

REPUBLIC OF SERBIA STATE PROSECUTORIAL COUNCIL

42 Resavska street 11000 Belgrade Serbia

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WORLD BANK
Ms. Linda Van Gelder, World Bank Country Director Western Balkans-

Praterstrasse 31 1020 Wien Austria

Cc: Mr. Stephen Ndegwa, Country Manager, Serbia Svetska banka, Bulevar Kralja Aleksandra 86, Beograd, Srbija

Subject: Request for extension of the MDTF-JSS

Dear Ms. Van Gelder,

The Multi-donor trust fund for Justice Sector Support in Serbia (MDTF-JSS) has provided significant contribution to the reform of justice sector in Serbia in line with the EU and CoE standards. Valuable contribution has been provided in the development and implementation of the Action plan for Chapter 23, which is at the core of Serbia's EU accession negotiations.

Unique value of the MDTF-JSS, as compared to other donors, is its sector-wide approach and inclusion of comprehensive support to prosecutorial system and State Prosecutorial Council in the core of its justice support. In addition to that, the MDTF is of great assistance to us, because it provides quick and responsive mechanism of targeted support in the most needed areas.

So far, substantial progress has been made with the MDTF-JSS support to the State Prosecutorial Council in improvement of transparency of the prosecution system, analysis of financial management and harmonization of workload, but there are many substantial issues that are being currently raised, which need to be further developed and implemented in the future, including building of analytical software infrastructure for budget planning and execution and for human resources management in public

prosecutor's offices, in line with new competences that will be transferred to SPC in respect to administrative staff in public prosecutor's offices .

Namely, the SPC worked closely with the MDTF-JSS team to develop its work plan, according to its competences and future tasks, so continuance of MDTF-JSS and increase of the fund resources would be necessary to enable implementation of the planned activities, as well as those envisaged in the Action plan for Chapter 23.

Also, having in mind that the revision of the Action plan for Chapter 23 has to be prepared in late 2018, we expect that additional reform tasks will be given to the prosecutorial services. In accomplishing of these new tasks support of the MDTF-JSS will be essential.

In line with the new EU approach, the Chapter 23 and 24 were open in the early stage of the accession process to allow monitoring of the track record and are given crucial importance in EU negotiations. In light of this fact, the SPC as a beneficiary of the MDTF-JSS, would appreciate if the MDTF-JSS project could be extended to continue to provide support to the justice sector in this most important area during EU negotiation process.

We are looking forward to continued cooperation with the World Bank and the MDTF JSS.

Sincerely,

President of State Prosecutorial Council

of the Republic of Serbia

Zagorka Dolovac