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REPUBLIC OF CROATIA  
**STATE ATTORNEY'S OFFICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA**

No: A-337/07  
Zagreb, 16 July 2007  
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**SUBJECT: State Attorneys' Regional Conference**  
*Cooperation among State Attorneys' Offices (Prosecutors) in War Crimes Prosecutions – Current and Future Modes of Cooperation, Brijuni, 11-13 July 2007*

At the invitation of the Chief State Attorney of the Republic of Croatia, on 11 through 13 July 2007, the State Attorneys' (Prosecutor's) Regional Conference; *Cooperation among State Attorneys' Offices (Prosecutors) in War Crimes Prosecutions – Current and Future Modes of Cooperation* was held in Brijuni, Republic of Croatia.

Together with the State Attorneys (prosecutors) from Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Croatia and Serbia, the ICTY Chief Prosecutor and the Head of the OTP Transition Team with their staffs also participated in the conference.

After reviewing the current cooperation and the proposals for future cooperation, both among the State Attorneys of the countries of the region as well as with the ICTY Office of the Prosecutor concerning the war crimes prosecutions and the matters of mutual support and technical assistance, participants in the conference agreed on the following;

### CONCLUSIONS

1. The participants agreed that the cooperation between the State Attorneys' Offices (prosecution) engaged in the investigations and prosecution of war crimes was progressing well. This cooperation was supported to a significant degree by the Agreements (Memoranda) on Cooperation that had been signed between the participants that made possible the efficient and timely exchange of information and other forms of assistance. It was noted that additional forms of cooperation and assistance that would be needed in the future would be the access to documentation and information from the other national bodies, including archives, and that the modalities of this information examination and exchange would be agreed upon at one of the future conferences.
2. Each national prosecution service needs to enhance its teams [*staff*] working on the investigation and war crimes prosecutions. It is of special importance for each State Attorney's Office (prosecution) to train part of its staff in skills needed for electronic database research and other information retrieval skills.

3. Particularly noted at the conference was the need to avoid the duplication of investigations and proceedings through the compilation of a so called "inventory" of cases and the exchange of information with other prosecutions so as to determine who would best positioned to process a particular case. To this end, it is necessary that each State Attorney's Office (prosecution) is compile the so called "inventory" of war crimes cases according to a mutually agreed criteria that would be developed in conjunction with the OTP's Transition Team.
4. The participants agreed that the "Inventory" based on the mutually agreed criteria and their exchange would improve the cooperation and assistance in decision making as to who would process the proceedings in order to avoid duplication of investigations and cases. This "inventory" would also assist the ICTY, and in particular the Office of the Prosecutor, in determining the number and complexity of the cases requiring the immediate assistance of the Transition Team in gathering and providing new evidence and documentation in support of national prosecutions.
5. It is necessary, as part of the ICTY's Completion Strategy, to provide the assistance of experts in Transition Teams. The experts would assist State Attorneys (prosecutors) in national teams and train them in researching the ICTY databases that would enable the Prosecutions to optimally use the information both in investigations and proceedings transferred to them and in the proceedings initiated by them.
6. The participants welcomed the offer by the ICTY Chief Prosecutor to enhance the OTP's support to the region, via its Transition Team that would provide improved cooperation, as well as expertise to respond to the specific needs of the States Attorneys (prosecutors) engaged in specific cases. Aware of the ICTY's Completion Strategy, the national prosecutors urged the ICTY Chief Prosecutor to ensure that the OTP not only retained, but enhanced its capacity to respond in a timely manner to their requests for assistance.
7. The State Attorneys (prosecutors) also welcomed the ICTY Chief Prosecutor's offer to provide training to their staffs on the use of the ICTY databases for their needs, underscoring the necessity of immediate and continuing access to and use of the ICTY materials.
8. The participants agree that it would be productive to meet, in this format, and the next conference to agree on the mutual criteria to create lists of war crimes cases will be set for autumn 2007.