



LATVIJAS REPUBLIKAS MINISTRU PREZIDENTS

Prime Minister of the Republic of Latvia

Riga, 18 March 2015

Dear Secretary General,

I would like to thank you for your letter of February 5 and the invitation to the GRECO session. Mr. Rolands Lappuke, Ambassador of Latvia to the Council of Europe, has been nominated to participate in the March session. Meanwhile I would like update you on the latest developments in connection to the Corruption Prevention and Combating Bureau (KNAB).

Since our last communication several developments have taken place. As you are well aware I have organized a public debate on issues related to the fight against corruption, including the functioning of KNAB, in which various state institutions and NGO's participated. It was followed by another debate organized by the Corruption Prevention Subcommittee of the Latvian Parliament. We welcomed very much the participation of GRECO experts in these events and particularly of its vice-chairman Mr. Manquet in the second event.

Both debates clearly recognized the need to amend the current legislation on KNAB functioning. The Corruption Prevention Subcommittee has assumed the task to prepare a new draft law with the aim to strengthen further the independence of KNAB and improve its functioning. While working on the legal basis the international recommendations, including the ones from GRECO will be taken into consideration. The aim is to adopt the new legislation without delay.

Let me assure you that fight against corruption is and will remain one of the top priorities of my government. Independent and fully functioning KNAB is the cornerstone of this process.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'L. Straujuma'.

Laimdota Straujuma

Mr. Thorbjørn Jagland  
Secretary General  
Council of Europe