



**STRENGTHENING TRANSPARENCY AND CODE OF ETHICS FOR ENHANCED
PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN COURT OF CASSATION IN TURKEY**

MINUTES OF THE 6TH STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

24.06.2019

ANKARA

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I. PROCESS

- Dr. Mustafa Saldırım, Deputy Secretary-General of Court of Cassation and Ms. Sezin Üskent, UNDP Inclusive and Democratic Governance Portfolio Manager, opened the meeting and provided information on activities realised in the context of the project.
- Ms. Sezin Üskent, UNDP Inclusive and Democratic Governance Portfolio Manager made a detailed presentation on the activities undertaken from November 2018 to June 2019, summarily including the following information: The Project work during this period concentrated on ethics training, refreshment program and dissemination training. Ms. Üskent stated that technical meetings on the Transparency Strategy and Communications Strategy of the Court of Cassation, knowledge-sharing programme with academicians from law faculties on codes of conduct were realized. Ms. Üskent also gave information on the realized budget of the project during the November 2018 to June 2019, and on the remaining budget of the project.
- Dr. Mustafa Saldırım and Ms. Sezin Üskent stated that the remaining budget might be used for the new activities in scope of the project, therefore stated that the end date of the project might be postponed to future period.
- Dr. Mustafa Saldırım indicated that the Project Expert Mr. Barış Sürücü finished entering the statistical data on the system, however the survey could not reach adequate numbers in metropolitan cities and stated that there is a need for an additional study and that stated that Mr. Sürücü could complete the final report on the survey following the additional studies. In this framework, it is decided that 15 October 2019 would be the deadline to complete the survey studies and the final reporting. The report of Mr. Sürücü will be shared with Project Expert Ms. Shiranee Hesta Tilakawardane for the update of the Transparency Strategy of the Court of Cassation and she will be asked to update and finalize the Strategy.
- It was discussed that the remaining budget would be utilized, in the extended period of the Project, for the following activities as designated by the Court of Cassation and UNDP:
 - 1- Completion of the survey studies following the additional studies in Istanbul, Antalya and Ankara courts and the instalment of the survey system for Court of Cassation front office
 - 2- Training for new members of Court of Cassation and for the members who has not participated in the trainings on code of ethics
 - 3- Printing and publishing visual materials on ethics and transparency
 - 4- Completion of the Transparency Strategy
 - 5- Inhouse training on Communication Strategy of Court of Cassation

- 6- New and comprehensive communication activities concerning the Istanbul Declaration
- 7- Printing and dissemination of the books developed under the Project
 - Printing of the Summit Book (in Turkish and English)
 - Printing of the book on Istanbul Declaration and Effective Implementation Measures
 - Printing of the Commentary on Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct
 - Printing of facilitators certificates
 - Law Clinics Training Book
 - Related translation and interpretation
- 8- Developing visual materials on ethics and transparency
 - Developing videos introducing the project activities and the judicial codes of conduct
 - Printed materials for ethics output
 - Printed materials for transparency output
 - Related translation and interpretation
- 9- Meeting with media representatives
- 10- Training for media representatives in the framework of the principles of Istanbul Declaration
- 11- Training for the courts
- 12- Conducting studies before the presentation of the Istanbul Declaration to ECOSOC and obtaining long-term expert support
- 13- Project management

II. DECISIONS MADE AT THE MEETING

- It was decided, by the joint decision of the Court of Cassation, and UNDP to extend the project to 31 December 2019 at no additional cost.
- The entire budget of the Project was already transferred to UNDP and it is decided that the remaining budget would be utilized for the activities discussed and listed above. In addition, it is decided to hold a Project Closure Meeting at the end of the Project.
- In this framework, it is decided to extend the contract duration of Ms. Shiranee Hesta Tilakawardane, Mr. Barış Sürücü and Ms. Banu Buyurgan at no-cost basis until the end of the project.
- It is decided to extend the contract duration of Mr. Nihal Jayawickrama with additional 10 days until the end of the project.

ANNEXES:

- Annex-1: Meeting Agenda
- Annex-2: List of Participants
- Annex-3: Presentation Delivered at the Meeting

III.

ANNEX-1

**Strengthening Transparency and Code of Ethics for Enhanced Public Confidence in the
Court of Cassation**

**6TH STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
Draft Agenda**

Court of Cassation, Administration Building, Meeting Hall 24.06.2019 ANKARA

Time	Item
10.00 – 10.15	Opening Remarks Mr. Mustafa Saldırım <i>Court of Cassation Deputy Secretary General of the Court of Cassation</i> Ms. Sezin Üskent <i>UNDP Inclusive and Democratic Governance Portfolio Manager</i> Adoption of the agenda
10:15 – 10.30	Presentation of activities undertaken after the 5th Steering Committee Meeting and activities planned for future Ms. Sezin Üskent <i>UNDP Inclusive and Democratic Governance Portfolio Manager</i>
10.30 - 11.00	Evaluation of activities undertaken after the 5th Steering Committee Meeting; exchange of views on extension of Project and planned additional activities Court of Cassation representatives UNDP representatives
11.00 – 11.30	Any other views and recommendations Closing Speeches

V.

ANNEX-2

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
6TH STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING
24.06.2019, Ankara**

No	Full-Name	Organisation	Position	Phone	e-mail
1	Dr. Mustafa SALDIRIM	Court of Cassation	Deputy Secretary-General of the Court of Cassation	+90 505 776 92 60	msaldirim@gmail.com
2	Gülşah Sibel AKBULUT	Court of Cassation	Judge	+90 507 313 67 95	gulsahso@hotmail.com
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