

(c) Are there any plans to make a clearer distinction between the prosecution and the advisory role of the Attorney General as also suggested by Greco?

Supplementary Answer:

There is no such suggestion expressly stipulated or even implied by Greco derived from the pertinent Greco Evaluation Report and Compliance Reports on Cyprus.

In particular, the relevant Recommendation xiii from the Evaluation Report on Cyprus published on 27.7.16 reads as follows:

“Recommendation xiii

“ GRECO recommended that reform considerations concerning the Law Office of the Republic include means to strengthen the independence of the prosecutorial functions and the capacity of the individual law officers and prosecutors to conduct their duties in a more autonomous way, guided by the safeguards necessary under the rule of law. “

The Cypriot authorities state that after the important step taken to the right direction towards the autonomy of Prosecutors, namely, the salary alignment of almost all ranks of law officers, including prosecutors dealing with the prosecution of corruption offences with the equivalent salary scales of judicial officers, the updated information given in their Situation Report to Greco dated 15.3.23, with the supplementary measures taken to fulfil the pertinent Recommendation was that a new bill relating to the independence and autonomy of the Law Office of the Republic, covering also the autonomy of prosecutors has been approved by the Council of Ministers on 22.2.23 and will soon be forwarded to House of Representatives for assessment and enactment.

The aim of the aforesaid bill recently approved by the Council of Ministers is to ensure full autonomy of all the Law Officers including the prosecutors. The Cypriot authorities would like to state that if there is a need to forward the said Bill at this stage to be assessed, the authorities are happy to act accordingly.