor for growth and jobs.

### ***Public Health***

The first draft of the health dimension chapter of the SEE 2020 was discussed at the SEE Health Network meeting. With the general aim to improve the health and well-being of all those living in SEE, the actions under the health dimension aim to harmonize the cross-border public health and public health services legislation, standards, procedures and developing mutual recognition and trust, strengthen institutions and improve governance of the health sector and strengthen the delivery of universal and high quality health promoting services.

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<sup>1</sup> EDIF consists of four funds: (i) Enterprise Innovation Fund (ENIF), a venture capital fund for start-ups; (ii) Enterprise Expansion Fund (ENEF) a private equity fund for high-growth SMEs, (iv) Guarantee Facility providing loan guarantees for SMEs, and (iv) technical assistance (TA) fund to provide assistance to the governments in implementing related reforms.

The regional workshop 'Health and Health Policy', organized by the Ministry of Health of Croatia and University of Zagreb medical school, served as another opportunity to discuss these priorities in concrete terms.

### ***Promoting Information Society***

Under the coordination of the eSEE Secretariat, the countries of the region have proposed a set of regional ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) priorities for the SEE 2020, which include the promotion of e-government and online public services, the development of regional broadband infrastructure, advancement of network security and data protection, ICT training for public administration and citizens, and ICT for e-inclusion of marginalized groups.

### ***Other***

On the occasion of the meeting of the Business Advisory Council for South-eastern Europe and Eurasia (BACSEE), RCC and BACSEE agreed to strengthen their working relationship in the context of the SEE 2020 preparation and implementation.

The 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the forum of the Adriatic and Ionian Chambers of Commerce (AIC) discussed the preparation of the EU Strategy for the Adriatic and Ionian macro-region and exchanged views on the Action Plan for the Strategy with the focus on the contribution of chambers of commerce in the process. The RCC Secretariat and the AIC Forum will seek to ensure permanent synergies in the development and implementation of this Strategy.

## **2. Energy and Infrastructure**

### ***Energy***

The ECS targets in relation to energy efficiency and renewable energy sources were integrated into the SEE 2020 as the crucial components of the Resource Efficiency Dimension of the SEE 2020 Sustainable Growth Pillar. The RCC Secretariat and the ECS agreed on joint activities on strengthening cooperation with and between the members of regional Parliaments from the parliamentary committees in charge of energy issues and jointly organized the workshop that gathered Parliamentarians from the region with the main goals to raise awareness on Energy Community and necessary energy sector reforms as well as facilitate law-making process. Tailor-made workshops will be organized as the follow-up of this inaugural event that took place at the ECS premises in Vienna. Furthermore, two organizations are considering joint activities necessary to support improvement of energy statistics in the countries from the region.

The RCC Secretariat, Tuzla Fair and Association for Solar Energy of BiH co-organized an International Energy Conference ENERGA 2013. The RCC Secretariat also organized jointly with the Serbian Society of Thermal Engineers the 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference on Industrial Energy and Environmental Protection in SEE. These events enhanced cooperation and consultations with relevant national authorities and provided some inputs for drafting the Resource Efficiency Dimension of the SEE 2020 Sustainable Growth Pillar. The RCC also supported implementation of the regional initiative "Strengthening the Public Dialogue on the Sustainable Use of Energy in South East Europe".

The RCC Secretariat has also sustained close cooperation with the CEI and the Short Term Expert (STE) engaged within the EU funded project on Improving Cooperation in SEE by



Actions for Strengthening the RCC in order to support preparations of national stakeholders' meetings and Sector Stakeholders Conference.

### ***Transport***

The RCC Secretariat has intensified consultations with the Implementation of Single European Sky (ISIS) Programme Secretariat, JSPA Initiative, as well as other interested stakeholders related to the Study on the Importance of Air Transport Sector. RCC is in the process of identifying the lead IFI in the application to be re-submitted for the 10<sup>th</sup> WBIF call for proposals.

The RCC Secretariat continued the preparatory activities, together with the Association of Consulting Engineers of B&H (ACE B&H), for organizing the Conference on Railways in Sarajevo on 26-27 September 2013. This event will discuss development of railway transportation system, infrastructure needs and financial availabilities as well as the legal and institutional railway reforms and horizontal requirements in this field.

The RCC Secretariat is making efforts to promote more actively a Public Private Partnerships (PPP) as an alternative way of financing infrastructure projects. To this aim the RCC Secretariat continued the preparations for organizing the Conference on Better Economic Development in SEE which is scheduled to be held in Sarajevo, on 10 October 2013. The event intends to support the establishment of a PPP Centre in Sarajevo which will aim to create conditions for promotion and more efficient use of local expertise in the area of PPP, as well as to improve business environment in order to attract investments needed to ensure the financial sustainability of the regional infrastructure in line with the SEE 2020.

An intensive coordination among all relevant parties and regional initiatives dealing with transport issues has been carried out. The RCC Secretariat, in coordination with SEETO and JSPA representatives, supported with pertinent guidelines and materials the consultant responsible for drafting the transport part within the Resource Efficiency Dimension of the SEE 2020.

### ***Environment***

The International Commission for the Protection of Danube River (ICPDR) and the RCC Secretariat co-organized the 11<sup>th</sup> Standing Working Group Meeting of the ICPDR, which provided guidance and prepared decisions for the further work of the ICPDR including its direct involvement in the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR).

Following the SEEFCCA Network Coordinators meeting, jointly organized by the RCC Secretariat and the SEE Forum on Climate Change Adaptation (SEEFCCA), the RCC Secretariat intensified cooperation with the SEEFCCA and provided inputs relevant for the environmental sub-dimension of the Resource Efficiency Dimension of the SEE 2020 Sustainable Growth Pillar. The RCC Secretariat has also maintained close cooperation with the Regional Environmental Center (REC) as the Dimension Coordinator of the Resource Efficiency Dimension within the SEE 2020.

At the International Conference ``Towards a low carbon economy in the Danube Region: State of affairs, challenges and prospects``, the RCC Secretariat presented the activities related to the preparation of the Resource Efficiency Dimension of the SEE 2020 Sustainable Growth Pillar and provided inputs and commitments from relevant partners in this endeavour.

Intensive cooperation has been established with the consultant that supported drafting of the SEE 2020 and consultative workshops that created opportunities to present Resource Efficiency Dimension of the SEE 2020 Sustainable Growth Pillar to the wider audience and provide additional inputs primarily from the civil society and business community.

### **3. Justice and Home Affairs**

#### ***Strategic coordination: events and actions***

Several meetings with the SEE 2020 dimension coordinators RAI, NALAS, GIZ and ECDR took place in order to define the main objectives in the field of public administration and effective public services, fight against corruption as well as in the field of judiciary. All parties involved provided their input for the SEE 2020. Following NALAS's request for the RCC's assistance in establishing and strengthening links with the national authorities and respective line ministries, RCC is holding intensive talks with ReSPA, which is seen as the main and adequate partner in this process. Several bilateral consultations were held with different state institutions in the region in order to discuss SEE 2020 prior to its final adoption.

The preparation of the Regional Strategy in the field of Justice and Home Affairs for the period of 2014 – 2020 is in the pipeline and to that end consultations were held with relevant representatives of the EU institutions, as well as with several countries of the region.

The Regional conference of the Brdo Process devoted a special attention to the issues of increased mixed migration flows leading to Western Europe via Balkan route, international protection seekers and achievements of the EU Action on Migratory Pressures. The problem of arms trafficking and the need to strengthen cooperation in this area was also underlined. Both implemented and envisaged activities in the framework of the Brdo Process were presented as a valuable tool for the countries of the region to be used when bridging the crucial period on their way to the EU. In view of ensuring coordinated/coherent EU assistance within the fulfilment of conditions under accession Chapter 24, an informal high-level expert platform consisting of heads of services for EU integration in the field of home affairs was set up. The RCC Secretariat is a partner in the high-level expert platform and cooperates with Slovenia closely. The conference also initiated the idea of a joint platform for exchanging information on migration which could prevent the abuse of visa liberalisation for Western Balkans.

The 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Steering Group of EU Strategy for Danube Region-Priority Area 11 discussed the state of play of the EUSDR PA 11 and adopted some important documents. The meeting took note of developments in the projects related to Danube Information Centres, Danube Assessment Centre, Working Group "Southeast" and Rule of Law as well as European Anticorruption Training (EACT). On this occasion, the technical assistance facility was presented as well as a proposal for cooperation from PA 1A which will target better coordination of law enforcement and customs in order to simplify control procedures on the Danube river.

#### ***Management of the migration flows***

As a follow up to the Brdo process, the RCC Secretariat held a meeting with the representative of ICMPD, which received a mandate at the Brdo process ministerial conference to hold a Secretariat of the Western Balkans Migration Network. The problem is financing the operation of the network. The creation of such a network is also present in

national agendas, which in turn has to be communicated to the EC for inclusion in the regional IPA II. A discussion was also raised on the issue how could ICMPD contribute to the future RCC regional strategy in the field of justice and home affairs.

### ***Fighting organized crime***

The OSCE/TNT/SPMU Conference on Prevention of Illicit Drug Trade on Internet offered a completely new perspective on the misuse of internet and, in particular, use of dark internet for provision of drugs, weapons and other criminal activities. The participants agreed that its use is rapidly expanding and represents a serious security threat. The conference served also as an opportunity for bilateral meetings with representatives of anti-drug units of the RCC Participants.

### ***Strengthening judicial and prosecutorial cooperation in criminal matters***

The RCC Secretariat suggested regular annual meetings between Chief Public Prosecutors and Chiefs of the Police, which should provide enhanced cooperation, make gap analyses and eliminate all obstacles for the cooperation. Therefore, the RCC Secretariat works closely with the PCC-SEE Secretariat to develop an idea for including prosecutors in all PCC-SEE activities. The representatives of both organizations discussed all the possibilities, including the financing of the prosecutor's inclusion in the activities of the PCC SEE. One of ideas was financing through the SDC funds, but this matter would need to be further discussed. The meeting was also used to discuss Organized Crime Threat Assessment for the SEE and involvement of the PCC SEE in the RCC Regional Strategy.

The first meeting of the Regional Judiciary Policy Network gathered representatives of the Parliaments, Judicial Councils and the Ministries of Justice and discussed the opportunities for institutionalisation of cooperation on policy issues related to judicial reforms. While the general need was formulated, further discussions have to take place in order to agree on the structure and functions of such form of cooperation.

### ***Supporting existing initiatives in the area of the fight against corruption***

The RCC Secretariat organized several meetings with the management of Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative to discuss and shape the first proposals related to the participation of RAI in the SEE 2020 as Dimension Coordinator for Anti-Corruption. Outline of the Anti-corruption Pillar Dimension was prepared during these meetings. The RCC Secretariat participated at the high-level meeting "Regional Anti-Corruption Cooperation in SEE: the Way Ahead" which was organized by RAI and focused on the signature of the Protocol Amending the Memorandum of Understanding Concerning Cooperation in Fighting Corruption through SEE Anti-corruption initiative.

### ***Cooperation in civil and commercial matters***

The RCC Secretariat and GIZ organized several working meetings dedicated to mutual cooperation of partners and regional negotiations in the area of civil and commercial matters.

## **4. Security Cooperation**

### ***Facilitate and support development of regional mechanisms for security cooperation***

The RCC Secretariat continued the implementation of the SEEMIC Project by organising and executing the training and installation of the PGP software. As a result, the software was installed in 9 out of 15 SEEMIC members.

The RCC Secretariat co-organised with the Croatian MI the SEEMIC Expert Working Group (EWG) meeting in preparation of the 5<sup>th</sup> SEEMIC Conference to be held in Split on 24-26 September 2013 and developing the second Regional Intelligence Analysis.

The RCC Secretariat will also co-organize together with the Croatian Parliament Domestic and National Security Committee the first informal meeting of the Chairmen of the National Security/Defence Committees of the Parliaments of the SEE RCC Participants. The meeting will take place as a back-to-back to the 5th SEEMIC on the 24-26 September 2013 in Split, Croatia.

Upon the invitation of SEEGROUP – NATO in Brussels the RCC Secretariat presented its achievements in implementation of the RCC SWP 2011-13 and informed on planned activities in the RCC SWP for 2014-16 in the area of Security. Information on the SEEMIC project implementation (DGE) was delivered and different aspects of the future development of SEEMIC were evaluated (EU MS INT).

Third SEENSA Conference was organized jointly and co-chaired by the RCC Secretariat and Albanian National Security Authority. The conference was supported by NATO Office of Security and EU General Secretariat of the Council and provided forum for discussion on the Vision of SEENSA in the future. The participants agreed on specific activities and directions of SEENSA work and confirmed that the TWG and SEENSA will be supported by the NOS, the GS of the EU and RCC Secretariat.

## **5. Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues**

### ***Education***

The RCC Secretariat organised Regional Workshop – Education in SEE 2020 with the aim to discuss and define regional targets, indicators and measures for the education dimension of the SEE 2020. The participants agreed to slightly modify the 2<sup>nd</sup> target of the Smart Growth pillar of SEE 2020 and defined 2 regional priorities, together with potential measures and activities for realisation of set goals. After received confirmation of the ERI SEE Governing Board, the approved regional priorities, measures and actions were included in the draft SEE 2020.

At the Inaugural Meeting of the Regional Pathfinder Group on Automatic Recognition the participants agreed that intensive cooperation between countries of the region on long term goal of European Higher Education Area on more efficient automatic diploma recognition could provide for new possibilities for setting up a regional model for recognising each other's qualifications.

In the framework of this year's Mobility programme of the RCC Task Force on Fostering and Building Human Capital the RCC Secretariat hosted Junior Adviser in Department for EU Integration/Division for Programming and Implementation of IPA Projects at the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia. The programme was designed as a support measure for middle-level civil servants who are acquainted with and capable of managing regional activities and programmes in education, science and research, and acting as contact points for cooperation and existing networks.

The ETF Corporate Conference 2013 - Torino Process: Moving Skills Forward reviewed the achievements of the Torino Process, identified recent trends and progress in VET

development in the ETF partner countries and identified objectives and the agenda for the 2014 round of Torino Process.

At the Western Balkans Platform on Education and Training (WB PET) Meeting, the Ministers of Education presented the most important activities undertaken by their institutions in order to achieve goals of adopted education strategies at the national level and informed on the national priorities which could be tackled in the framework of regional programmes and activities. WB PET adopted the roadmap of future activities. WB PET aims to assist the transition of the candidates to the membership in the EU and better prepare the potential candidates for their participation in the EU's policy cooperation framework, Open Method of Coordination and integration with the EU Member States.

### ***Science and Research***

The work on the Regional Research and Development Strategy for Innovation for the Western Balkans has been completed and its adoption is expected at the final Conference of the Ministers of Science scheduled for 24-25 October 2013 in Zagreb. The meeting of the RSRDI Steering committee discussed the organisational aspects of the Ministerial Conference, involving also high representatives of the World Bank, the EC, the RCC Secretariat and other stakeholders.

At the meeting of the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkan Countries, in view of the termination of the WBC.INCO.NET (April 2014), all members of the Steering Platform underlined the importance of continuing the policy dialogue with the WBCs beyond the duration of this FP7 project. In this context, the Platform welcomed the possibility outlined by the RCC Secretariat in its presentation of the SEE 2020. It was noted that bringing the current Steering Platform under the auspices of the RCC would increase synergy and unite all actions under one forum. Given the importance of the Steering Platform from a pre-accession point of view, the members asked for the possibility of ad-hoc support under IPA and/or 'Horizon 2020' to be considered in order to ensure continuation of the present Steering Platform and the dissemination of information that the WBC.INCO.NET has so far provided through the WBC Newsletter and website.

The RCC Secretariat attended the International Scientific Conference, organised within the framework of the Regional Research Promotion Programme in the Western Balkans (RRPP), gathered around 100 researchers and policy-makers from the field of social sciences in the Western Balkans and Europe. The Regional Research Promotion Programme enables researchers from the region to receive support through research grants, methodological and thematic trainings as well as opportunities for regional and international exchange and networking.

### ***Culture***

The 6<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society (TFCS) focused on the presentation of the Decision of the EC on the financing of the flagship projects from the EU €2.8 mill Grant for Preserving and Restoring Cultural Heritage in the Western Balkans. Important role of the RCC TFCS in the process of selection of flagship projects, demonstrating commitment and ability of the mechanism to get engaged in difficult decision making process, was emphasised. The projects that will be financed are: Apollonia archaeological site in Albania, Kastel Banja Luka in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Franciscan Monastery of Bac in Serbia. During the meeting the zero draft of the Culture and Creative Industries dimension (CCI) of the Smart growth pillar of the SEE 2020 was presented.

The RCC Secretariat has been engaged in the process of exploring the ways for further development of the initiative of establishment of the SEE Museum network. At the meeting with representatives of the Cultural Heritage without Borders (CHwB) – Balkan Museum Network (BMN) project models for possible collaboration between the RCC and CHwB BMN were discussed.

### **Parliamentary Cooperation**

The 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of the SEECP Speakers of Parliaments, organized in Ohrid by the SEECP Chairmanship-in-Office, decided for the SEECP Parliamentary Dimension to be transformed into the SEECP Parliamentary Assembly – (SEECP PA) as a regular parliamentary forum for exchange of experiences, dialogue and cooperation on issues of interest for the SEE countries. The Conference expressed the confidence that all the steps and documents necessary for convening the constitutive session of the SEECP PA will be finalized during the next SEECP C-i-O. This decision represents an encouraging movement with positive implications for overall regional cooperation in SEE, and it is a clear indicator of regional ownership and responsibility.

Two meetings of Country based Stakeholders Consultations related to the SEE Ombudsmen Agenda, discussed the existing relations between Ombudsmen offices and CSOs, as well as the possibility of establishing of a network of the Ombudsmen offices in the region.

This issue was one of the topics discussed at the Multi-country seminar Relations between Ombudsman institutions and stakeholders organised by DG Enlargement of the EC, TAIEX in cooperation with ReSPA and the RCC Secretariat.

The first meeting of parliamentarians from Contracting Parties - Friends of Energy Community –was co-organised by the RCC Secretariat and Energy Community Secretariat. The conference, aimed to deeper involve Members of Parliaments in the scope of work of Energy Community, was an important recognition of the role of the RCC in the area of Parliamentary Cooperation and reaffirmed the readiness of the Energy Community Secretariat to expand already well established cooperation with the RCC Secretariat in relation to major regional energy and related climate/environmental aspects.

## **IV. Operation of the RCC Secretariat**

A remaining open issue related to the setting-up of the RCC Secretariat concerns the implementation of the provisions of the Headquarters Agreement between the Kingdom of Belgium and the RCC Secretariat, which regulates the status of the RCC Secretariat's Liaison Office in Brussels.

The Kingdom of Belgium has conditioned the implementation of relevant provisions of the Headquarters Agreement between the Kingdom of Belgium and the RCC Secretariat providing for the fiscal privileges and immunities of the Head and Deputy Head of the RCC Secretariat's Liaison Office in Brussels with the issuing of an official authentic interpretation concerning the implementation of Article 17.1.(d) of the Agreement between the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Governments of the other SEECP Participating States, the United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo on behalf of Kosovo in accordance with the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244, on the Host Country Arrangements for the Secretariat of the Regional Cooperation Council (Host Country Agreement) by the Parties to this Agreement in which the principle of taxability of the officials of the RCC Secretariat in their countries/places of origin and/or permanent residence

would be explicitly confirmed. After a consultation procedure initiated by the RCC Secretary General in August 2008 it became evident that the adoption of an interpretative declaration amending the Agreement would not be acceptable to some of the Parties to the Host Country Agreement, as they consider that such declaration would run counter to the spirit of the current provisions of the Agreement and would lead to its *de facto* amendment. In light of the principles of general international law, the only recourse in this situation would be to proceed with amending the Host Country Agreement accordingly, in light of the request from the Kingdom of Belgium. This, however, remains subject to the will of the Parties to the Host Country Agreement. In this view, the RCC SG sent a communication to the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina in early January 2009, proposing to the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina as a Party to and, at the same time, a depositary of the Host Country Agreement to consider the possibility of initiating the process of amending relevant provisions of the Agreement in order to provide for requested confirmation of taxability. This proposal of the RCC Secretary General is still under consideration by the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The RCC LO and the Director of the CEFTA Secretariat visited the Director for international organizations in the Protocol of the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the ratification process of the Headquarters Agreement between the Kingdom of Belgium and the RCC Secretariat (signed in 2008). However, following this visit no further information has been received from the Belgium Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

## **V. Staff Changes in the RCC Secretariat**

During the reporting period, the RCC Secretariat has carried out the recruitment process for the following positions: Head of Expert Pool (the contract of the former Head of Expert Pool was terminated on 30 June 2013), Senior Political Advisor, Expert on Infrastructure (temporary replacement for a 7 month period), Head and Administrator of Secretariat of the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society.

The RCC Secretary General, in accordance with his competences and following the recommendation of the selection committee, decided to hire the most suitable candidates to fulfil the posts and all selected officials assumed their duties.

## VI. State of financial contributions to the RCC Secretariat budget (until 18 September 2013)

Contribution		Commitments	Roll Over 2012	Contributions	Bank charges	Contributions net of bank charges, including roll over	Date Received	Percent
<b>Contributing Countries (Donors)</b>								
	Austria	50.000,00		50.000,00		50.000,00	29-May-13	100,00%
	Czech Republic	50.000,00				-		0,00%
	Federal Republic of Germany	50.000,00		30.000,00		30.000,00	8-May-13	60,00%
	Finland	50.000,00				-		0,00%
	France	50.000,00	2.142,03	47.857,97		50.000,00	3-Apr-13	100,00%
	Hungary	50.000,00		49.490,55		49.490,55	19-Apr-13	98,98%
	Italy	50.000,00		50.000,00		50.000,00	5-Nov-12	100,00%
	Ireland	50.000,00	2.142,03	47.858,00		50.000,03	17-Jun-13	100,00%
	Latvia	50.000,00	10.015,28	39.984,72		50.000,00	2-Apr-13	100,00%
	Norway	50.000,00		53.741,27		53.741,27	12-Mar-13	107,48%
	Sweden	50.000,00				-		0,00%
	Switzerland	65.000,00	21.023,62	64.950,00		85.973,62	12-Jul-13	132,27%
	United States of America	120.000,00				-		0,00%
<b>Total contributing countries donors:</b>		<b>735.000,00</b>	<b>35.322,96</b>	<b>433.882,51</b>		<b>469.205,47</b>		<b>63,84%</b>
<b>European Commission contract</b>		<b>700.000,00</b>		<b>459.280,00</b>		<b>459.280,00</b>		<b>65,61%</b>
<b>South East Europe Contributors</b>								
	Albania	60.000,00				-		0,00%
	Bosnia and Herzegovina	60.000,00		60.000,00		60.000,00	11-Feb-13	100,00%
	Bulgaria	140.000,00		140.000,00		140.000,00	30-Jan-13	100,00%
	Croatia	80.000,00		80.000,00		80.000,00	6-Feb-13	100,00%
	Greece	140.000,00		140.000,00		140.000,00	7-Aug-13	100,00%
	Kosovo*	40.000,00		40.000,00		40.000,00	18-Apr-13	100,00%
	Moldova	40.000,00		40.000,00		40.000,00	18-Apr-13	100,00%
	Montenegro	40.000,00		40.000,00		40.000,00	25-Dec-12	100,00%
	Romania	140.000,00		140.000,00		140.000,00	31-May-13	100,00%
	Serbia	80.000,00		80.000,00		80.000,00	21-Feb-13	100,00%
	Slovenia	80.000,00		80.000,00		80.000,00	28-Feb-13	100,00%
	The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia**	60.000,00						0,00%
	Turkey	140.000,00		140.000,00		140.000,00	1-Jul-13	100,00%
	South East Europe Contributors set aside funding***	200.000,00		200.000,00	-	200.000,00	1-Jan-13	
<b>Total South East Europe Contributors:</b>		<b>1.300.000,00</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1.180.000,00</b>	<b>0,00</b>	<b>1.180.000,00</b>		<b>90,77%</b>
<b>Total Committed Funds</b>		<b>2.735.000,00</b>	<b>35.322,96</b>	<b>2.073.162,51</b>	<b>0,00</b>	<b>2.108.485,47</b>		<b>75,80%</b>

\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

\*\*The contribution to the budget of the RCC Secretariat for the year 2012 has not been paid.

\*\*\* balance of set aside funds is EUR 301,820



## ANNEX I

### REPORT

#### On the implementation of the RCC Strategy and Work Programme 2011 – 2013 in the period 24 April – 20 September 2013

##### *Horizontal activities*

Horizontal Functions:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC Secretariat	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
1. Representing the region	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>RCC Briefing for Embassies and International Organizations in Sarajevo – Sarajevo, 17 June 2013</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conference “10 Years after Thessaloniki: An appraisal of the EU perspective and the challenges in the Western Balkans” – Irish Presidency of the Council of the European Union - Dublin, 24 May 2013</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> Summit 100 Business Leaders of Southeast Europe 2013 – Becici, 23-24 May 2013</li> <li>Summit of Ministers of Finance and Central Banks Governors – Becici, 14 June 2013</li> <li>Briefing to the Council Working Group on Western Balkans (COWEB) – Brussels, 15 April 2013</li> <li>Consultative meeting of Foreign Affairs Ministries’ Political Directors of the Western Balkans Six+1 (WB6+1) – Budva, 16 July 2013</li> </ul>
2. Coordination and cooperation with the SEECP C-i-O	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>12<sup>th</sup> Coordination meeting between the SEECP Troika, the RCC Secretariat and the European Union - Sarajevo, 24 April 2013</li> <li>RCC Annual Meeting - Ohrid, 30 May 2013</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting of the Political Directors of the SEECP – Skopje, 15 May 2013</li> <li>The Tenth Conference of the SEECP Speakers of Parliaments – Ohrid, 27-28 May 2013</li> <li>Meeting of the Political Directors of the SEECP – Ohrid, 29 May 2013</li> <li>Meeting of the MFAs of the SEECP – Ohrid, 31 May 2013</li> <li>Consultations with high level officials of the MFA of Romania as the current CiO of the SEECP – Bucharest, 12 September 2013</li> <li>Consultations with high level officials of the MFA of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia as the previous CiO of the SEECP – Skopje, 16 September 2013</li> </ul>

<p>3. Exerting strategic leadership in regional cooperation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 20<sup>th</sup> RCC Board meeting - Sarajevo, 25 April 2013</li> </ul>	
<p>4. Consultations with RCC Participants</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meeting the EC Deputy Director General for Enlargement – Brussels, 9 July 2013</li> <li>• Briefing of the RCC SG for the Working Group on the Western Balkans of the Foreign Policy Committee of the European Parliament – Brussels, 9 July 2013</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• OSCE Permanent Council – Vienna, 2 May 2013</li> <li>• Consultations with high level officials of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Austria – Vienna, 2 - 3 May 2013</li> <li>• Consultations with high level officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade – Dublin, 23 May 2013</li> <li>• Meeting with the Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response – Brussels, 14 May 2013</li> <li>• Meeting with Director General for European Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Greece – Athens, 13 June 2013</li> <li>• Consultations with high level officials of the MFA of Bulgaria – Sofia, 27 August 2013</li> <li>• Consultations with high level officials of the Council of Europe – Strasbourg, 9 – 10 September 2013</li> </ul>
<p>5. Providing regional perspective in donor assistance, notably in EU assistance under the Instrument for pre-Accession Assistance (IPA)</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MB IPA programme coordination meeting - Brussels 15 - 16 May 2013</li> </ul>

6. Supporting increased involvement of civil society in regional activities		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ‘Speak – Up’ Conference – Brussels, 20 June 2013</li> <li>• Meeting with Deputy Director General for Enlargement and Executive Director, Centre for Democracy and Reconciliation in South East Europe (CDRSEE) - Brussels, 26 June 2013</li> </ul>
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*Priority area 1: Economic and Social Development*

Objectives:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
1. Investment climate - Transfer and management of the SEEIC	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Coordination meetings within the framework of SEE 2020 with Governments – April and May 2013, Belgrade, Podgorica, Tirana, Pristina, Skopje, Sarajevo</li> <li>• First meeting of the SEE 2020 Coordination Board – Vienna, 23 May 2013</li> <li>• 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of the SEEIC – Sarajevo, 19 June 2013</li> <li>• Consultative workshops on the draft SEE2020 strategy with governments, civil society, private sector, donors and other interested parties – September 2013, Skopje, Pristina, Podgorica, Sarajevo, Belgrade, Zagreb, Tirana</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• USAID RCI Regional Access to Finance Event „Challenges and Opportunities for Better Future and Growth“– Podgorica, 14 May 2013.</li> <li>• III Strategic Regional Workshop - Women Entrepreneurship – Budva, 10-11 June 2013.</li> <li>• Meeting of the Business Advisory Council for SEE – Istanbul, 9 May 2013</li> </ul>
2. Identifying ways and means for improving access to finance for private sector		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2<sup>nd</sup> Platform Advisory Group meeting of WB EDIF - Athens, 14 June 2013.</li> <li>• 8<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee of the Western Balkans Investment Framework - Paris, 13 June 2013.</li> </ul>

<b>3. Mainstreaming employment and social agenda into economic reform deliberations</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SEE Health Network meeting on SEE 2020 - Chisinau, 20 June 2013.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cooperatives Europe, Workshop on cooperative enterprises in SEE – Istanbul, 7 May 2013</li> <li>• Industry All Europe and Friedrich Ebert Foundation meeting on industrial policy in SEE – Bucharest, 17-19 June 2013</li> <li>• Regional workshop “Health and Health Policy” – Zagreb, Motovun/Croatia 4-6 June 2013</li> <li>• European Training Foundation FRAME conference – Danilovgrad, 17-18 September</li> </ul>
<b>4. Promoting Information Society</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meetings with the eSEE Secretariat on the SEE 2020 development - Sarajevo, May, June 2013</li> </ul>	

**Priority area 2: Energy and Infrastructure**

Objectives:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC Secretariat	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
<b>1. Continue implementation of Sustainable Energy Development Regional Initiative (SEDRI)</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Assisted to the SEDRI Task Force Chairmanship.</li> <li>Cooperated with Project Manager of CEI led project on strengthening the RCC in order to back the initiative implementation.</li> <li>Cooperated with Short Term Expert (STE) engaged within the project on strengthening the RCC particularly in the context of national stakeholders' meetings preparations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4<sup>th</sup> Zagreb Energy Week – Zagreb, 15-17 May 2013, organized by the City of Zagreb; Covenant of Mayors; City Department for Energy, Environmental Protection and Sustainable Development; Regional Energy Agency of North-West Croatia; Network of Political Schools implementing the project ``Strengthening the Public Dialogue on the Sustainable Use of Energy in SEE`` and GIZ. <u>RCC role</u>: support to the GIZ backed regional initiative on Strengthening the Public Dialogue on Sustainable Energy Use in SEE.</li> </ul>
<b>2. Explore potential for cooperation with the Energy Community Secretariat</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Integrating the Energy Community targets in the area of energy efficiency and renewable energy sources into the Resource Efficiency Dimension of the Sustainable Growth Pillar of the SEE 2020 Strategy.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>8<sup>th</sup> Regional Energy Strategy Task Force meeting – Vienna, 14 May 2013, organized by the ECS. <u>RCC role</u>: monitoring Energy Community developments, integrating the energy dimension of the Energy Community into the SEE 2020 Strategy and consultations on related RCC activities.</li> <li>2<sup>nd</sup> Energy Community Coordination Group for Energy Efficiency meeting and Workshop “Scaling up energy efficiency in buildings in the Western Balkans” – Vienna, 11-12 June 2013, organized by the ECS and World Bank, respectively. <u>RCC role</u>: monitoring Energy Community developments, integrating the energy efficiency dimension of the Energy Community into the SEE 2020 Strategy and consultations on related RCC activities.</li> </ul>

<p>3. Contribute to the preparation and implementation of the Danube Region Strategy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhancing consultative process with the National Administrations and other stakeholders of the RCC participants from SEE.</li> <li>• Backing civil society actors and local authorities and strengthening their role.</li> <li>• Backing the regional initiatives relevant for EUSDR implementation.</li> <li>• Cooperation with the REC as the Dimension Coordinator and SEEFCCA concerning the Resource Efficiency Dimension of the SEE 2020 Sustainable Growth Pillar</li> <li>• Cooperation with and supporting the IFI CO.</li> <li>• Support to the MB IPA Strategy WGs and WBIF SC as the permanent task.</li> <li>• International Energy Conference ENEGRA 2013 – Tuzla, 4-6 June 2013, co-organized by the Tuzla Fair, the RCC Secretariat and the Association for Solar Energy of Bosnia and Herzegovina, under the auspices of the Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations of Bosnia and Herzegovina and supported by the UNDP. <u>RCC role:</u> co-organizing the event, presenting relevant activities in relation to SEE 2020 Strategy and providing inputs for its preparation.</li> <li>• 11<sup>th</sup> Standing Working Group Meeting of the International Commission for the Protection of Danube River (ICPDR) – Sarajevo, 18-19 June 2013, organized by the ICPDR and the RCC Secretariat. <u>RCC role:</u> co-organizing the event and presenting relevant RCC activities including activities on the SEE 2020 Strategy preparation.</li> <li>• 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference on Industrial Energy and Environmental Protection in SEE – Divcibare, 26-29 June 2013, co-organized by the Society of Thermal Engineers of Serbia and the RCC Secretariat. <u>RCC role:</u> co-organizing the event, presenting relevant activities in relation to SEE 2020 Strategy and providing inputs for its preparation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Meetings with STE in the EU funded project on Improving Cooperation in SEE by Actions for Strengthening the RCC, Serbian Committee of WEC, Serbian Society of Thermal Engineers, State University of Novi Pazar and SEEFCCA – Belgrade, 27 – 29 May 2013. <u>RCC role:</u> presenting relevant activities in relation to the SEE 2020 Strategy, asking for and providing inputs for its preparation and discussing and agreeing on concrete cooperation activities.</li> <li>• International Conference ``Towards a low carbon economy in the Danube Region: State of affairs, challenges and prospects`` - Brussels, 9-10 July 2013, co-organized by the Representation of the State of Baden-Wurttemberg to the EU and the Southeast Europe Association (SEEA). <u>RCC role:</u> presenting relevant activities in relation to the Resource Efficiency Dimension of the SEE 2020 Sustainable Growth Pillar, asking for and providing inputs for its preparation and discussing and agreeing on concrete cooperation activities.</li> <li>• Meeting with the Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies (WIFI) Consultant in charge of Resource Efficiency Dimension – Beograd, 12-13 September 2013. <u>RCC role:</u> integrating comments and objections submitted by the RCC Secretariat and the ECS into the draft SEE 2020 in the fields of energy, environment and natural resources.</li> <li>• SEE 2020 Consultative Workshop – Beograd, 18 September 2013, organized by the RCC Secretariat with the support of host country. <u>RCC role:</u> presenting the Resource Efficiency Dimension of the SEE 2020 Sustainable Growth Pillar and providing the additional inputs from different stakeholders particularly from the civil society and business community.</li> </ul>
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<p>4. Explore the potential for further development of air services within the region</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continued extended consultations with the ISIS PS and interested stakeholders towards the realization of a Study on the Importance of Air Transport Sector.</li> <li>JSPA Conference on strengthening air traffic regional cooperation in SEE organized by the Regional Cooperation Council and the Civil Aviation Agency of Montenegro has been held in Sarajevo on 29 April 2013. By signing the Letter of Intent on JSPA initiative the participants confirmed willingness of the national and regional authorities to engage their full capacity in working towards strengthening regional cooperation in air traffic in South East Europe, with the aim of effective implementation of envisaged EU requirements, particularly in light of administrative and institutional weaknesses in the region. <u>RCC role:</u> co-organizing the event, presenting relevant activities in relation to SEE 2020 Strategy and providing inputs for its preparation.</li> </ul>	
<p>5. Contribute to the promotion of road safety</p>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>4<sup>th</sup> Workshop on the rail freight corridors in the Danube Region - Ljubljana, 27 June 2013, organized by the Ministry of Infrastructure and Spatial planning of Slovenia. <u>RCC role:</u> presented the RCC activities towards the SEE2020 Strategy development, asking for inputs on drafting the Resource Efficiency Dimension - part transport and discussing and agreeing on concrete cooperation activities.</li> </ul>

**Priority area 3: Justice and Home Affairs**

Objectives:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
1. Coordinate drafting and adoption of Regional Strategic Document and Action Plan on Justice and Home Affairs 2011-2014, and monitoring its implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting with representatives of WIIW, NALAS, RAI and GIZ in the framework of drafting of the SEE2020 – organized by the RCC – Vienna, 6 August 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: exerting strategic leadership.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>II Informal Meeting of Brdo Process of Ministers of Interior – Brdo pri Kranju, 21-22 May 2013, organized by the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Slovenia. <u>RCC role</u>: representing the region.</li> <li>V Steering Group Meeting of the European Strategy for Danube Region – organized by the representatives of the German Federal Ministry of Interior and Priority Area 11 Coordination Office from Sofia - Berlin, 6 June 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: representing the region.</li> <li>Meeting with ReSPA representatives – Danilovgrad, 5 July 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: exerting strategic leadership.</li> <li>Meeting with the representatives of European Centre for Dispute Resolution (ECDR) and GIZ – Ljubljana, 9 July 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: exerting strategic leadership.</li> <li>Meeting with the representatives of DCAF Ljubljana – Ljubljana, 9 July 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: exerting strategic leadership.</li> <li>Meeting of the partners, who cooperate in the 5<sup>th</sup> pillar of the SEE 2020, 6<sup>th</sup> August 2013 in Vienna.</li> </ul>
2. Strengthening judicial and prosecutorial cooperation in criminal matters	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>n/a</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consultation with Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, State's Prosecutors Office of the Republic of Croatia and UNDP Regional Representative for Justice and Home Affairs – Zagreb, 6-8 May 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: exerting strategic leadership.</li> <li>Consultations in with representatives of the European Commission, EEAS, European Parliament, General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union, Future Lithuanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union – Brussels, 13-16 May 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: exerting strategic leadership.</li> <li>Meeting with representatives of Slovenian Ministry of Justice – Ljubljana, 21 May 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: exerting strategic leadership.</li> <li>Meeting of the \Regional Judiciary Policy Network-organized by the GIZ-Budva, Montenegro, 1-4 July 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: representing the region.</li> <li>Conference on Prevention of Illicit Drug Trade on the Internet – organized by OSCETNT/SPMU – Vienna, 25-26 July 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: representing the region.</li> </ul>



3. Support existing initiatives in the area of the fight against corruption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting with the RAI Management – organized by RCC Secretariat, on several occasions in April and June 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: exerting strategic leadership.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Anti-Corruption in SEE: “The Way Ahead” – organized by RAI, Zagreb, 11-12 July 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: representing the region.</li> </ul>
4. Support MARRI in strengthening its capacity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting with the representative of ICMPD</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting on the future cooperation in management of migration flows was held on 26 July 2013 in Sarajevo.</li> </ul>
5. Initiate regional cooperation in private and civil law matters and in protection of fundamental rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meetings with GIZ Management-Open Regional Fund for Southeast Europe – Legal Reform – organized by RCC Secretariat, on several occasions in May and June 2013. <u>RCC role</u>: exerting strategic leadership.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>n/a</li> </ul>

**Priority area 4: Security Cooperation**

Objectives:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
<p><b>1. Facilitate and support development of regional mechanisms with low-cost activities and high impact on confidence building</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PGP activities – installing the software, preparing the simulation exercise and regional training - Bucharest and Zagreb, 26April – 1May 2013</li> <li>• Consultations with Bulgarian authorities with reference to SCU projects (SEEMIC, SEENSA, SEECIC, etc.) – Sofia, 7 May 2013</li> <li>• SEEMIC Expert Working Group (EWG) meeting, co-organized by the Croatian MI and RCC - Zagreb 13-16 May 2013, RACVIAC premises</li> <li>• Consultations with the Slovenian MoD and PGP activities – installing the software and specific targeted training - Ljubljana, 20-22 May 2013</li> <li>• 3<sup>rd</sup> SEENSA Meeting – Durres, 28 May 2013, co-organized by the Albanian National Security Authority and RCC Secretariat</li> <li>• SEEMIC Project - training and installing the PGP software at the MI of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia – Skopje, 31 May 2013</li> <li>• Meeting with the Chairman of the Domestic and National Security Committee of the Croatian Parliament – Prof. M. Tudjman and Mr. I. Bukarica, Secretary of the Committee – Zagreb, 12 June 2013</li> <li>• Meetings with EU and NATO officials related to the implementation of the RCC Strategy and Work Program 2011-2013 in the Security Cooperation RCC Priority Area and training on the PGP SEEMIC system - Brussels, 13-14 and 17 June 2013</li> <li>• Training and installation of the PGP System for the SEEMIC protected communication system in the MI of BiH - Sarajevo, 25 June 2013</li> <li>• Consultations with the Moldavian NSA, preparation of the first meeting of the informal meeting of the Chairmen of the Security and Defence Committees of the SEE national Parliaments and with the MoD for preparing the future training/installation of the PGP system for communication within SEEMIC Forum – Chisinau, 11-14 September 2013</li> <li>• Meeting with the UNDP Regional Conflict Specialist (focal point for security issues for UNDP in Europe and CIS) and the SEESAC Coordinator – Belgrade, 13 September 2013</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seminar ‘Regional Co-operation and Reconciliation in the Aftermath of the ICTY Verdicts: Continuation or Stalemate?’ - Reichenau, Austria, 2-4 May 2013</li> <li>• International Scientific Conference: The Balkans between Past and Future: Security, Conflict resolution and Euro-Atlantic Integration - Ohrid, 5-8 June 2013</li> <li>• OSCE Annual Security Conference - Vienna 19-20 June 2013</li> <li>• SEEC – Western Balkans Forum for defence cooperation – Sarajevo, 26-27 June 2013</li> <li>• SEEGROUP meeting – Brussels, 5 July 2013</li> <li>• South-Eastern Europe Defence Ministerial - Coordination Committee (SEDM-CC) and Political Military Steering Committee (PMSC) – Bucharst, 16 - 20 September 2013</li> <li>• Policy Directors Preparatory Meeting – Forum for Western Balkans Defence Cooperation (SEEC) – Podgorica, 10 September 2013</li> </ul>

**Priority area 5: Building Human Capital and Cross-cutting Issues**

Objectives:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
1. Taking over coordination of the Ljubljana Process	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Focus of the first day of the 6<sup>th</sup> TFCS meeting was presentation of the Decision of the European Commission on the financing of the flagship projects from the EU €2.8 mill Grant for Preserving and Restoring Cultural Heritage in the Western Balkans. The projects which will be financed in this phase of Ljubljana Process are: Apollonia archaeological site in Albania, Kastel Banja Luka in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Franciscan Monastery of Bac in Serbia. TFCS overviewed submitted projects approved for funding from the EU €0.5 mill Grant for Sustaining the Rehabilitation of Cultural Heritage in the Western Balkans, with the total amount of 336,000€ for 25 projects in six countries for all four activity lines. The discussion of the second day was used to present the zero draft of the Culture and Creative Industries dimension (CCI) of the Smart growth pillar of the South East Europe 2020 Strategy.</li> <li>• The RCC Secretariat carried out the recruitment process for the Head and Administrator in the Secretariat of the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society. Interviews with short-listed candidates were conducted at the premises of the RCC Secretariat. The candidates were evaluated based on their knowledge, skills and competences, experience, motivation, character, and other qualities specific to the position. TFCS Secretariat is fully staffed and operational as of 1 July.</li> </ul>	

<p>2. Support to education reform, with emphasis on higher education</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The RCC Secretariat organised Regional Workshop – Education in SEE 2020 Strategy. The aim of the event, gathering members of the ERI SEE Governing Board, representatives of partner organizations and education experts, was to discuss and define regional targets, indicators and measures for the education dimension of the South East Europe 2020 Strategy. Participants agreed that 2<sup>nd</sup> target of the Smart Growth pillar of SEE 2020 strategy should be changed from <i>Add 300,000 highly educated people to the region's workforce</i> to: <i>Raise the region's workforce by 300,000 highly qualified people</i>. Participants also defined 2 regional priorities, together with potential measures and activities for realisation of set goals. Conclusions of the Workshop were sent for the approval to the ERI SEE Governing Board, as coordinator of education dimension of the SEE 2020 Strategy. After received confirmation of the ERI SEE Governing Board, approved regional priorities, measures and actions were included in the draft SEE 2020 Strategy.</li> <li>• The RCC Secretariat took part in this year's Mobility programme of the RCC Task Force on Fostering and Building Human Capital. The RCC Secretariat hosted Junior Adviser in Department for EU Integration/Division for Programming and Implementation of IPA Projects at the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia, Mr. Mirko Ozeovic. During his stay, he got acquainted with structure of the RCC, the mandate of the BHC Unit and its role in development of South East Europe 2020 Strategy. Meetings were organised with the officials of the Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Council of Europe Office, TEMPUS Office in Sarajevo, OSCE Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina and Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Ministerial meeting of the Western Balkans Platform on Education and Training, Torino, 7 May 2013; <u>RCC Role:</u></b> Representing the region; explaining the concept of the SEE 2020 Strategy and improving synergy with other ongoing regional activities.</li> <li>• <b>The ETF Corporate Conference 2013 - Torino Process: Moving Skills Forward, Torino, 8-9 May 2013. <u>RCC Role:</u></b> Presenting the RCC Activities, explaining the concept of the SEE 2020 Strategy in the area of education.</li> <li>• <b>The Inaugural meeting of the Regional Pathfinder Group on Automatic Recognition, Novi Sad, 19-20 June 2013. <u>RCC Role:</u></b> Presenting the RCC Activities, explaining the concept of the SEE 2020 Strategy in the area of education; streamlining regional activities.</li> <li>• <b>Seminar: Regional capacities for quality assurance and their relation to development and implementation of National Qualification Frameworks, Biograd na Moru, Croatia, 28 June 2013. <u>RCC Role:</u></b> Presenting the RCC Activities, explaining the concept of the SEE 2020 Strategy in the area of education; streamlining regional activities.</li> </ul>
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<p>3. Development of Regional Strategy for Research and Development for Innovation for the Western Balkans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The focus of the RCC Secretariat activities was on fulfilling its role in the process of development of the Regional R&amp;D Strategy for Innovation in the Western Balkans (RSRDI). Meeting of the RSRDI Steering Committee (SC) was organised by the World Bank. SC acknowledged the latest draft of the RSRDI with 5 separate project fiches and framework for coordinated policy action and made concrete suggestions in order to improve the document for the approval of the ministers of science. SC also took note of the recommendation that importance of science, research and innovation should be raised at the national level, within the framework of the ongoing consultations on IPA 2 mechanism and potential priorities for regional cooperation. Participants discussed the organisational aspects of the final Conference of science ministers from the region, involving also high representatives of the World Bank, the European Commission, the RCC and other stakeholders. Potential dates for the ministerial conference are 24-25 October 2013 in Zagreb. Upon invitation from the World Bank, the RCC expressed readiness to take part in the preparatory activities for the ministerial conference, including drafting invitation letters to be co-signed by the RCC Secretary General, World Bank Vice president for Europe and Asia and possibly host country minister.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkan Countries, Budva, 5-6 June 2013.</b> <u>RCC Role:</u> Presenting the RCC Activities, explaining the concept of the SEE 2020 Strategy in the area of research and innovation; streamlining regional activities.</li> <li><b>International Scientific Conference “Social, Political and Economic Change in the Western Balkans”, Belgrade, 24-25 May 2013.</b> <u>RCC Role:</u> Presenting the RCC Activities, explaining the concept of the SEE 2020 Strategy in the area of research and innovation; streamlining regional activities.</li> </ul>
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**Priority area 6: Parliamentary Cooperation**

Objectives:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
<p>1. Supporting SEECF Parliamentary Dimension</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>First meeting of Parliamentarians from Contracting Parties - Friends of Energy Community.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>The 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of the SEECF Speakers of Parliaments.</b> The decision of establishing a <i>SEE Parliamentary Assembly</i> is a major development, clear indication of the new positive political approaches in the region. <u>RCC Role:</u> Addressed the plenary session of the Conference. Advising on the principal procedures of decision making process; coordinating the process of adoption of major documents.</li> </ul>

<p>2. Support parliamentary activities on WB format related to EU acquis.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Two meetings of Country based Stakeholders Consultations related to the SEE Ombudsmen Agenda.</b> Discussed the existing relations between Ombudsmen offices and CSOs, as well as the possibility of establishing of a network of the Ombudsmen offices in the region.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Multi-country seminar:</b> Relations between Ombudsman institutions and stakeholders. Organised by DG Enlargement European Commission, TAIEX in cooperation with the Regional School of Public Administration (ReSPA).</li> </ul>
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*Regional Cooperation in the Field of Media*

Objectives:	Activities organized/co-organized by the RCC	Participation at events organized by other partners/institutions
Promoting regional cooperation and freedom of media	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conference on strategic communication between security institutions and media in South East Europe - Skopje, 27 May 2013</li> <li>• Academy on Media Law - Sarajevo, 3-5 September 2013</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expert discussion: Public opinion research on media freedom in BiH, quality of journalism and media society trends - Sarajevo, 8 May 2013</li> <li>• Meeting of the European Association of Public Service Media in South East Europe - Rijeka, 13-16 June 2013</li> <li>• Speak Up! Conference - Brussels, 20 June 2013</li> <li>• European Communication Summit - Brussels, 27-28 June 2013</li> </ul>

## **ANNEX II**

### **LIST OF MEETINGS AND EVENTS ATTENDED BY THE RCC SECRETARY GENERAL AND THE RCC SECRETARIAT OFFICIALS IN THE PERIOD 24 APRIL – 20 SEPTEMBER 2013**

#### ***GENERAL***

1. Meeting of the SEECP Political Directors – Sarajevo, 24 April 2013 (Secretary General)
2. Meeting with Delegation of the International Višegrad Fond - Sarajevo, 24 April 2013 (Secretary General)
3. Coordination Meeting between the SEECP Troika, the Regional Cooperation Council Secretariat and the representatives of the EU - Sarajevo, 24 April 2013 (Secretary General, Head of Expert Pool, Chief of Staff, Head of LO, Spokesperson, Legal and Political Advisor, Junior Political Advisor)
4. RCC Board Meeting - Sarajevo, 25 April 2013 (RCC Secretariat Staff)
5. Participation at the OSCE Permanent Council – Vienna, 2 May 2013 (Secretary General, Junior Political Advisor)
6. Meeting with Permanent Representative of Ukraine to the International Organizations in Vienna/Chairperson of the OSCE Permanent Council – Vienna, 2 May 2013
7. Meeting with Director of the Energy Community Secretariat – Vienna, 2 May 2013 (Secretary General, Junior Political Advisor)
8. Political Consultations - Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Austria – Vienna, 2 - 3 May 2013 (Secretary General, Junior Political Advisor)
9. Regional Conference - Ohrid Initiative – Strengthening the “1325 Community” in the Region – Ohrid, 12 May 2013 (Secretary General)
10. Conference: Energy, Development, Democracy, Successful Approaches for a New Energy Future in South East Europe – Zagreb, 13 May 2013 (Secretary General)
11. Meeting of the Political Directors of the SEECP – Skopje, 15 May 2013 (Chief of Staff)
12. Meeting with United Nations Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights – Sarajevo, 16 May 2013 (Secretary General)
13. Meeting with the Secretary General of Vienna Economic Forum - Sarajevo, 16 May 2013 (Secretary General, Spokesperson)
14. Meeting with CEI Alternate Secretary General – Sarajevo, 21 May 2013 (Head of Expert Pool, Chief of Staff, Expert on Parliamentary Cooperation)
15. Political consultations with high level officials of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade – Dublin, 23 May 2013 (Secretary General, Legal and Political Advisor)

16. Conference “10 Years after Thessaloniki: An appraisal of the EU perspective and the challenges in the Western Balkans” – Irish Presidency of the Council of the European Union - Dublin, 24 May 2013 (Secretary General, Legal and Political Advisor)
17. 2<sup>nd</sup> Summit 100 Business Leaders of Southeast Europe 2013 – Becici, 23-24 May 2013 (Head of Expert Pool)
18. 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of the SEECP Presidents of Parliaments – Ohrid, 27 – 28 May 2013 (Secretary General, Expert on Parliamentary Cooperation)
19. Meeting of the Political Directors of the SEECP - Ohrid, 29 May 2013 (Secretary General, Chief of Staff, Junior Political Advisor)
20. RCC Annual Meeting - Ohrid, 30 May 2013 (RCC Secretariat Staff)
21. Meeting of the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the SEECP - Ohrid, 31 May 2013 (Secretary General, Chief of Staff, Head of LO, Spokesperson, Legal and Political Advisor, Junior Political Advisor)
22. Meeting with Director General of the ICMPD– Vienna, 11 June 2013 (Secretary General)
23. OSCE EEC thematic meeting - Vienna, 12 June 2013 (Secretary General, Legal and Political Advisor)
24. Viennese Osteuropaforum - keynote participant in ‘fireside chat’ - University of Vienna - The theme of the event: ‘The Yugosphere. An emerging transnational identity in Southeast Europe?’ - Vienna, 12 June 2013 (Secretary General)
25. Summit of Ministers of Finance and Central Banks Governors – Becici, 14 June 2013 (Head of Expert Pool)
26. RCC Briefing for Embassies and International Organizations in Sarajevo – Sarajevo, 17 June 2013 (RCC Secretariat Staff)
27. Meeting with CEI Secretary General – Sarajevo, 18 June 2013 (Secretary General)
28. CEI-RCC Steering Committee meeting – Sarajevo, 19 June 2013 (Secretary General, Chief of Staff, Expert on Parliamentary Cooperation, Junior Political Advisor)
29. Meeting with Director of UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe and UNHCR Representative in Bosnia and Herzegovina – Sarajevo, 20 June 2013 (Secretary General)
30. Visit to EBU – Geneva, 24 June 2013 (Secretary General, Spokesperson)
31. Regional Cooperation among Ombudsmen Institutions – Conference organized by OSCE – Sarajevo, 25 June 2013 (Secretary General, Expert on Parliamentary Cooperation)
32. DIHK-CEFTA project – National Coordinators Meeting – Sarajevo, 25 June 2013 (Secretary General)
33. OECD EURASIA Ministerial Conference - Implementing Policies for Competitiveness in the Eurasia Region – Warsaw, 28 June 2013 (Secretary General)



34. “Regional Academy for Democracy: Shaping the European Future of the Balkans – Building a New Political Culture and Political Elite” – Tuheljske Toplice, 1 July 2013 (Secretary General)
35. 18<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 11<sup>th</sup> July 1995 – Srebrenica, 11 July 2013 (Secretary General)
36. Meeting with the Ambassador of Serbia to BiH – Sarajevo, 12 July 2013 (Secretary General)
37. Consultative meeting of Foreign Affairs Ministries’ Political Directors of the Western Balkans Six+1 (WB6+1) – Budva, 16 July 2013 (Secretary General, Legal and Political Advisor)
38. Consultations with the Head of Unit D3- Regional cooperation and programmes, DG Enlargement, European Commission – Sarajevo, 16 July 2013 (RCC Secretariat coordination team for the SEE 2020 Strategy)
39. Meeting with the Head of Unit D3- Regional cooperation and programmes, DG Enlargement, European Commission – Sarajevo, 17 July 2013 (Secretary General)
40. Meeting with representative of the Moore Stephens LLP - Sarajevo, 17 July 2013 (Secretary General)
41. Meeting with Executive Director of the Regional Environmental Center for Central and Eastern Europe - Sarajevo, 17 July 2013 (Secretary General)
42. Meeting with UNDP Delegation - Sarajevo, 17 July 2013 (Secretary General)
43. Consultations with high level officials of the MFA of Bulgaria – Sofia, 27 August 2013 (Secretary General, Junior Political Advisor)
44. Meeting with representative of the Open Society Foundation – Sarajevo, 28 August 2013 (Secretary General)
45. Meeting with the Ambassador of the OSCE Mission to BiH - Sarajevo, 28 August 2013 (Secretary General)
46. Meeting with Chargé d' Affaires of the Czech Embassy in Sarajevo – Sarajevo, 29 August 2013 (Secretary General)
47. Meeting with the Ambassador of Hungary to BiH - Sarajevo, 29 August 2013 (Secretary General)
48. Meeting with the Head of Council of Europe Office to BiH – Sarajevo, 30 August 2013 (Secretary General)
49. Bled Strategic Forum – Bled, 2 – 3 September 2013 (Secretary General, Legal and Political Advisor)
50. Consultations with high level officials of the Council of Europe – Strasbourg, 9 – 10 September 2013 (Secretary General, Senior Political Advisor)

51. Meeting with Director of RACVIAC – Sarajevo, 11 September 2013 (Secretary General)
52. Meeting with Chargé d' Affaires of the Embassy of Serbia in Sarajevo - Sarajevo, 11 September 2013 (Secretary General)
53. Meeting with Ambassador of Slovak Republic to BiH - Sarajevo, 11 September 2013 (Secretary General)
54. Consultations with the Minister and high level officials of the MFA of Romania – Bucharest, 12 September 2013 (Secretary General, Legal and Political Advisor)
55. Consultations with the Minister and high level officials of the MFA of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia – Skopje, 16 September 2013 (Secretary General, Chief of Staff)
56. Meeting with the President and the Executive Director of NALAS – Skopje, 17 September 2013 (Secretary General, Chief of Staff)
57. Meeting with the President of the Economic Chamber - Skopje, 17 September 2013 (Secretary General, Chief of Staff)
58. Workshop on Regional Strategies “Improving Cooperation in SEE by Actions for Strengthening the RCC” – Sarajevo, 19 September 2013 (Secretary General, RCC Secretariat Staff)
59. 3<sup>rd</sup> Belgrade Security Forum – Belgrade, 20 September 2013 (Secretary General)

## ***I. ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT***

1. The workshop: Cooperative Development in South East Europe – Istanbul, 7 May 2013 (Expert on Economic and Social Development)
2. “Lessons in Development: Education, Innovation and Healthcare for Growth in Southeastern Europe” and the meeting of the Business Advisory Council for Southeastern Europe and Eurasia (BACSEE) – Istanbul, 9 May 2013 (Secretary General and Expert on Economic and Social Development)
3. Forum of the Adriatic and Ionian Chambers of Commerce – Medjugorje, 14-15 May 2013 (Expert on Economic and Social Development)
4. SEE 2020 Coordination Board Meeting – Vienna, 23 May 2013 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, Expert on Economic and Social Development, South East European Investment Committee (SEEIC) Project Leader, Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure, Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs, Expert on Justice and Home Affairs, Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues and Spokesperson)
5. International Conference ‘Responsible Politics in Europe – 50 Years after Robert Schuman’ – Budapest, 24 May 2013 (Expert on Economic and Social Development)
6. Health and Health Policy (20<sup>th</sup> Motovun Summer School of Health Promotion) – Motovun, 4-6 June 2013 (Expert on Economic and Social Development)

7. Inception meeting of the new generation competitiveness initiative – agreement with OECD – Brussels, 6 June 2013 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)
8. 8<sup>th</sup> Steering Committee Meeting of the Western Balkans Investment Framework – Athens, 13 June 2013 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)
9. Western Balkan Enterprise Development and Innovation Facility (WB EDIF) Supporting SME's Access to Finance – 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the WB EDIF Platform Advisory Group (PAG) – Athens, 14 June 2013 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)
10. Introductory Meeting of the Project with the SEE industrial trade union leadership – Bucharest, 17-19 June 2013 (Expert on Economic and Social Development)
11. 31<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the SEE Health Network – Chisinau, 20-21 June 2013 (Expert on Economic and Social Development)
12. 13<sup>th</sup> South East Europe Investment Committee (SEEIC) Meeting – Sarajevo, 19 June 2013 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, South East European Investment Committee (SEEIC) Project Leader, Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs, Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure, Expert on Infrastructure)
13. 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the SEE 2020 Coordination Board – Sarajevo, 18 July 2013 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs, Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues, Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure, Expert on Infrastructure, Expert on Justice and Home Affairs, Expert on Economic and Social Development, Project Leader of SEEIC, LO Advisor)

## ***II. ENERGY AND INFRASTRUCTURE***

1. Joint Service Provision Area (JSPA) Conference on strengthening air traffic regional cooperation in SEE – Sarajevo, 29 April 2013 (Chief Staff, Expert on Infrastructure, Public Affairs Assistant)
2. 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Regional Energy Strategy Task Force– Vienna, 14 May 2013 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
3. 4<sup>th</sup> Zagreb Energy Week – Zagreb, 15-17 May 2013 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
4. Meetings with STE in the EU funded project on Improving Cooperation in SEE by Actions for Strengthening the RCC, Serbian Committee of WEC, Serbian Society of Thermal Engineers, State University of Novi Pazar and SEEFCCA – Belgrade, 27 – 29 May 2013 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
5. International Energy Conference ENEGRA 2013 – Tuzla, 4-6 June 2013 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
6. 2<sup>nd</sup> Energy Efficiency Coordination Group Meeting and Workshop “Scaling up energy efficiency in buildings in the Western Balkans” – Vienna, 11-12 June 2013 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)

7. 11<sup>th</sup> Standing Working Group Meeting of the International Commission for the Protection of Danube River (ICPDR) – Sarajevo, 18-19 June 2013 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
8. 4<sup>th</sup> Regional Conference on Industrial Energy and Environmental Protection in SEE – Divcibare, 26-29 June 2013 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
9. Workshop on the rail freight corridors in the Danube region – Ljubljana, 26-28 June 2013 (Expert on Infrastructure)
10. International Conference ``Towards a low carbon economy in the Danube Region: State of affairs, challenges and prospects`` - Brussels, 9-10 July 2013 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure)
11. Consultative meeting with SEETO, Wiiw consultant, and JSPA initiative chairman – Belgrade, 23 July 2013 (Expert on Infrastructure)

### ***III. JUSTICE AND HOME AFFAIRS***

1. SEPCA Annual General Assembly Meeting – Banja Luka, 24 – 26 April 2013 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
2. Consultations with Ministry of Justice, Ministry of Interior, State's Prosecutors Office of the Republic of Croatia and UNDP regional representative for Justice and Home Affairs – Zagreb, 6-8 May 2013 (Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
3. Consultations in Brussels with representatives of the European Commission, EEAS, European Parliament, General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union, Future Lithuanian Presidency of the Council of the European Union – Brussels, 13-16 May 2013 (Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
4. Meeting with representatives of Slovenian Ministry of Justice – Ljubljana, 21 May 2013 (Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
5. 2<sup>nd</sup> informal meeting of Brdo process of Ministers of Interior – Brdo pri Kranju, 21-22 May 2013 (Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
6. 5<sup>th</sup> Steering Group Meeting – European Danube Region Strategy – Berlin, 6 June 2013 (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
7. 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Regional Judiciary Policy Network – Becici, 1 - 4 July 2013 (Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs and Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
8. Meeting with ReSPA representatives – Danilovgrad, 5 July 2013 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development and Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
9. Meeting with the representative of European Centre for Dispute Resolution (ECDR) and GIZ on their participation in the SEE 2020 – Ljubljana, 9 July 2013 (Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
10. Meeting with representatives of DCAF Ljubljana – Ljubljana, 9 July 2013 (Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)

11. “Regional Anti-Corruption Cooperation in SEE: the Way Ahead” – Zagreb, 11-12 July 2013, organized by RAI (Chief of Staff and Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
12. Conference on Prevention of Illicit Drug Trade on the Internet – Vienna, 25-26 July 2013, organized by OSCE (Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)
13. Consultations with reference to 5<sup>th</sup> pillar of the SEE 2020 Strategy – Vienna, 6 August 2013 (Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs and Expert on Justice and Home Affairs)

#### ***IV. SECURITY COOPERATION***

1. Installation of the PGP Encryption Desktop Corporation software and training – Bucharest/Zagreb, 26 April – 1 May 2013
2. Seminar “Regional Co-operation and Reconciliation in the Aftermath of the ICTY Verdicts: Continuation or Stalemate” – Reichenau/Austria, 2-4 May 2013 (Expert on Security Issues)
3. Consultations with Bulgarian authorities with reference to SCU projects (SEEMIC, SEENSA, SEECIC, etc.) – Sofia, 7 May 2013 (Senior Expert on Security Issues)
4. SEEMIC Working Group Meeting – Zagreb, 14-15 May 2013 (Senior Expert on Security Issues and Expert on Security Issues)
5. Consultations and installation of the PGP system at the Slovenian MI – Ljubljana, 21-22 May 2013 (Senior Expert on Security Issues and Expert on Security Issues)
6. 3<sup>rd</sup> SEENSA Meeting – Durres, 28 May 2013 (Senior Expert on Security Issues and Expert on Security Issues)
7. The International Scientific Conference: The Balkans between Past and Future: Security, Conflict resolution and Euro-Atlantic Integration – Ohrid, 5-8 June 2013 (Senior Expert on Security Issues)
8. Meeting with the Chairman of the Domestic and National Security Committee of the Croatian Parliament – Zagreb, 12 June 2013 (Senior Expert on Security Issues)
9. 2013 OSCE Annual Security Review Conference (ASRC) – Vienna, 19-20 June 2013 (Expert on Security Issues)
10. 13<sup>th</sup> SEEC Conference – Forum for Western Balkans Defense Cooperation through Regional Cooperation and Professional Military Education (PME)” – Sarajevo, 25-27 June 2013 (Senior Expert on Security Issues)
11. SEEGROUP meeting – Brussels, 5 July 2013 (Senior Expert on Security Issues)
12. Policy Directors Preparatory Meeting – Forum for Western Balkans Defence Cooperation (SEEC) – Podgorica, 10 September 2013 (Senior Expert on Security Issues)
13. Meeting with the UNDP Regional Conflict Specialist (focal point for security issues for UNDP in Europe and CIS) and the SEESAC Coordinator – Belgrade, 13 September 2013 (Senior Expert on Security Issues)

14. Consultations with the Moldavian NSA, preparation of the first meeting of the informal meeting of the Chairmen of the Security and Defence Committees of the SEE national Parliaments and with the MoD for preparing the future training/installation of the PGP system for communication within SEEMIC Forum – Chisinau, 11-14 September 2013 (Expert on Security issues)
15. South-Eastern Europe Defence Ministerial - Coordination Committee (SEDM-CC) and Political Military Steering Committee (PMSC) – Bucharest, 16 - 20 September 2013 (Expert on Security Issues)

## ***V. BUILDING HUMAN CAPITAL AND PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION***

1. South East Europe 2020 Strategy, focusing on Culture and Creative Sectors dimension of the Smart growth pillar – Budva, 24 April 2013 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross Cutting Issues and Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)
2. Parliamentary Seminar “Open Parliament – Transparency of Parliamentary Activities” – Skopje, 25-26 April 2013 (Expert on Parliamentary Cooperation)
3. Ministerial Conference on Western Balkans platform on education and training – Torino, 7 May 2013 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
4. The Policy Leader Forum for the Western Balkans and Turkey on the topic “The effectiveness of public policies for human resource development – a vision for changing times” – Torino, 8 May 2013 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
5. ETF Corporate Conference 2013 - Torino Process: Moving Skills Forward – Torino, 8 – 9 May 2013 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
6. International Scientific Conference “Social, Political and Economic Change in the Western Balkans”, “Regional Cooperation Council’s – Belgrade, 24-25 May 2013 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
7. 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of the SEECP Presidents of Parliaments – Ohrid, 27 – 28 May 2013 (Expert on Parliamentary Cooperation)
8. Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkans countries – Budva, 4-6 June 2013 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
9. Country based Stakeholders Consultations referring to the SEE Ombudsmen Agenda – Zagreb, 12 June 2013 (Expert on Parliamentary Cooperation)
10. Launching conference of joint EU/CoE project 'Strategic Development of Higher Education and Qualification Standards in BIH' – Sarajevo, 12 June 2013 (BHC Unit Intern)
11. Regional finder group for recognition of qualifications – Novi Sad, 19-20 June 2013 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
12. Meeting with representatives of the ETF with reference to SEE 2020 Strategy and FRAME project – Torino, 26 June 2013 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross Cutting Issues and Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development)

13. Seminar: Regional capacities for quality assurance and their relation to development and implementation of NQFs – Biograd na moru, 28 June 2013 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
14. First meeting of parliamentarians from Contracting Parties - Friends of Energy Community – Vienna, 4 July 2013 (Senior Expert on Energy and Infrastructure and Expert on Parliamentary Cooperation)
15. Preparatory Consultations for the Sixth Meeting of the RCC Task Force on Culture and Society - Brussels, 5 July 2013 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
16. Regional Sector Stakeholders Conference “The growth of local economies by leveraging on their cultural heritage assets” – Sarajevo, 8 July 2013 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
17. Meeting of the Steering Committee of the project Regional Strategy on Research and Development for Innovation for the Western Balkans (RSRDI) – Skopje, 11-12 July 2013 (Chief of Staff, Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)
18. 6<sup>th</sup> RCC Task Force on Culture and Society Meeting – Novi Sad, 15-16 July 2013 (Senior Expert on Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues)

## ***VI. COMMUNICATION AND MEDIA DEVELOPMENT***

1. Expert discussion: Public opinion research on media freedom in BiH, quality of journalism and media society trends - Sarajevo, 8 May 2013 (Spokesperson)
2. Conference on strategic communication between security institutions and media in South East Europe – Skopje, 27 May 2013 (Spokesperson)
3. Meeting of the European Association of Public Service Media in South East Europe – Rijeka, 14 June 2013 (Spokesperson)
4. Speak Up! Conference - Brussels, 20 June 2013 (Spokesperson, Head of LO, LO Advisor)
5. Meetings with European Broadcasting Union management - Geneva, 24 June 2013 (Secretary General, Spokesperson)
6. European Communication Summit - Brussels, 27-28 June 2013 (Public Affairs Assistant)
7. Academy on Media Law – Sarajevo, 3 - 5 September 2013 (Secretary General, Deputy Secretary General, Spokesperson, Public Affairs Assistant)
8. Covering press aspects of SEE 2020 strategy outreach workshops, 10-18 September 2013, Skopje, Prishtina, Podgorica, Sarajevo, Zagreb, Belgrade (Spokesperson, Public Affairs Assistant)
9. Weekend Media Festival - Rovinj, 19-21 September 2013 (Spokesperson, Public Affairs Assistant)

## ***LIAISON OFFICE***

1. International Workshop Southeast Europe and Europe 2014: Rethinking and refilling the toolbox – Berlin, 24 April 2013 (LO Advisor)
2. Multi-Stakeholders consultation on EU support to civil society in the enlargement region - Brussels, 26 April 2013 (LO Adviser)
3. Meeting with DG MOVE and World Bank representatives – Brussels, 30 April 2013 (LO Advisor)
4. Meeting with the Ambassador of Albania to the EU – Brussels, 7 May 2013 (Head of LO and Advisor)
5. Meeting with Head of Section, Regional Cooperation and Programmes – Brussels, 8 May 2013 (Head of LO)
6. Meeting with a Member of the Cabinet of the Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy – Brussels, 8 May 2013 (Head of LO)
7. Meeting with the Ambassador of The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to the EU – Brussels, 10 May 2013 (Head of LO and Advisor)
8. Meeting with Director General for Enlargement – Brussels, 14 May 2013 (Secretary General, Head of Expert Pool, Head of LO, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development and LO Advisor)
9. Meeting with the Commissioner for International Cooperation, Humanitarian Aid and Crisis Response – Brussels, 14 May 2013 (Secretary General and Head of LO)
10. Meeting of Directors General for Civil Protection of the enlargement countries – Brussels, 14 May 2013 (Secretary General and Head of LO)
11. Meeting with Head of Unit and Head of Section, DG Enlargement – Brussels, 14 May 2013 (RCC Secretary General, Head of Expert Pool, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, Head of LO and LO Advisor)
12. Transport coordination meeting between DG MOVE and World Bank – Brussels, 14 May 2013 (Head of Expert Pool, LO Advisor)
13. MB IPA programme coordination meeting - Brussels 15 - 16 May 2013 (Head of Expert Pool, Head of LO, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, LO Advisor)
14. Meeting with the Ambassador of Bosnia and Herzegovina to the EU – Brussels, 17 May 2013 (Head of LO and LO Advisor)
15. Presentation of an Overview of the preparation and implementation of the SEE 2020 Strategy to the Seminar on EU Regional Policy and regional economic development Committee of the Regions and Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South-East Europe (NALAS) and Local Administration Facility (LAF) – Brussels, 22 May 2013 (LO Advisor)
16. 13<sup>th</sup> summer seminar for young public policy professionals from SEE – Albena/Varna, 3-6 June 2013 (Head of LO)



17. Briefing on EC and IFI coordination activities in the Western Balkans for Western Balkans Missions to the EU - Brussels, 4 June 2013 (LO Advisor)
18. Political Dialogue on Western Balkans “Monitoring Regional Cooperation in Southeast Europe” - Brussels, 5 June 2013 (Secretary General, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, LO Advisor)
19. Coordination meeting to launch OECD Next Generation Competitiveness Project - Brussels, 6 June 2013 (Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development and LO Advisor)
20. Meeting with the Deputy Director General of the General Secretariat of the Council responsible for Security, Safety and Communication and Information Systems – Brussels, 14 June 2013 (Head of LO, Expert on security issues)
21. Meeting with Task Manager, Regional Cooperation Unit of DG Enlargement – Brussels, 14 June 2013 (LO Advisor)
22. ‘Speak – Up’ Conference – Brussels, 20 June 2013 (Head of LO, Spokesperson, LO Advisor)
23. Meeting with Deputy Director General for Enlargement and Executive Director, Centre for Democracy and Reconciliation in South East Europe (CDRSEE) - Brussels, 26 June 2013 (LO Advisor)
24. Presentation at the panel ‘Beyond the Copenhagen criteria: Striking the right balance between incentives and conditions’ – Brussels, 27 June 2013 (LO Advisor)
25. Meeting with a Member of the Cabinet of the Enlargement Commissioner - Brussels, 3 July 2013 (Head of LO)
26. Meeting with the desk officer for RCC in the EEAS - Brussels, 4 July 2013 (Head of LO, Senior Expert on Security Issues)
27. Meeting with the Military Intelligence Director in the EEAS - Brussels, 4 July 2013 (Head of LO, Senior Expert on Security Issues)
28. Presentation of the RCC Senior Expert on Security Issues in the NATO SEE Group - Brussels, 5 July 2013 (Head of LO, Senior Expert on Security Issues)
29. Visit to the EU Emergency Response Centre and meeting the policy officer for RCC in DG ECHO - Brussels, 5 July 2013 (Head of LO, Senior Expert on Security Issues)
30. Meeting the EC Deputy Director General for Enlargement – Brussels, 9 July 2013 (Secretary General, Head of LO, LO Advisor)
31. Briefing of the RCC SG for the Working Group on the Western Balkans of the Foreign Policy Committee of the European Parliament – Brussels, 9 July 2013 (Secretary General, Head of LO, LO Advisor)
32. Panel discussion at the launch of the Institute for Security Studies new publication “The European future of the Western Balkans: Thessaloniki@10 (2003-2013)” - Brussels, 9 July 2013 (Secretary General, Head of LO, LO Advisor)
33. Briefing of the RCC SG for the Ambassadors of the SEE countries to the EU – Brussels, 10 July 2013 (Secretary General, Head of LO, LO Advisor)

34. Meeting the COWEB representative of the Lithuanian Presidency of the Council of the EU – Brussels, 19 July 2013 (Head of LO)
35. Meeting with Member of the European Parliament (EPP) - Brussels, 4 September 2013 (Head of LO, LO Advisor)
36. Meeting with Counsellor of the Serbian Mission to the EU - Brussels, 13 September 2013 (Head of LO, LO Advisor)
37. Meeting with Policy Officer of EEAS responsible for RCC - Brussels, 16 September 2013 (Head of LO, LO Advisor)
38. Meeting with representatives of DG MOVE, ISIS II - Brussels 19 September 2013 (Expert on Infrastructure, LO Advisor)
39. Meeting with representatives of World Bank Office in Brussels - Brussels 19 September 2013 (Expert on Infrastructure, LO Advisor)

## ANNEX III

### LIST OF PLANNED EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES OF THE RCC SECRETARIAT IN 2013

#### *Secretary General/ RCC Secretariat Officials*

No.	TITLE	ORGANIZER	PERIOD	LOCATION	MAIN TOPICS	ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE WORK PROGRAM
1.	<b>Coordination meeting between the SEECP Troika, the RCC Secretariat and the EU</b>	RCC Secretariat/ SEECP C-i-O	1 October 2013	Sarajevo		
2.	<b>RCC Board meeting</b>	RCC Secretariat	2 October 2013	Sarajevo		
3.	<b>Consultations with high level officials of the MFA of Lithuania</b>		1 8 October 2013	Vilnius		
4.	<b>"ETF Policy Leaders' Forum" (PLF)</b>		10 October 2013	Salzburg		
5.	<b>CEI - Symposium "Strengthening Regional Cooperation in Europe: Opportunities and Challenges for EU Integration and Enlargement"</b>		11 October 2013	Trieste		
6.	<b>Consultations with high level officials of the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland</b>	Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland	14 October 2013	Bern		

7.	<b>Conference of the Center for Advanced Studies South East Europe (CAS SEE) „New Challenges for Democracy – Exploring the crisis of trust and democratic legitimacy in Europe“</b>	CAS and University of Rijeka	16 – 17 October 2013	Rijeka		
8.	<b>Third Ljubljana Forum-Future of the Cities on Managing Water and Transport in the Danube Region</b>		17-18 October 2013	Ljubljana		
9.	<b>Eleventh Ministerial Council-Energy Community Secretariat</b>	Energy Community Secretariat	23 October 2013	TBC		
10.	<b>Ministerial Conference - Adoption of the Regional Strategy for R&amp;D for innovation</b>		24-25 October 2013	Zagreb		
11.	<b>Prague Enlargement Dialogue II</b>		4 November 2013	Prague		
12.	<b>10 years - Belgrade Fund for Political excellence</b>		14 November 2013	Belgrade		
13.	<b>10<sup>th</sup> Jubilee Vienna Economic Forum</b>		24-25 November 2013	Vienna		

14.	<b>CEI-RCC Steering Committee Meeting</b>		3 December 2013	Brussels		
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*Economic and Social Development*

No.	TITLE	ORGANIZER	PERIOD	LOCATION	MAIN TOPICS	ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE WORK PROGRAM
1.	<b>14<sup>th</sup> SEEIC Meeting</b>	RCC	26 September 2013	RCC	SEE 2020 – final draft revision	Action 1: Transfer and management of the SEEIC
2.	<b>SEEIC Ministerial Conference</b>	RCC	21 November 2013	Sarajevo	Adoption of the SEE 2020 Strategy and Action Plan	Action 1: Transfer and management of the SEEIC
3.	<b>Inclusive Growth Ministerial/High Level Conference (Tentative)</b>	RCC	October 2013	TBD	Adopt Social Agenda 2020, the inclusive growth component of SEE2020	Action 3: Mainstream employment and social agenda into economic reform deliberations
4.	<b>Capital Markets Integration Session – EBRD</b>	RCC	TBD	RCC		Action 2: Identifying ways and means for access to finance

***Energy and Infrastructure***

<b>No.</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>ORGANIZER</b>	<b>PERIOD</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>MAIN TOPICS</b>	<b>ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE WORK PROGRAM</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Second B&amp;H Congress on Railways</b>	ACE BH/ RCC Secretariat	26-27 September 2013	Sarajevo	Exchange international experience of researchers, operators, infrastructure managers and railway equipment manufacturers.	3)Addressing urgent need to reconstruct and modernize the railway system in SEE,
<b>2.</b>	<b>Business and Economic Development Conference</b>	University of Sarajevo/Associatio n of Consulting Engineers of the BH/ RCC Secretariat	10 October 2013 (postponed for February 2014)	Sarajevo	Public Private Partnership for better Economics Development in South East Europe	2)PPP as a new critical option to support sustainable growth
<b>3.</b>	<b>International Roundtable on Water and Energy Nexus in trans-boundary basins in SEE</b>	German Environmental Ministry/ RCC Secretariat/ GWP-Med	6-8 November	Sarajevo	Strengthening regional cooperation in Integrated Water Resources Management focusing on sustainable hydropower	3.Contribute to the preparation and implementation of the Danube Region Strategy
<b>4.</b>	<b>Workshop on Energy Statistics</b>	ECS/RCC Secretariat	TBD	Vienna	Building capacities of the CPs to the ECT in energy statistics and promoting the new UN recommendations in this field	2. Explore potential for cooperation with the ECS
<b>5.</b>	<b>Regional Conference to promote an integrated approach towards development of road infrastructure in SEE</b>	RCC Secretariat/ European Road Federation	TBD	Brussels	Contribute to overcoming road traffic deficiencies, improved mobility and accessibility in the region.	2)Contribute to the promotion of road safety

*Justice and Home Affairs*

<b>No.</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>ORGANIZER</b>	<b>PERIOD</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>MAIN TOPICS</b>	<b>ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE RCC SWP</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Meeting of the Steering Group on JHA Regional Strategic Document – SGRS (M&amp;EM)</b>	RCC	October /November 2013	TBD Croatia	Preparation of the 1 <sup>st</sup> Progress Report on the Monitoring and Evaluation Mechanism of the Regional Cooperation in JHA	1. Coordinate drafting and adoption, monitoring and implementation of the Regional Strategic Document
<b>2.</b>	<b>Meeting of the Chiefs of police and Chiefs of Prosecutor's Office</b>	PCC / RCC	October /November 2013	TBD Sarajevo preferred	Gap analyses in cooperation between police and prosecutors	2. Strengthen judicial and prosecutorial cooperation in criminal matters
<b>3.</b>	<b>Meeting of the Steering Group on JHA Regional Strategic Document - SGRS and V Annual Coordination Conference of the Regional Organizations and International Partners in the area of Justice Home Affairs and Security Cooperation</b>	RCC	December 2013	TBD		1. Coordinate drafting and adoption, monitoring and implementation of the Regional Strategic Document
<b>4.</b>	<b>Regional Workshop on Counter Terrorism</b>	RCC/UN CTED/ RACVIAC	4-5 November	Istanbul	Continuation of the series of Workshops with Counter Terrorism Topic	2. Strengthen judicial and prosecutorial cooperation in criminal matters

*Security Cooperation*

<b>No.</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>ORGANIZER</b>	<b>PERIOD</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>MAIN TOPICS</b>	<b>ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE RCC SWP</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>SEEMIC Conference</b>	RCC	22-24 September 2013	Split, Croatia		SEEMIC project
<b>2.</b>	<b>First meeting of the Chairmen of Specialised Parliamentary committees – back-to-back to SEEMIC conference</b>	RCC	22-24 September 2013	Split, Croatia		SWP activity
<b>3.</b>	<b>Comprehensive Defence Ministerial co-organised with Slovenian MoD</b>	RCC/Slovenia MoD	October	Slovenia		SWP streamlining
<b>4.</b>	<b>Consultations with Defence establishments and parliamentary specialised committees in 7 SEE countries</b>	RCC	July - December	SEE	Security cooperation and RCC SWP implementation	SWP activity
<b>5.</b>	<b>SEDM, SEEC and A5 – one meeting each</b>	SEDM,SEEC,A5	TBD	TBD		Monitoring RI&TF
<b>6.</b>	<b>DPPI Regional meeting</b>	DPPI	TBD	TBD		Monitoring RI&TF
<b>7.</b>	<b>SEENSA 2 WG meetings</b>	RCC	TBD	TBD		SWP activity
<b>8.</b>	<b>RACVIAC MAG meeting</b>	RACVIAC	9 October 2013	Zagreb		Monitoring RI&TF



***Building Human Capital and Parliamentary Cooperation***

<b>No.</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>ORGANIZER</b>	<b>PERIOD</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>MAIN TOPICS</b>	<b>ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE RCC SWP</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Ministerial Conference – Ljubljana Process “Achievements and Way Forward”</b>	RCC	December 2013	TBD		Taking over coordination of Ljubljana process

***Parliamentary Cooperation***

<b>No.</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>ORGANIZER</b>	<b>PERIOD</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>MAIN TOPICS</b>	<b>ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE RCC SWP</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>COSAP Meeting</b>		September/ October 2013	Skopje		
<b>2.</b>	<b>Meeting of the Working Group on SEECP Parliamentary Dimension</b>	<b>Romanian CiO/RCC</b>	September/ October 2013	Bucharest		
<b>3.</b>	<b>Seminar for MPs and parliamentary staff</b>	<b>EU Parliament</b>	November 2013	Brussels		

***Media Unit***

<b>No.</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>ORGANIZER</b>	<b>PERIOD</b>	<b>LOCATION</b>	<b>MAIN TOPICS</b>	<b>ACTIONS IMPLEMENTED FROM THE RCC SWP</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Second South East European Government Communication Conference (SEECOM), and establishment of Association of Public Sector Communicators in South East Europe</b>	Government of Montenegro/RCC/ Konrad Adenauer Stiftung/UNDP	27-29 September	Budva		

## **ANNEX IV**

### **LIST OF OFFICIALS OF THE REGIONAL COOPERATION COUNCIL (RCC) SECRETARIAT**

#### **SECRETARY GENERAL**

1. Mr. Goran Svilanović

#### **EXPERT POOL**

1. Mr. Gazmend Turdiu-Head of Expert Pool (as of 1 September 2013)
  2. Mr. Sanjin Arifagić, Senior Expert on Economic and Social Development, Head of Economic and Social Development Unit/ SEE 2020 Coordinator
  3. Mr. Miroslav Kukobat- Senior Expert on Infrastructure and Energy, Head of Infrastructure and Energy Unit
  4. Ms. Suzana Ivanović- Senior Expert on Justice and Home Affairs, Head of Justice and Home Affairs Unit
  5. Mr. Efrem Radev- Senior Expert on Security Cooperation, Head of Security Cooperation Unit
  6. Mr. Mladen Dragašević- Senior Expert on Building Human Capital, Head of Building Human Capital and Cross-Cutting Issues Unit
  7. Mr. Sorin Sterie- Expert on Security Issues
  8. Ms. Svetlana Gligorovska - Expert on Infrastructure and Energy (replacement for Ms. Amna Redžepagić who is on maternity leave)
  9. Mr. Predrag Vujičić- Expert on Justice and Home Affairs
  10. Mr. Nand Shani- Expert on Economic and Social Development
  11. Mr. Gjergj Murra - Expert in Parliamentary Cooperation
  12. Ms. Maja Taylor- Assistant to the Head of Expert Pool
  13. Ms. Elvira Ademović- Assistant to the Expert Pool
- **South East Europe Investment Committee (SEEIC) Project**, attached to the Economic and Social Development Unit within Expert Pool
14. Ms. Dragana Đurica, Project Leader
  15. Ms. Nedima Hadžibrišević, Project Assistant

#### **FRONT OFFICE**

1. Mr. Jovan Tegovski- Chief of Staff
2. Ms. Dinka Živalj- Head of Media Unit/ Spokesperson
3. Mr. Erhan Turbedar-Senior Political Advisor (as of 1 September 2013)
4. Ms. Gordana Demšer – Legal and Political Advisor
5. Mr. Dorin Vremis – Junior Political Advisor
6. Ms. Jasna Fejzić- Personal Assistant to the Secretary General
7. Ms. Nataša Mitrović- Assistant to the Front Office
8. Ms. Selma Ahatović- Lihić- Public Affairs Assistant

#### **ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT**

1. Mr. Alexandru Murzac- Head of Administrative Unit
2. Mr. Sead Filipović- Finance Officer
3. Ms. Mirela Mahić- Administrative Officer
4. Mr. Maid Medunjanin- IT Officer
5. Ms. Admira Rastoder - Accountant (replacement for Ms. Alma Gadžić who is on maternity leave)
6. Ms. Dijana Kešelj Novaković - Translator

### **LIAISON OFFICE IN BRUSSELS**

1. Mr. Stanislav Daskalov- Head of LO
2. Ms. Lidija Topić- Advisor

### **RCC SECRETARIAT'S TECHNICAL AND SERVICE STAFF**

1. Mr. Slađan Rikanović - Driver/Security
2. Mr. Fikret Kadić- Driver/ Courier
3. Mr. Denis Sulić- Driver/ Courier
4. Ms. Vanja Vekić- Receptionist

## ANNEX V

### LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ABC	Association of Balkan Chambers
ACE	Association of Consulting Engineers of Bosnia and Herzegovina
ACI	Airport Council International Europe
ADA	Austrian Development Agency
AEA	Association of the European Airlines
AII	Adriatic-Ionian Initiative
ALAs	Association of Local Authorities
AREC	Adriatic Region Employers' Centre
ATM	Air Traffic Management
BAC	Business Advisory Council
BCSDN	Balkan Civil Society Development Network
BRESCE	UNESCO Venice Regional Bureau for Science and Culture in Europe
bSEE	Task Force Broadband South Eastern Europe Task Force
BfV	Bundesamt für Verfassungsschutz
CAP	Common Agricultural Policy
CARICC	Central Asian Regional Information and Coordination Centre
CEB	Council of Europe Development Bank
CEFTA	Central European Free Trade Agreement
CeGD	Centre for e-Governance Development
CEI	Central European Initiative
CGRS	Commission for Global Road Safety
C-i-O	Chairmanship-in-Office
CoE	Council of Europe
CoMoCoSEE	Council of Ministers of Culture of South-East Europe
COSAP	Conference of the European Integration Parliamentary Committees of States participating in the Stabilization and Association Process
COWEB	Working Group on Western Balkans of the Council of the EU
CP	Contracting Parties
CPESSEC	Centre of Public Employment Services of Southeast European Countries
CPF	Cetinje Parliamentary Forum
CSOs	Civil Society Organizations
CTED	Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate
DABLAS	Danube and Black Sea Task Force
DCAF	Democratic Control of Armed Forces
DCHOD	Deputy Chief of Defence
DCP	Danube Cooperation Process
DPPI	Disaster Preparedness and Prevention Initiative
EAS	External Action Service
EASA	European Aviation Safety Agency
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
EC	European Commission
ECAA	European Common Aviation Area
ECRB	Energy Community Regulatory Board
ECS	Energy Community Secretariat
ECT	Energy Community Treaty
EEAS	European External Action Service
EHEA	European Higher Education Area
EIB	European Investment Bank
ELFA	European Law Faculty Association
ENIC	European Network of Information Centres
EnC	Energy Community
ERF	European Union Road Federation
ERI SEE	Education Reform Initiative for South Eastern Europe
ERSO	European Road Safety Observatory
eSEE Initiative	Electronic South Eastern Europe Initiative
ESENSEE	Eco Social Economy Network South and East Europe
EU	European Union
EUMS	European Union Military Staff

EUSDR	EU Strategy for the Danube Region
FATF	Financial Action Task Force
FES	Friedrich Ebert Foundation
GIZ	Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit
GRECO	Group of States against Corruption
GRSP	Global Road Safety Partnership
GS Council of EU	General Secretariat Council of European Union
GTF	Gender Task Force
HIDAA	High Inspectorate for Declaration and Audit of Assets
ICDT	International Centre for Democratic Transition
ICMPD	International Centre for Migration Policy Development
ICPDR	International Commission for the Protection of the Danube River
ICT	Information and Communication Technologies
IEN	Integrity Expert Network
IFC	International Finance Corporation
IFIs	International Financial Institutions
IFIAG	International Financial Institution Advisory Group
IFP	Infrastructure Project Facilities
ILECUs	International Enforcement Coordination Units
ILO	International Labour Organization
IOE	International Organization of Employers
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IOs	International Organizations
IPA	Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance
IRI	Investment Reform Index
IRF	International Road Federation
IRTAD	International Road Traffic and Accident Database
ISIS	Implementation of Single European Sky in South East Europe
ISRBC	International Sava River Basin Commission
ITF	International Trust Fund for Demining and Mine Victims Assistance
ITUC	International Trade Union Confederation
JPM	Joint Parliamentary Meeting
KOGSEB	Small and Medium – sized Enterprise Development Administration of Turkey
LSE	London School of Economics
MARRI	Migration, Asylum, Refugees Regional Initiative
MB IPA	Multi-Beneficiary Instrument for Pre-accession Assistance
MCAASEES	Marshall Center Alumni Association for Southeast European Security
ME CAA	Montenegrin Civil Aviation Agency
MIDWEB	Migration for Development in the Western Balkans
MIPD	Multi Indicative Planning Document
MoD	Ministry of Defence
MONEYVAL	Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism
MoU	Memorandum of Understanding
NALAS	Network of Associations of Local Authorities of SEE
NARIC	National Academic Recognition Information Centres
NATO	North Atlantic Treaty Organization
NGO	Non-governmental Organization
NI-CO	Northern Ireland Cooperation Overseas
NIPACs	National IPA Coordinators
NOS	NATO Office of Security
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
OLAF	European Antifraud Office
OCTA	Organized Crime Threat Assessment for South East Europe
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
OSINT	Open Source Intelligence
PCC Secretariat	Police Cooperation Convention Secretariat
PE	Private Equity
PFS	Partners for Financial Stability
PHLG	Permanent High Level Group
PIDIN	Partnership for Improvement of Danube Infrastructure and Navigation
PPP	Public Private Partnership

PSO	Peace Support Operations
RACVIAC	Centre for Security Cooperation
RAI	Regional Anticorruption Initiative
RCC	Regional Cooperation Council
RCC TF FBHC	RCC Task Force Fostering and Building Human Capital
RCI	Regional Competitiveness Initiative
REC	Regional Environmental Centre for Central and Eastern Europe
RENA	Regional Environmental Network for Accession
ReSPA	Regional School of Public Administration
RI&O	Regional Initiatives and Organizations
RI&TFs	Regional Initiatives and Task Forces
RNIPA	Regional Network of Investment Promotion Agencies
RSA	Road Safety Audits
RSD	Regional Strategic Document
RSRDI	Regional Strategy for Research and Development for Innovation in Western Balkans
RSI	Road Safety Inspection
RSPC SEE	Regional Secretariat for Parliamentary Cooperation in South East Europe
RTD	Research and Technical Development
SAP+	Stabilization and Association Process Plus (cumulation zone with EU, EFTA, Western Balkans and Turkey)
SECE CRIF	South East and Central European Catastrophe Risk Insurance Facility
SECI	Southeast European Cooperative Initiative
SECI Centre	Southeast European Cooperative Initiative, Regional Centre for Combating Organized Crime
SEDM	South East Europe Defence Ministerial
SEDRI	Sustainable Energy Development Regional Initiative
SEE	South East Europe
SEEC	South East Europe Clearing House
SEECIC	South East European Counter-Intelligence Chiefs Forum
SEECCEL	South East Europe Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning
SEECPP	South-East European Cooperation Process
SEE-ERA.NET	South East European – European Research Area Network
SEE-ERA.NET PLUS	South East European – European Research Area Network Plus
SEEFREC	SEE Fire fighting Regional Centre network
SEEHN	SEE Health Network
SEEIC	South East Europe Investment Committee
SEELS	South East European Law School Network
SELEC	Southeast European Law Enforcement Centre
SEEMIC	South East Europe Military Intelligence Chiefs
SEE MoD-GS	South East Europe Ministries of Defence and General Staffs
SEENSA	National Security Authorities of South East Europe Countries
SEE PPP Network	South East Europe Public Private Partnership Network
SEEPAG	Southeast European Prosecutors Advisory Group
SEPCA	Southeast Europe Police Chiefs Association
SEESAC	South East Europe Small Arms and Light Weapons Clearing House
SES	Single European Sky
SEETO	South-East Europe Transport Observatory
SIDA	Swedish Development Agency
SME	Small and medium-sized enterprise
SMEM	Serbian Ministry of Energy and Mining
SPMU	Strategic Police Matters Unit
SSR	Security Sector Reforms
STREW	Structural Reform in Higher Education in Western Balkans Countries
SWG RRD	Standing Working Group on Regional Rural Development
SWP	Strategic Work Programme
SWEROAD	Swedish National Road Consulting
TACSO	Technical Assistance for Civil Society Organizations
TCT	Transport Community Treaty
TEN-T	Trans-European Transport network
TF	Task Force
TFCS	Task Force on Culture and Society
ToR	Terms of Reference
UNCTED	United Nations Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate

UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNECE	United Nations Economic Commission for Europe
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNISDR	United Nations International Strategy for Disaster Reduction
UNMIK	United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VC	Venture Capital
WB	World Bank
WBIF	Western Balkans Investment Framework
WBPN	Western Balkans Prosecutor Network
WG	Working Group
WHO	World Health Organization
WINPRO	Witness Protection in the Fight against Serious Crime and Terrorism
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WPON	Women Police Officers Network