

On behalf of Alessandro Buttice  
Spokesman, Communication & Public Relations

EUROPEAN COMMISSION  
EUROPEAN ANTI-FRAUD OFFICE (OLAF)

Dear Ms Nikolova,

Subject : International Seminar on ‘Media Control of Prevention of Fraud with EU Funds in Bulgaria’ – Sofia 7th September 2007

It was with great pleasure that I, together with my colleagues Messrs Cretin and Hetzer, attended the International Seminar on ‘Media Control of Prevention of Fraud with EU Funds in Bulgaria’ on September 7th in Sofia. On my return to Brussels, I should like firstly to express both to you personally, as well as to the Club of Journalists Against Corruption, my warmest congratulations for this excellent initiative and its first-rate organisation.

Without any doubt, this Seminar provided an excellent training session for the large audience of media representatives, stressing the importance of know how in relation to EU funding administration in Bulgaria as well as producing a wide and positive media coverage. In addition, with the attendance of State Authorities Representatives of the highest possible level, the Seminar offered a truly valuable contribution as well as encouragement to journalists in their key role in prevention, at a time when the management of EU funds is just beginning in Bulgaria.

I deeply appreciate the mention of the OAFCN Network in the context of the Sofia Seminar in your brochures for journalists. It will help to pave the way for further co-operation and will open up new perspectives within the OAFCN Network shared values and EU objectives in deterring fraud by informing the public.

As this Seminar fully complies with the terms mentioned in point 8 of the Mutual Agreement between the OAFCN and IFJ, I am sending copy of this letter to Mr Aidan White, IFJ General Secretary who, I believe, will be happy to receive from you the follow-up as well as any further information on the outcome of the Seminar.

Looking forward to meeting you in Vienna, I remain

Yours sincerely,

Alessandro BUTTICE

Copy: Mr Aidan White, IFJ General Secretary