



## **Parliamentary Technical Assistance Organizations Coordination Meeting**

Wednesday, February 22 at 12:00 AM

Location: Delegation of the European Commission to Georgia  
38 Nino Chkeidze Street, 0102 Tbilisi

### **Draft Agenda**

- 1) Welcome and Introductions
- 2) Presentation of projects and donors supporting the Parliament of Georgia
- 3) Discussion on necessity, structure and organization of a regular donor meeting
- 4) Next Meeting – March 22, 2006 -12 AM

#### **1) Welcome and Introduction**

Mrs. Adriana Longoni (EC Delegation) welcomed the participants and introduced EU funded project “Support to the Reform of the Georgian Parliament” that started in November, 2005. Concerning the technical assistance meetings, she mentioned that the aim of this meeting is to find some mechanism of coordination among projects working with Parliament taking into consideration the experience of other countries.

Mr. Bernhard Schloer made a brief presentation of the different reasons which require coordination between projects.

#### **2) Presentation of projects and donors supporting the Parliament of Georgia**

A brief presentation on each project was done by all members of the meeting in order to give an equal level of information of information for all participants.

Mr. Vakhtang Kobaladze, Swiss regional Cooperation office for South Caucasus: The Embassy of Switzerland is the main donor of Transparency International, which is supporting the Parliament in the relations with the civil society. It's the second phase of the project and its duration is envisaged until 2009.

Mr. Knut Gerber, GTZ Project “Private Sector Development”: The project is working on wine and tourism sector in the regions of Adjara, Kakheti and Svaneti.

Mr. Zeno Reichenbecher, GTZ Project “Legal and Judicial Reforms”: The project works in close cooperation with Ministry of Justice of Georgia. Concerning the Parliament, the GTZ project has some overlaps with the Legal Committee.

Mr. Jim Hart, NDI: The project is implementing a program for the support of the Georgian Parliament. The program started 2 years ago. It is focussing on the strengthening of the parliament's oversight function, accountability and transparency.

Mr. Giorgi Vashakidze, Eurasia Foundation: The foundation is not primarily engaged with the Parliament, but one the activities is the support to the cooperation between Parliament and local NGOs.



## EUSPGeorgia

Mr. Archil Bakuradze, Mrs. Salome Shapakidze, Mr. Giorgi Kvaratskhelia (IABP), International Association for Business and Parliament: The project supports the contact between Parliament and interest groups. IABP recently launched a new project, supporting the Parliament's capacities in economic and business research.

Mrs. Salome Shapakidze noted that IABP is a Parliamentary educational resource. Non partisan, non lobbying, covering all business sectors and sizes of enterprises. It has no policy views but informs policy, legislation and regulation. Main directions of the Association are economic issues.

Mr. Shalva Papuashvili, Mrs. Laura Fuesers: GTZ Project "Legal and Judicial Reforms".

Mrs. Sophie Guruli, Mr. Boris Nadiradze – OSCE, ODIHR and Parliament: The newly established project is working under the supervision of Speakers office on coordination of projects. The project presents and distributes the newsletter funded by UNDP on the projects supporting the Parliament of Georgia.

Mrs. Nino Khatiskatsi, Mr. Mark Mullen, Transparency International Georgia: TI is working in the field of legal drafting, improving Parliament PR activities; conduct trainings for Parliamentary staff and surveys. New activity is Majoritarian Project which aims to inform population (ordinary people) about activities of the Parliament as well as supporting organisational meetings, exchanging information between majoritarian MPs and population and direct information back to Parliament.

Mr. Gigi Bregadze, Mrs. Manana Salukvadze, UNDP: EC funded project implemented by UNDP aiming at improving internal processes at the Parliament, to improve the internal structure, communication and PR component, law making processes, provide information and communication technologies tools on renovation and assist with software.

Mrs. Manana Salukvadze stressed the importance of such meetings aiming to avoid overlapping. As an example she mentioned the establishment of another Training Centre at the Parliament, which could duplicate the existing one, established by UNDP. According to UNDP findings, Parliament needs more and more technical support. UNDP-EC funded project is implemented from November 2005 and will be functioning two years more.

Mr. Oliver Reisner, EC Delegation to Georgia: As project manager he is supervising EUSPGeorgia. Mr. Reisner stresses, that this meetings are not only donor organisations meeting but technical organisations meetings, which shall bring more synergy of projects dealing with Parliament.

Mrs. Maria Iarrera, EC Delegation to Georgia – supervising GEPLAC activities in the field of PCA implementation.

Mr. Bernhard Schloer – EUSPGeorgia: He gives a brief description of the fields the project will be active and points to areas of possible cooperation with other projects. The main areas of the project are:



## EUSPGeorgia

1) Improvement of the professionalism and working conditions of the Parliament, including improvement of the research department in the library, technical support, etc.

- EUROVOC Thesaurus translation into Georgian language
- Establishment of translation centre
- Improvement of open legislation process
- Human resources management training courses

2) Improvement of the role of the Parliament in its oversight function, which is more a political question

3) Support parliament capacities in the EU approximation processes. The project will support committees in charge of PCA implementation in different ways.

4) Civil society and interest groups. As mentioned by TI, the image of the parliament in the population has certain quality and the task of this project is to support the outreach of the parliament.

5) Establishment of fruitful cooperation with European and other countries Parliaments; the project delivered already support for the relations with the Parliament of Latvia.

### **3) Discussion on necessity, structure and organization of a regular donor meeting.**

Mr. Mark Mullen, TI noted that coordination meeting are important and useful for the younger less experienced organisations and suggested to differentiate English and Georgian language meetings. Such meetings have proved to be very useful. Mr. Jim Hart and Mr. B. Schloer suggested one compact meeting once a month. Mr. Jim Hart also suggested a one day long in-depth session in order to have the possibility to fine tune activities.

Mrs. Sophie Guruli, Mr. Boris Nadiradze (OSCE, ODIHR project) offered Parliament's newly renovated conference room for the next meeting.

It was agreed that on Monday the participants will receive the minutes of the meeting and the date and location of the next donor meeting will be suggested.



***List of Participants***

<b><i>Name</i></b>	<b><i>Organisation</i></b>
Bernhard Schloer Natela Sakhokia Thea Ketishvili	EUSPGeorgia
Giorgi Vashakidze	Eurasia Foundation
Boris Nadiradze Sophie Guruli	Centre for Parliamentary Reform, OSCE/ODIHR/Parliament of Georgia
Knut Gerber	GTZ project "Private Sector Development"
Zeno Reichenbecher Shalva Papuashvili Laura Fuesers	GTZ project on Legal and Judicial Reform
Archil Bakuradze Salome Shapakidze Giorgi Kvaratskhelia	The International Association of Business and Parliament (IABP)
Mark Mullen Nina Khatiskatsi	Transparency International Georgia (TI)
Gigi Bregadze Manana Salukvadze	UNDP
Adriana Longoni Oliver Reisner Maria Iarrera	EC Delegation to Georgia
Jim Hart	National Democratic Institute (NDI)
Vakhtang Kobaladze	Swiss Regional Cooperation Office for South Caucasus